

Solid Organ Transplant Patient Education

The Problem

Transplantation is an extreme lifestyle change, and lack of knowledge around solid organ transplant can leave patients feeling overwhelmed and un-prepared, which can adversely affect graft survival. Previous education materials were insufficient in terms of presentation and ease of comprehension to address this knowledge deficit.

Aim/Goal

Our goal in creating our Pre and Post Solid Organ Transplant Binders was to address the aforementioned knowledge deficit in order to promote self care and therefore enhance graft survival. Examples of patient education materials include, but are not limited to, scopes of practice around infection control, signs/symptoms of rejection, danger signs, psychosocial needs, and follow-up care pre and post transplantation.

The Team

Poster Development Team: William Entwistle, RN, BSN, Erica Gemellaro, RN, BSN, CCTN, Christin Rogers, PharmD, BCPS, Erin Sexton, RN, BSN, CCTC, Kimberly Sullivan, RN, BSN, CCTC

Transplant Binders Team: Transplant Coordinators, Farr 10 Nursing Staff, Transplant Patient Education Committee (multidisciplinary committee made up of Coordinators, Nursing, Social Work, Nutrition, Pharmacy, Post-Transplant Patient), Transplant Surgical/Medical and Infectious Disease Physicians, Transplant Director, Transplant Administrative Assistant, Media Services.

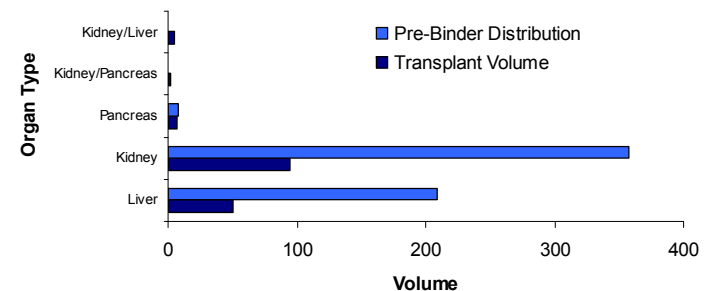
The Interventions

Pre and Post Transplant Binders were created with input from a multidisciplinary team.

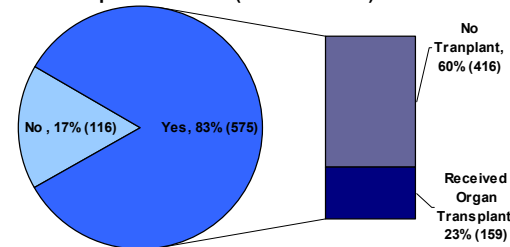
- Multidisciplinary team solicited feedback from patients/staff to clearly define areas where previous education materials were in need of improvement.
- Pre Transplant, organ specific binders, and a general post transplant binder, were developed so that education material would now be presented in a user friendly format.
- Initial transplant workup and evaluation process updated to include distribution/use of new binders
- Post transplant patient education process updated to include use of new education material
- Tracking system implemented to collect data on volume of binders being distributed

The Results

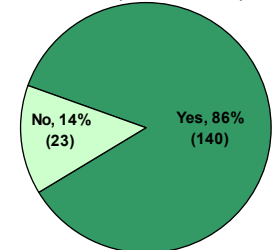
Volume of Transplant Cases and Pre-Transplant Binders Distributed, by Organ, 3/2010-12/2011



Pre-Transplant Education Provided to Patient, Transplant Outcome (3/2010-12/2011)



Post-Transplant Education Provided to Patient (3/2010-12/2011)



Lessons Learned

- Binders required frequent updating as clinical pathways and generic medications changed.
- Barriers to patient education post implementation
 - most education materials were available only in English
 - too many handouts and the frequency of updates impeded efforts to standardize patient education
- The length of time between evaluation and transplant varies from days to years which resulted in lost and/or outdated binders needing replacement.

Next Steps

- Encourage feedback by developing and distributing patient surveys
- Multi lingual education binders
- Continual evaluation of content to ensure information reflects best practice
- Produce a video and make viewing possible on the BIDMC Patient Education Channel in order to better meet the needs of patients with different learning styles
- Share our knowledge within our Department; i.e. Live Donor Binder
- Share our knowledge with others; i.e. Bone Marrow Transplant



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