

SFHRenAT14

Help a patient resolve last-minute doubts about transplantation



Overview

Occasionally practitioners have to deal with patients who experience doubts and who, faced with the reality of the impending transplantation, seem to undo all their earlier decisions. While frustrating, this situation requires delicate handling – sensitivity to the patient's anxiety combined with an honest restatement of the medical and psychological judgments that have been made by the patient and a range of practitioners.

Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 identify indicators that the patient might be inclined to last minute doubts
- P2 detect indications that the patient is reluctant or ambivalent when they are notified that an organ is available or that a planned transplant is imminent
- P3 create an opportunity for immediate face-to-face dialogue with the patient
- P4 encourage the patient to express their perceived pros and cons of having the transplant
- P5 restate the known evidence on these pros and cons
- P6 encourage the patient to express their feelings
- P7 be honest about the advantages, from a practitioner perspective, of the patient's continuing with the transplantation and the need for a decision to be made quickly though not instantly
- P8 obtain information from the patient's family on their recent behaviour and expressed feelings
- P9 arrange for the patient to talk to those people who they trust to help them remake their decision (e.g. family, friends, other practitioners)
- P10 provide information that the patient requests and infer other information needs
- P11 enable the patient to remake an informed decision

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 anatomy and physiology of the human body
- K2 anatomy and physiology of the renal system
- K3 the immune system
- K4 psychological care skills/loss counselling
- K5 what patients can expect with and without transplantation
- K6 the nature and risks and benefits of forms of renal replacement therapy for patients in different medical circumstances (dialysis, various, and transplantation)
- K7 effects of renal replacement therapy on mood and motivation
- K8 patients' psychological response to the prospect of transplantation and being on the Register and techniques for responding to them (e.g. waiting for a long time, uncertainty)
- K9 family relationships and ways of exploring them through observation, discussion and interviews
- K10 current evidence of the effects of the donation programme on donors and how to minimise adverse reactions
- K11 patterns of relationship between prospective living donors and recipients
- K12 risks and benefits of transplantation (e.g. enhanced life prospects and lifestyle, side effects of immunosuppression, rejection, psychological issues)
- K13 objections to transplantation and how to probe underlying thinking and how to counter it
- K14 evidence of beliefs about transplantation among informed and uninformed religious and cultural groups (e.g. typical mistaken beliefs that a religion opposes transplantation, religious pronouncements such as Muslim fatwa in favour of transplantation)
- K15 statistics for renal transplantation locally
- K16 roles of other members of the multidisciplinary team
- K17 how to adapt communication styles in ways which are appropriate to different people (e.g. culture, language or special needs)
- K18 the importance of establishing rapport and how to do so
- K19 how to ask questions, listen carefully and summarise back
- K20 the importance of encouraging individuals to ask questions and how to do so
- K21 the religious beliefs of different cultures
- K22 the effects of different cultures and religions on care management and effects on family dynamics
- K23 the principle of confidentiality and what information may be given to whom
- K24 the importance of involving individuals in discussions, and how to do so
- K25 how to negotiate effectively with individuals, families and other

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professionals

K26 the principles of evidence-based practice, and how to apply them

K27 coaching skills

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Additional Information

External links

This standard has indicative links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):

Dimension: Core 1 Communication

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