

## Transplant rejection

Learning objective: At the end of lecture, the students should be able to:

- 1- Define transplant rejection.
- 2- Mention the mechanisms of transplant rejection.
- 3- Mention the mechanisms of T cell-mediated graft rejection (cellular rejection).
- 4- Explain the direct pathway of allorecognition by the recipient's T cells.
- 5- Explain the indirect pathway of allorecognition by the recipient's T lymphocytes.
- 6- Discuss the mechanisms of antibody-mediated reaction in graft rejection.
- 7- Classify the morphology of rejection reactions (renal transplant).
- 8- Describe the morphology of hyperacute rejection (renal transplant).
- 9- Describe the morphology of acute cellular rejection of a renal allograft.
- 10- Describe the morphology of acute humoral rejection (rejection vasculitis).
- 11- Describe the morphology of chronic rejection in a kidney allograft.

## Transplant rejection

### - Definition.

### - Examples.

### Mechanisms of transplant rejection (kidney grafts)

#### - Mechanisms:

##### 1- Cell-mediated immunity.

##### 2- Humoral-mediated immunity.

### Mechanisms of T cell-mediated graft rejection (cellular rejection)

#### - Mechanisms:

##### 1- T cell mediated cytotoxicity induced by CD8+ CTLs.

##### 2- Delayed hypersensitivity reaction triggered by activated CD4+ helper cells.

#### Direct pathway

##### Recipient's T cells (CD4+ T cells and CD8+ T cells).

##### - Allogenic (donor) MHC (HLA) molecules on the surface of an antigen presenting cell (APC) such as dendritic cell in the graft.

##### - Cytokines (IL-2) from CD4+ helper cells.

##### - Role of CD4+ helper cell in activation of APC and the differentiation of CTLs-----graft injury.

##### CD8 helper T cell differentiated into TH1.

#### Delayed hypersensitivity

##### - reaction:

##### \* Increased vascular permeability.

##### \* Accumulation of mononuclear cells (Lymphocytes and Macrophages)

##### \* Graft injury.

#### Indirect pathway

##### - Recipient's T lymphocytes.

##### - Antigens of the graft donor (MHC molecules).

##### - Recipient's own antigen presenting cells (APC).

##### - Delayed hypersensitivity reaction (CD4+ T cell-----graft rejection.

##### - CD8+ CTLs----Kill graft cells.

#### Antibody-mediated reaction (humoral rejection)

##### - In recipients previously sensitized to transplantation antigens (preformed anti-donor antibodies are present in the circulation of the recipient).

##### \* Hyperacute rejection.

##### - In recipients not previously sensitized to transplantation antigens (HLA antigens [class I and class II]-----antibodies-----injury by several mechanisms

##### including:

##### 1- Complement-dependent cytotoxicity, inflammation.

##### 2- Antibody-dependent cell-mediated cytotoxicity.

##### \* Acute humoral rejection (rejection vasculitis).

##### - Chronic rejection (present clinically with increased serum creatinine).

#### Concept and morphology of hyperacute rejection

##### - Concept.

##### - Morphology.

##### \* Antibody + Antigen-----deposition on vascular endothelium of the grafted organ-----complement fixation-----thrombosis-----ischemic death of vessels in the graft.

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Concept and morphology of acute rejection

1-Acute cellular rejection.

- Concept.

- Morphology.

1-extensive interstitial mononuclear cell infiltration.

2-Presence of mononuclear cells in glomerular and peritubular capillaries.

3-endothelitis(by CD4+ cells)

4-The affected vessels have swollen endothelial cells and infiltration of lymphocytes.

5-edema.

6-mild interstitial hemorrhage.

2-Acute humoral rejection(rejection vasculitis).

- Concept.

- Morphology:

1-necrotizing vasculitis with endothelial cell necrosis.

2-neutrophilic infiltration.

3-deposition of immunoglobulin, complement, fibrin and thrombosis.

4-extensive necrosis.

5-thickening of the intima(proliferation of fibroblast, myocytes, and foamy macrophages).

6-narrowing of the arterioles---infarction---cortical atrophy.

\*Chronic rejection:

- Concept.

- Morphology:

1-Vascular changes(intimal fibrosis).

2-interstitial fibrosis, and interstitial mononuclear cell infiltration(plasma cells and eosinophils).

3-Tubular atrophy and loss of renal parenchyma.

Questions:

Q1) Discuss the concept of Graft Versus Host (GVH) disease.

Q2) Identify the methods of increasing graft survival.

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