Fibromuscular Dysplasia of the Renal Artery in a Kidney Donor May Cause Long-term Complications

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Key words: *Transplant, Vascular, Hypertension*

Dear Editor,

In the case report by Sun and associates, follow-up of 1 year is not adequate time to comment on the outcome and make recommendations because most complications occur long term.[1] In a previous case, the donor developed fibromuscular dysplasia 8 years after donation.[2] Rapid progression of native renal artery fibromuscular dysplasia has been reported 1 year after kidney donation.[3] In a study of 71 patients with fibromuscular dysplasia and normal blood pressure who were followed for the natural course of disease, 8 (27%) of 30 patients who did not undergo nephrectomy developed hypertension over 7.5 years; in 19 of those who underwent nephrectomy despite fibromuscular dysplasia, 5 (26%) developed hypertension during the following four[4] years, and this emphasizes the need for long-term follow-up.[4] Similar results have been observed by others.[5]

Kidney donation may be associated with a major risk of long-term complications, and donors should be thoroughly evaluated for potential secondary complications. Monitoring blood pressure, determining serum creatinine annually, and evaluating for potential proteinuria may improve detection of many disorders at an early stage and may allow intervention before severe damage occurs to the remaining kidney.[6]

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