Lung Transplantation for Patients with ILD: Surgical and Recovery Issues

Aida Venado, MD MAS

Assistant Professor

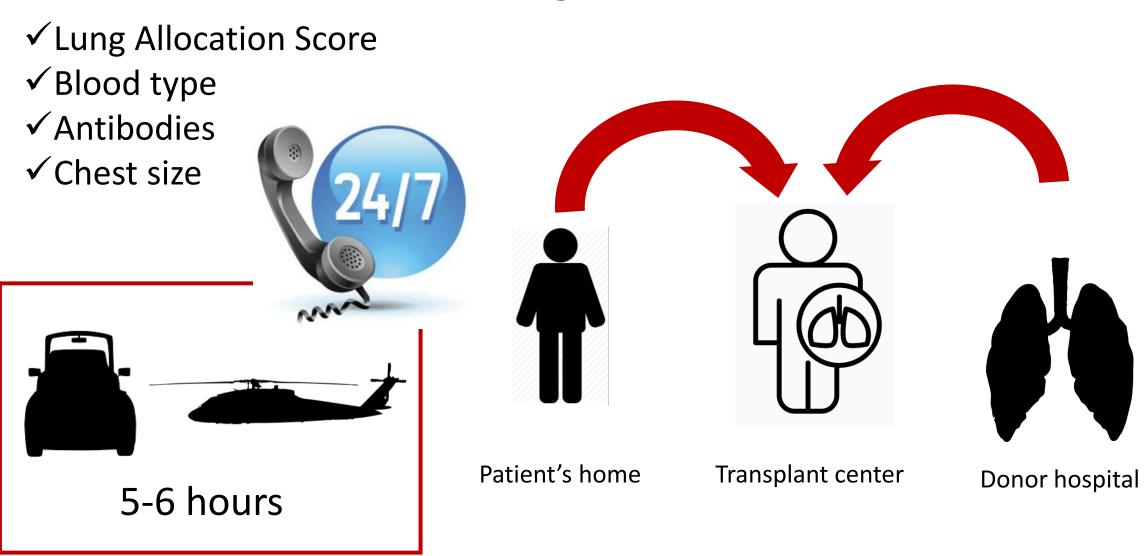
University of California, San Francisco

Aida.Venado@ucsf.edu

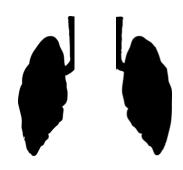
We will talk about...

- 1. The transplant surgery
 - Getting the call
 - Single or double lung transplant?
 - Increased risk donors
- 2. Recovery
 - In the hospital
 - Care after discharge
- 3. Immunosuppression: the bright and the dark side
- 4. Quality of Life and Survival after transplant

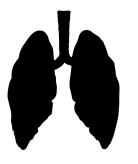
Getting The Call



1 out of 3-4 times, the organs do not work out and we need to wait for the next offer.



Single or double lung transplant?

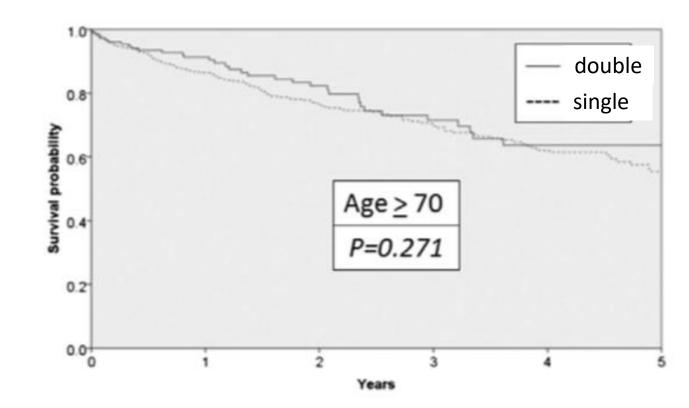


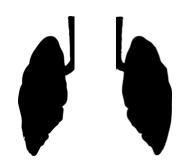
Studied in >9000 lung transplants for IPF from 1987 to 2015 in the US.

1. Age

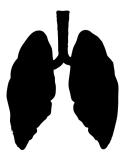
- For patients < 70 years old, double provides longer survival and is preferred.
- For patients ≥ 70 years, single and double provide the same survival.

In older patients, single allows for faster recovery and may be preferred.





Single or double lung transplant?



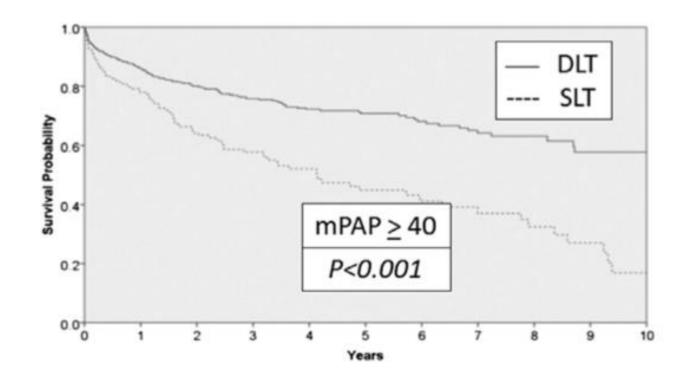
Studied in >9000 lung transplants for IPF from 1987 to 2015 in the US.

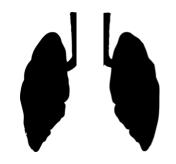
2. Pulmonary hypertension (PH)

• For patients with pulmonary hypertension, double provides longer

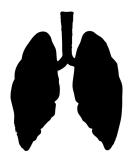
survival and is preferred.

• The higher the blood pressure inside the lungs, the greater the survival benefit of double.





Single or double lung transplant for IPF?



The transplant team decides after considering many <u>individual</u> patient characteristics.

Often patients will be listed for either single or double.

Waiting time is longer for double than for single. Patients listed for single have greater survival in the first year after getting on the waitlist.

Villavicencio MA. *The Annals of thoracic surgery.* 2018

Getting any transplant is better than running out of time.

My advice: Trust your transplant team!

Increased Risk Donors

- Donors with behaviors/exposures in the previous 12 months that put them at risk of having HIV, hepatitis B, or hepatitis C infection.
- MSM, IV drug use, sex for money or drugs, sex partner with known/suspected infection, incarceration, hemodialysis, when information is unavailable
- The risk for a recipient to contract these infections from a donor during the window period is $\leq 0.1\%$.
- The highest risk is for contracting *hepatitis C* from an IV drug user (3%) or a sex worker (1.2%).

Increased Risk Donors

 The recipient is tested repeatedly during the first year after transplant to detect and treat infections.

- This risk has nothing to do with the quality of the lungs. Survival is equal or better with lungs from increased risk donors.
- The risk of dying on the waitlist is often much higher than the risk of contracting these infections.



My advice: Trust your transplant team!

The Lung Transplant Operation

- Surgery lasts 8-10 hours on average.
- If the lungs are too big, they may need resections to adjust size.
- A heart-lung machine (ECMO) may be needed to support the patient during and after surgery.
- Nerve cryoablation for pain control.





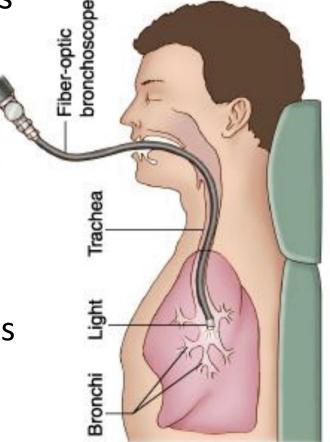
https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:DoubleLungTransplantScar.jpg



Recovery in the Hospital

- Patient wakes up
- Breathing tube comes out
- Patient gets out of bed and walks
- Physical therapy
- Nutrition

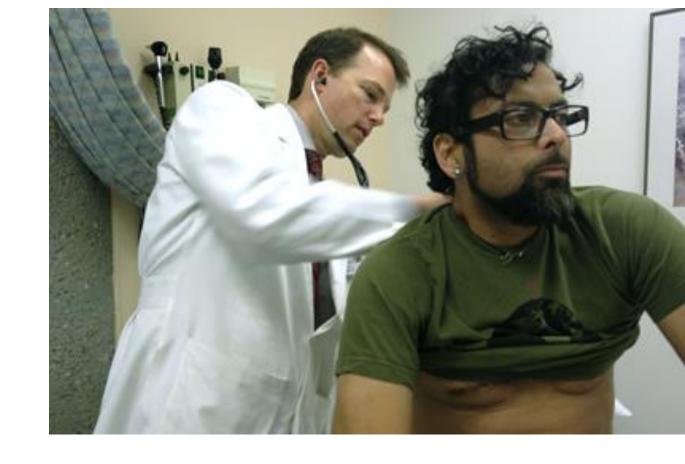
- Control pain
- Chest tubes come out
- Bronchoscopy to clear secretions



https://lungtransplanteducation.ucsf.edu

Care After Discharge

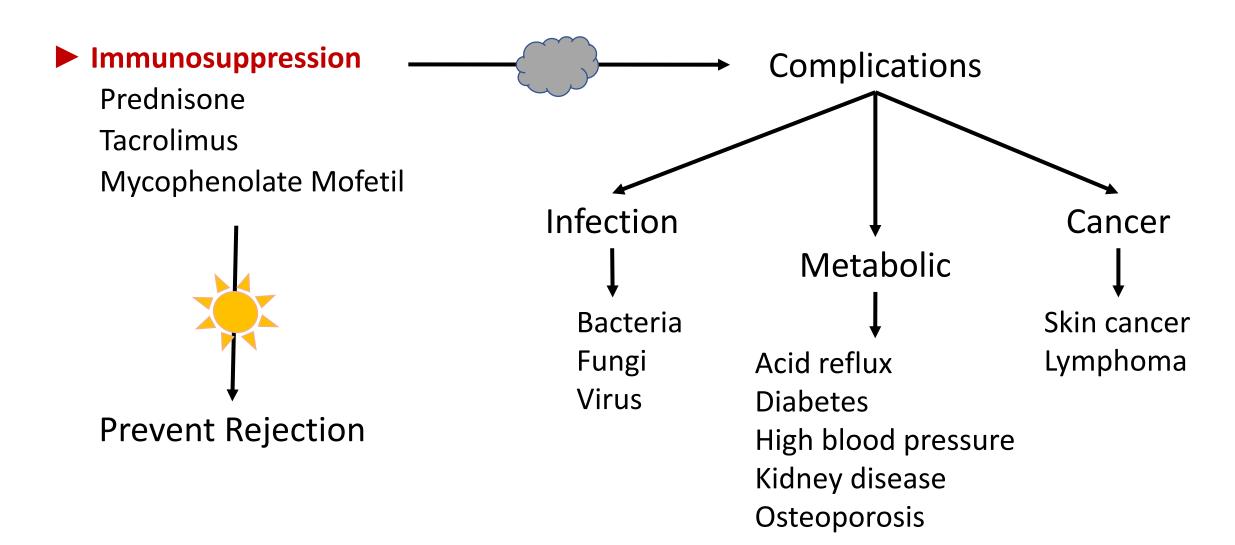
- Hospital stay: 2 weeks (average)
- Stay in San Francisco: 6-8 weeks
- Two caregivers are needed
- Transplant Clinic visits
 - Every week (6 weeks)
 - Every month (6 months)
 - Every 2 months (6-12 months)
 - Every 3 months (2nd year)
 - Every 6 months (3rd year and after)



Primary care provider visits

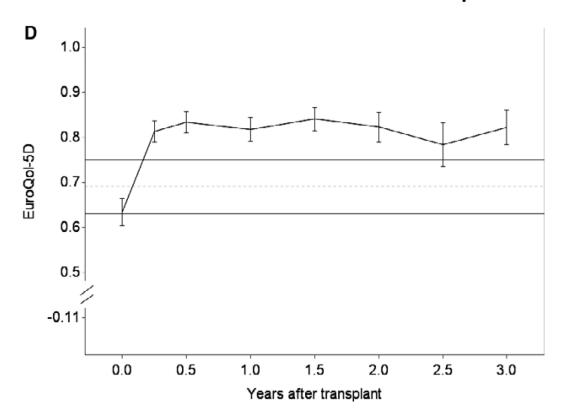
https://www.ucsf.edu/news/2012/11/13055/rock-climber-exceeds-expectations-after-double-lung-transplant

Life-long Immunosuppression after Transplant



Lung Transplant Improves Quality of Life and Disability

Most patients have large improvements within 6 months after transplant.



EuroQol-5D assesses mobility, self-care, usual activities, pain/discomfort, and anxiety/depression.



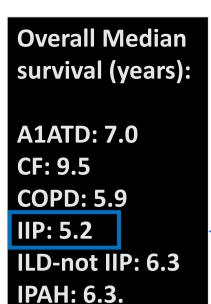


https://www.youtube.com/user/UCSFMedicalCenter/search?query=lung+transplant

Survival after Lung Transplant

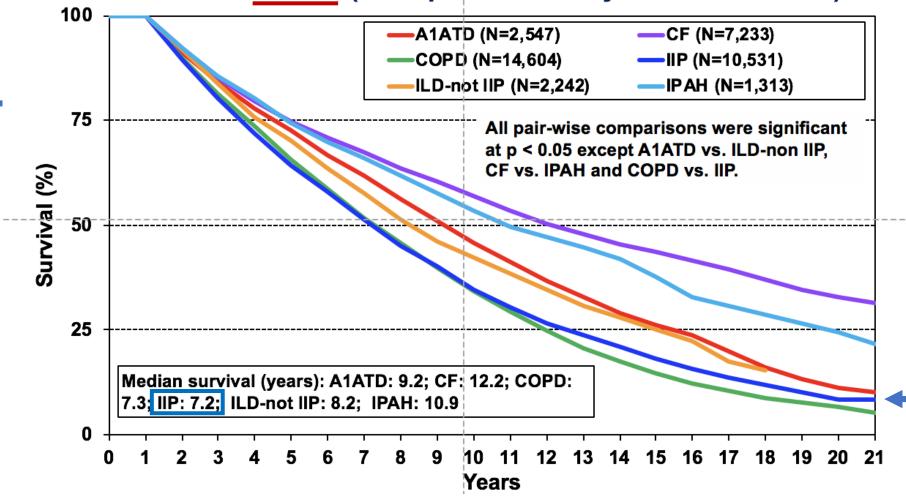


IPF



Early survival is very important!



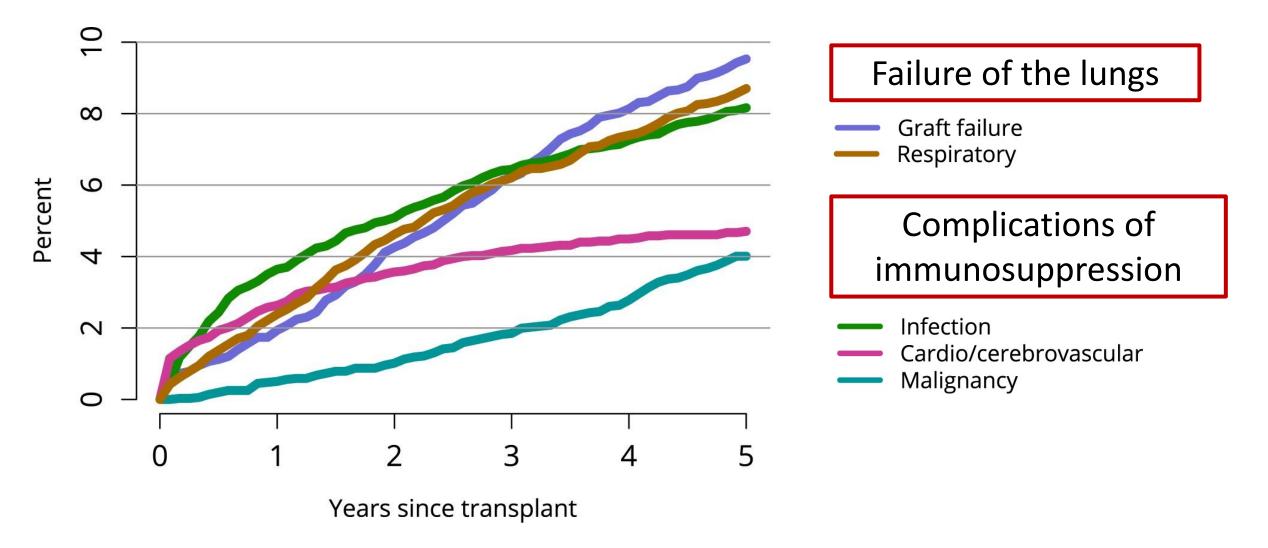


Early patient survival with a functioning transplant



Survival	United States	UCSF
1 month	97.46 %	99.26 %
1 year	88.85 %	96.86 %
3 years	70.47 %	83.28 %

What are the causes of death after lung transplant?



Valapour, M., et al. "OPTN/SRTR 2016 annual data report: lung." American Journal of Transplantation 18 (2018): 363-433.





"Every day is a gift."

Learn more at http://lungtransplanteducation.ucsf.edu