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P219 -Skin cancer awareness and compliance with photo protection in long-term kidney transplant patients: A single centre cohort analysis

Dr Antonia Cronin¹, Ms Sharon Frame¹, Dr Mary Wain¹

¹*Guys And St. Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust, London, United Kingdom*

Introduction: Long-term kidney transplant recipients (LKT) are up to 200 times more likely to develop non-melanoma skin cancer (NMSC) than age-matched general populations. Underlying mechanisms affecting development of NMSC include Fitzpatrick skin type (FST) and UV Light exposure. Primary prevention of NMSC by reducing UV sun exposure and using appropriate photo protection is recommended.

Aims: To (i) catalogue FST and prevalence of NMSC in all LKT attending our Annual Review Transplant Clinic (ARTC), (ii) evaluate levels of skin cancer awareness and compliance with photoprotection in this cohort.

Methods: Between 01/09/16-31/08/17 all LKT attending our ARTC completed screening measures including: Sun Photo-protection, Skin Cancer Awareness Questionnaire (SCAQ).

Results: There were N=307 screening encounters. N=184(60%) were male and N=123(40%) were female. Mean age was 53.2 years (range 22-81 years). Meant GFR was 49mL/min (range 5-116mL/min). N=80(26%) patients had at least one NMSC. N=280(91.1%) LKT received advice about protecting skin from sunlight. Of those N=103(36.9%) of LKT remember having advice before their transplant, N=118(42.1%) said they had no advice prior to transplantation and N=59(21%) can't remember. N=261(85%) LKT reported receiving skin care advice after their first transplant. 100% of patients with FST1, but only 75% of patients with FST6 reported receiving advice about protecting skin. 92.4% of patients with FST1 either usually/always avoid sun exposure in contrast to only 30.8% of patients with FST6. Sun exposure avoidance correlated with receiving skin protection advice. N=258(83.9%) LKT reported using sunscreen, however only N=33(10.8%) applied sunscreen daily, and N=107 (55.4%) applied sun screen only when it was sunny. 100% of patients with FST1 used sunscreen in contrast to only 41.7% of patients with FST6.

Conclusion: NMSC is a significant cause of morbidity in LKT. Nearly all LKT attending our ARTC have received advice about protecting skin from sunlight. However skin cancer awareness and compliance with photoprotection varies considerably with FST.