Time-dependent variations in urine volume and serum creatinine levels during post-operative hospital stay period after renal transplantation: experience in a tertiary care hospital of Bangladesh

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Abstract

**Background:** Kidney transplantation is the preferred treatment for end stage kidney disease (ESKD). Early post kidney transplant urine volume may correlate with favorable allograft survival. The aim of the present study was to examine the potential changes in urine volume with serum creatinine during post-operative hospital stay period after renal transplantation.

**Methods:** We retrospectively reviewed the medical records of patients who had undergone kidney transplantation at Bangladesh Institute of Research and Rehabilitation of Diabetes, Endocrine and Metabolic Disorders (BIRDEM) General Hospital, Dhaka, Bangladesh between November 2004 and February 2019. Total patients were 133. Twenty four hour urine volume and serum creatinine levels were measured on day 1, day 5 and day 10 after operation. Correlation was performed by using Pearson correlation test.

**Results:** The mean age of the renal allograft recipients was 36.7±10.3 years with male to female ratio of 2.7:1. The mean 24 hours urine volume on Day 1, Day 5 and Day 10 were 8990±5377 ml, 4860±2074 ml and 4485±1722 ml respectively and serum creatinine levels were 3.5±1.5 mg/dl, 1.6±1.2 mg/dl and 1.5±1.3 mg/dl respectively. Negative correlation were found between the Day 1, Day 5 and Day 10 serum creatinine and the urine volume ($r$=0.366, 0.507, 0.365 respectively) with significant p values ($<0.01$) in each group.

**Conclusion:** Although urine volume showed considerable variation in early post renal transplantation, it stabilized by the course of time, which was also negatively correlated with the serum creatinine levels.

**Key word:** kidney transplant recipient, urine volume, serum creatinine.

**Introduction**

When kidneys fail, treatment is needed to replace the work of kidneys. There are two types of treatment for kidney failure- dialysis or transplant. In recent years, several studies have documented that early (1\textsuperscript{st} week) graft function post-kidney transplantation impacts long term graft survival. \textsuperscript{1} Immediately after kidney transplantation diuresis begins. \textsuperscript{2} Although controversial, the early post kidney transplant urine volume may correlate with favorable short and long term graft survivals. \textsuperscript{2} High urine volume during the first post-transplant days is a useful parameter to predict graft outcome. \textsuperscript{3,4} The aim of the present study was to examine potential variation in urine volume and serum creatinine levels immediately after transplantation and during hospital course after kidney transplantation and also elucidate possible correlations between urine volume and serum creatinine levels during this period.
Methods
A cross-sectional retrospective study was conducted in 133 live related kidney transplant recipient at Bangladesh Institute of Research and Rehabilitation of Diabetes, Endocrine and Metabolic Disorders (BIRDEM) General Hospital, Dhaka, Bangladesh between November 2004 to February 2019. Twenty four hours urine volume and serum creatinine levels were measured on day 1, day 5 and day 10 after operation. All patient received Methyl prednisolone followed by oral prednisolone, Cyclosporine or tecrolimus and mycophenolate mofetil as immunosuppressive agents. Following transplantation, fluid replacement was started with normal or hypotonic saline based on the serum electrolyte status and urine volume. Statistical analysis was performed by SPSS version 22 and results were expressed in mean value ± standard deviation and Pearson correlation test. The p value for significance was set at 0.05.

Results
Total 133 kidney transplant recipient were included in this study, among them 97 were male and 36 were female with male to female ratio of 2.7:1. The mean age of the renal allograft recipients was 36.7±10.3 years and most patient were within age group of 31-40 year. (Figure 1) The mean 24 hours urine volume and serum creatinine on Day 1 were 8990±5377 ml and 3.5±1.5 mg/dl respectively, on Day 5 were 4860±2074 ml and1.6±1.2 mg/dl respectively and on Day 10 were 4485±1722 ml and 1.5±1.3 mg/dl respectively. Negative correlation were found between Day 1, Day 5 and Day 10 serum creatinine and the urine volume (r=0.366, 0.507, 0.365 respectively) with significant p values (<0.01) in each group. (Figures 2, 3 and 4)

![Figure 2 Correlation of serum creatinine with urine volume in Day 1 (N = 133)](image)

![Figure 3 Correlation of serum creatinine with urine volume in Day 5 (N = 133)](image)

![Figure 4 Correlation of serum creatinine with urine volume in Day 10 (N = 133)](image)

![Figure 1 Distribution of age of recipients (N = 133)](image)
Discussion
This retrospective study was performed in 133 post-transplant recipients from November 2004 to February 2019. Among the patients, 97 were male and 36 were female with male to female ratio of 2.7:1. The mean ages of the study subject was 36.7±10.3 years and most of the patients were within 21 to 60 years. In a previous study showed the almost similar mean age and male to female ratio. In urine volume, the results of this study showed gradual decreased in urine volume after kidney transplant operation from day 1 to day 5 and then stabilized within day 10. It had been shown that the urine volume is usually high within the first 24 to 48 hours after transplantation. In some studies showed urine volume after post-operative period of kidney transplantation were 10.06±5.89 liter followed by 5.45±3.05 liter which were almost similar to this study. The outcome for kidney transplant recipients has markedly improved since it was started. Day to day variation in kidney function, as expressed by serum levels of creatinine could be related to the 24 hours urine volume. We found a negative correlation between serum creatinine and 24 hours urine volume during day 1, day 5 and day 10 after kidney transplantation. But in a previous study, it is demonstrated a direct relation between serum creatinine and diuresis volume after kidney transplantation.

Limitations and recommendations
As sample size was small in a single center, the finding derived from study cannot be generalized to reference population. So for further recommendation, multicenter study with large sample size is emphasized.

Conclusion
Although urine volume showed considerable variation in early post renal transplantation, it stabilized by the course of time, which was also negatively correlated with the serum creatinine levels. Moreover one may conclude these, in stable patient the final urine volume was related to the early graft function.

Conflicts of interest: Nothing to declare.

References