

**In the name of GOD**

# **MTOR-I and NODAT**

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## **My talk**

- **Introduction**
- **NODAT**
- **MTOR-I Mechanism**
- **Review of articles**



# Introduction

- **NODAT** affects 20–30% of renal transplant recipients.
- increases the risk for
  - cardiovascular events
  - infectious events
  - metabolic disorders
  - diabetic kidney disease
  - impaired renal function
  - premature graft loss.
- diabetogenic effect of CNIs (tacrolimus) and steroids
- novel immunosuppressive regimens must be carefully evaluated



# criteria for NODAT(ADA, WHO)

**Table 1.** Diagnostic criteria for diabetes mellitus and prediabetes by the ADA

|                                 |                                    |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <i>Diabetes</i>                 |                                    |
| RPG                             | ≥200 mg/dL (11.1 mmol/L)           |
| FPG                             | ≥126 mg/dL (7 mmol/L)              |
| 2hPG                            | ≥200 mg/dL (11.1 mmol/L)           |
| HbA1c                           | ≥6.5%                              |
| <i>Prediabetes</i>              |                                    |
| IFG                             | FPG 100–126 mg/dL (5.6–6.9 mmol/L) |
| IGT                             | FPG <126 mg/dL (7 mmol/L)          |
|                                 | 2hPG 140–200 mg/dL (7.8–11 mmol/L) |
| Increased risk of diabetes      | HbA1c 5.7–6.4%                     |
| <i>Normal glucose tolerance</i> |                                    |
|                                 | FPG <100 mg/dL (5.6 mmol/L)        |
|                                 | 2hPG <140 mg/dL (7.8 mmol/L)       |
|                                 | HbA1c <5.7%                        |

ADA, American Diabetes Association; RPG, random plasma glucose; FPG, fasting plasma glucose; 2hPG, 2-h plasma glucose after an oral glucose; IFG, Impaired fasting glucose; IGT, impaired glucose tolerance.



# Limitations of HbA1c

- Use of HbA1c after transplantation is not recommended
- **Anaemia**, which is common in the early post-transplant period, may lead to false low HbA1c levels
- **erythropoietin treatment** or blood cell **transfusions** can change HbA1c levels independently of glycaemic changes
- it is not unusual that a patient may have normal glucose levels (or in the prediabetic range) whereas the levels at **120** min are in the diabetic range, that is,  $\geq 200$  mg/dL.
- an **OGTT is necessary** to detect “occult” PTDM



## Transient Post-Operative hyperglycemia Is Not NODAT

- About 80% of the patients may experience transient hyperglycaemia early after surgery, which is commonly related to perioperative stress
- This should not be confused with NODAT but must be taken into account since it is associated with future development of the disease
- *diagnosis of NODAT should be made in clinically stable patients*



## Risk factors of NODAT

### Pre-transplant modifiable

- overweight
- dyslipidemia
- hypertension
- poor physical exercise
- GD

### Post-transplant modifiable

- Peri-operative stress
- infections (HCV, CMV)
- Vit D deficiency
- hypo Mg
- HLA mismatch
- IS med

### Non-modifiable

- familial history
- older age
- ethnicity
- sex



# Timeline of risk factors for NODAT

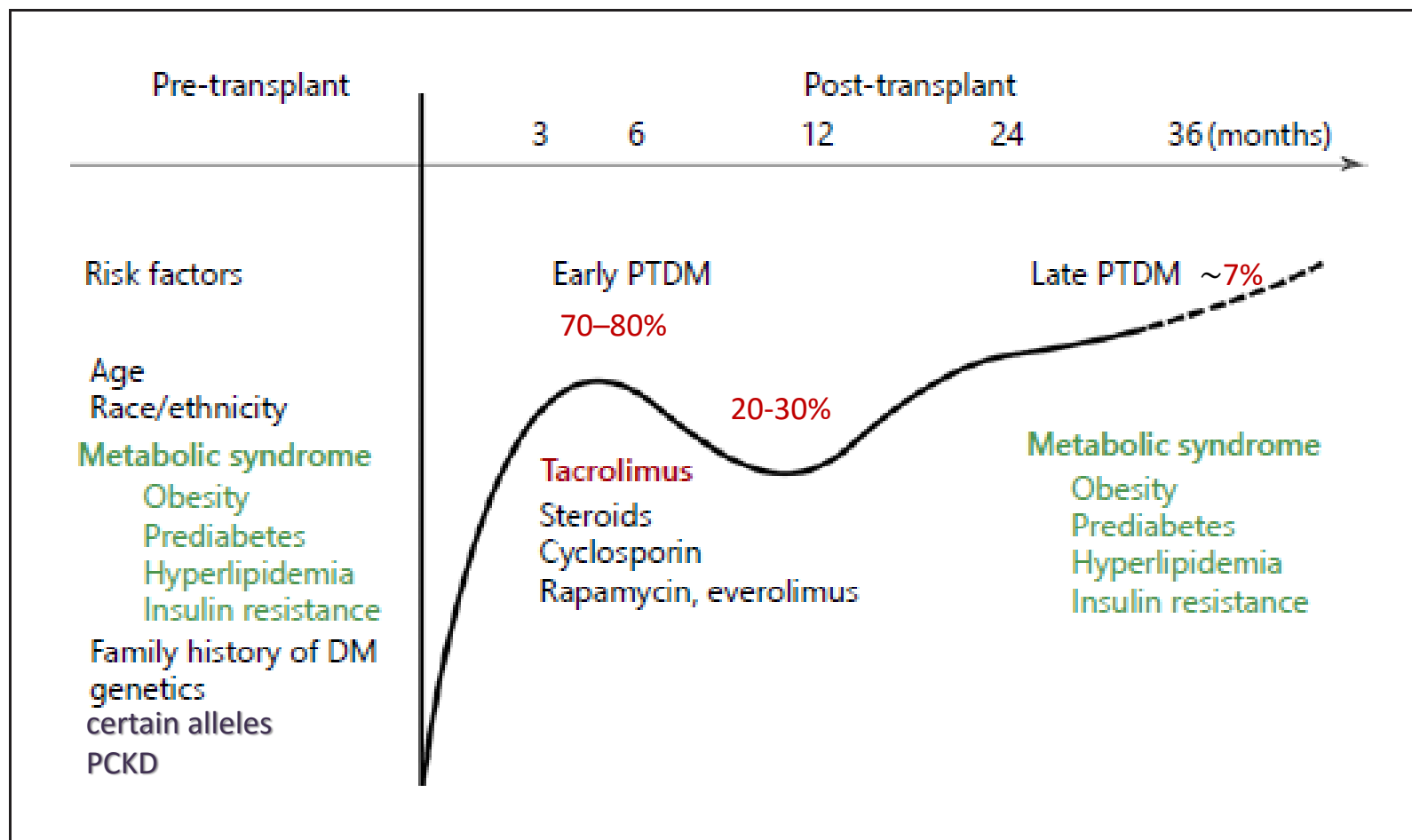




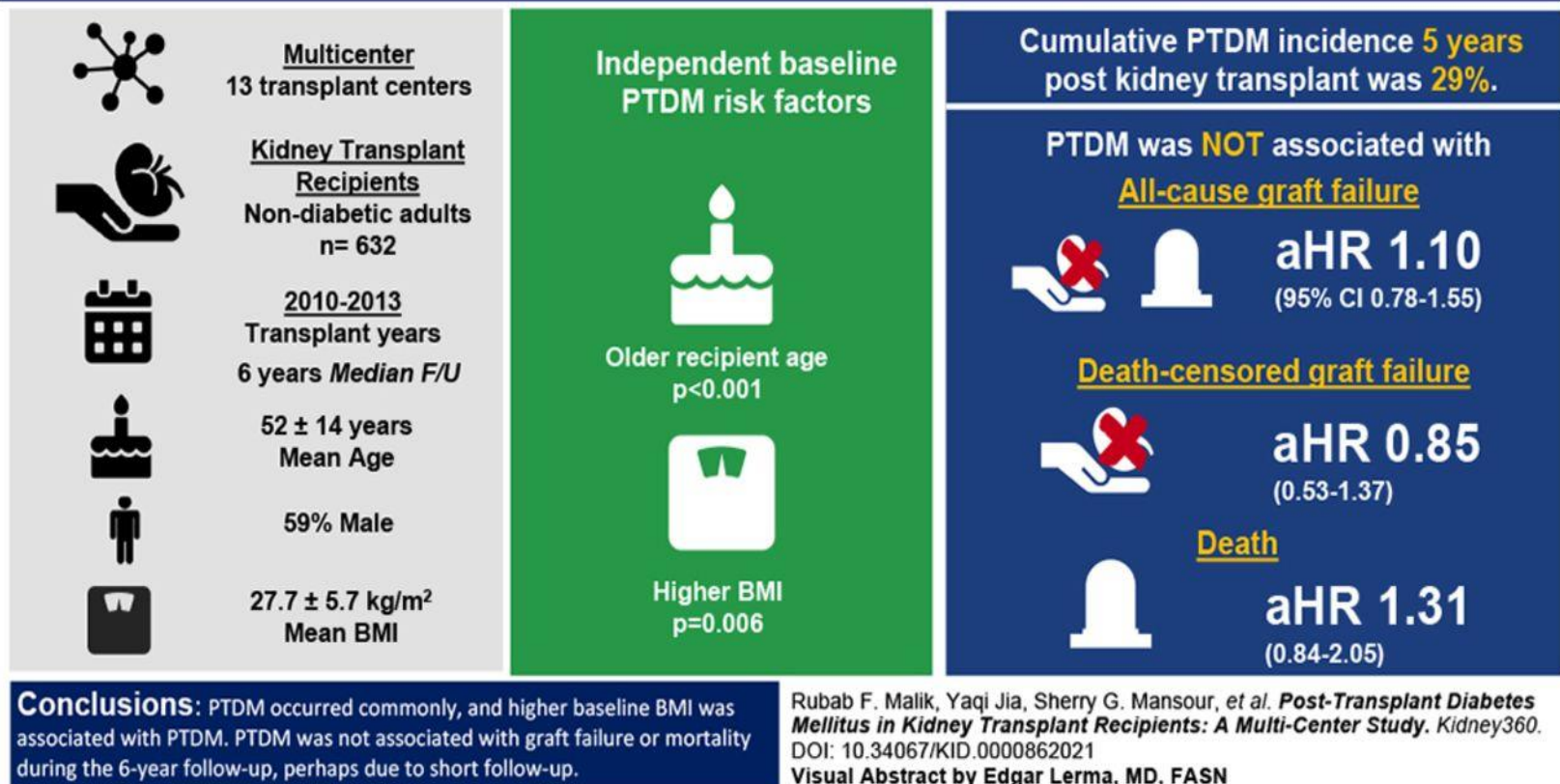
Table 1. Main immunosuppressive medications and their diabetogenic potential.

| Drug                           | Diabetogenic Effect |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| Maintenance immunosuppression: |                     |
| Glucocorticoids                | +++++               |
| Tacrolimus                     | ++++                |
| Cyclosporine                   | +++                 |
| Sirolimus                      | +++                 |
| Everolimus                     | ++                  |
| Azathioprine                   | -                   |
| Mycophenolic acid              | -                   |
| Induction immunosuppression:   |                     |
| Basiliximab                    | -                   |
| Rabbit anti-thymocyte globulin | -                   |
| Rituximab                      | -                   |



# Association of post-transplant diabetes mellitus (PTDM) with graft outcomes and mortality

Kidney360



Rubab F. Malik et al. Kidney360 2021;2:1296-1307

Kidney360



# Common adverse effects of mTORI

TABLE 1: Most common adverse events in mTOR-I-treated renal transplant recipients.

| Adverse events                           | Rate of occurrence (%) | References  |
|--|------------------------|---|
| Pulmonary toxicity                       | 2–11                   | [20, 21, 24, 33]  |
| Hematopoietic adverse effects            |                        |   |
| Anemia                                   | 13–58                  | [6, 36, 44–47, 50, 56, 57, 70, 72, 135, 147]            |
| Leukopenia                               | 5–39                   | [6, 45, 46, 56, 66, 117, 121, 147]                      |
| Thrombocytopenia                         | 4–45                   | [6, 45–47, 56, 66, 70, 117, 118, 121, 122, 147]         |
| Metabolic disorders                      |                        |   |
| Hyperlipidemia                           | 8–87                   | [6, 45–47, 57, 66, 70–72, 115, 117, 118, 121, 135, 147] |
| Posttransplantation diabetes             | 3–33                   | [56, 70, 72, 78, 80, 115, 121, 138, 147]                |
| Hypophosphatemia                         | 15–20                  | [45, 46, 57]  |
| Lymphedema                               | <5                     | [99–102]  |
| Cardiovascular disease                   | 1–6                    | [80, 100, 117, 122, 124, 128]                           |
| Hypertension                             | 8–58                   | [46, 57, 70, 72, 115, 117, 121, 122, 135]               |
| Cutaneous adverse effects                |                        |   |
| Acne, folliculitis                       | 9–25                   | [6, 57, 70, 116–118, 135, 147]                          |
| Stomatitis and mucous membrane disorders | 9–64                   | [6, 118, 138, 147]                                      |
| Edema                                    | 2–70                   | [6, 56, 57, 70, 121, 122, 135, 147]                     |
| Nail and hair pathologies                | 74                     | [116]   |
| Gonadal complications                    | <5                     | [123–126]   |
| Surgical wound complication              | 2–20                   | [56, 70, 72, 133–136]                                   |
| Infections                               | 2–60                   | [6, 72, 117, 122, 136]                                  |
| Gastrointestinal complication            | 2–51                   | [6, 46, 47, 56, 57, 70, 72, 117, 118, 121, 135, 147]    |



# MTOR mechanism

- mammalian target of rapamycin (**mTOR**) is a cytoplasmic serine/threonine protein kinase that belongs to PI3K-related kinase family, which operates as a central regulator of **cell metabolism, growth, proliferation, and survival**.
- activated by **nutrients** (glucose, amino acids, and lipids), **growth factors, insulin, and inflammatory cytokines**



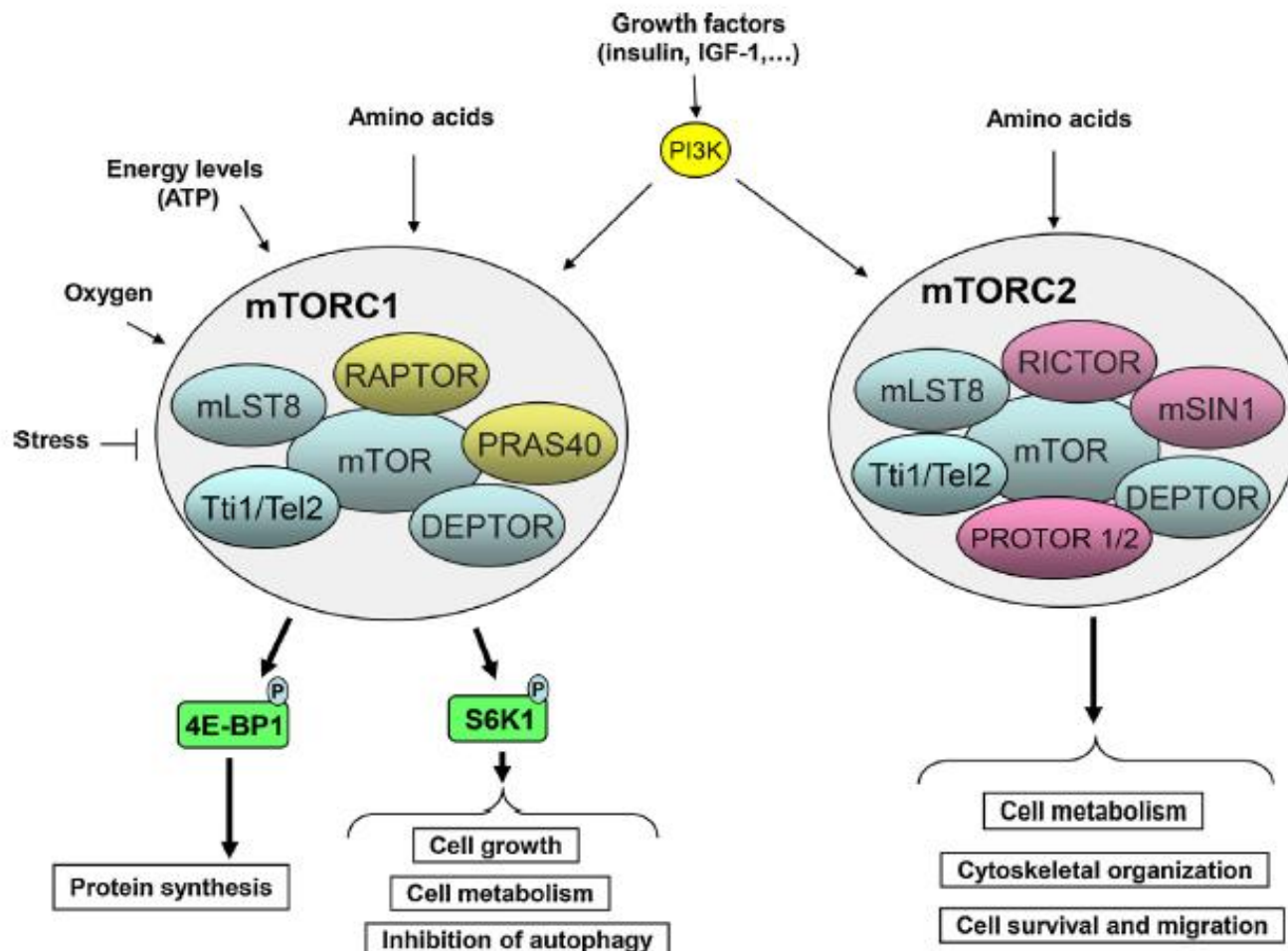


Fig. 1 – mTORC1 and mTORC2 complexes. mTORC1 is composed of 6 protein components (mTOR, mLST8, DEPTOR, Tti1/Tel2, RAPTOR, PRAS40) and responds to various stimuli, such as amino acids, stress, growth factors, energy and oxygen. mTORC2 is composed of 7 protein components (mTOR, mLST8, DEPTOR, Tti1/Tel2, RICTOR, mSIN1, PROTOR1/2) and responds to growth factors and amino acids. S6K1: ribosomal S6 kinase 1; 4E-BP1: eukaryotic translation initiation factor 4E binding protein.



# MTOR & Hyperglycemia

- mTORC1 promotes **insulin resistance** in adipose tissue, skeletal muscle, and liver.
- mTORC1 in liver, promoting **gluconeogenesis**
- Inhibitors of mTOR would therefore be expected to prevent development of insulin resistance through this mechanism
- **Conversely**, mTORC1 promotes the **oxidative metabolism** of skeletal muscle.
- mTORC1 is a **positive regulator** of  $\beta$  cell function, insulin secretion and decreases blood glucose levels, linked to an increase of both  $\beta$  cell **size** and **number**.



# mTORC1 Signaling: A Double-Edged Sword

- It seems that mTOR inhibitors exert a “Janus effect” on glucose metabolism.
- mTORC1 activity and metabolic homeostasis probably follows a U-shaped curve, where too little or too much mTORC1 activity has a deleterious effect on systemic metabolism.





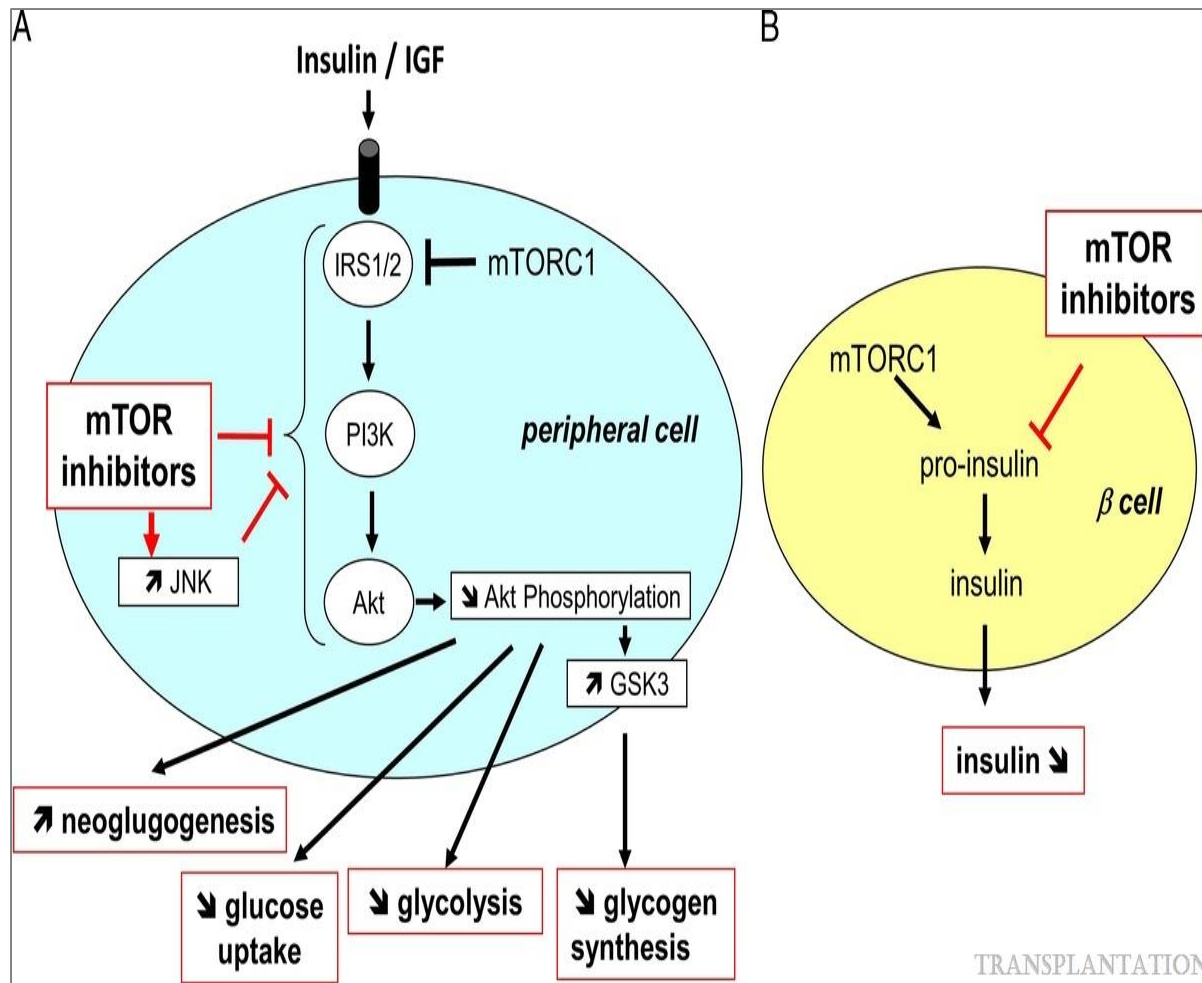
# MTOR-I mechanism

[mTOR and Cardiovascular Diseases: Diabetes Mellitus](#)

Vergès, Bruno

Transplantation102(2S):S47-S49, February 2018.

doi: 10.1097/TP.0000000000001722



Pathophysiology of hyperglycemia induced by mTOR inhibitors. A, mTOR inhibitors promote insulin resistance by reducing the activity of the post insulin receptor signaling proteins IRS1/2, by inhibiting the PI3-kinase pathway and by increasing Jun N-terminal kinase (JNK) activity which also reduces the activity of the insulin PI-3 kinase pathway. B, mTOR inhibitors reduce insulin secretion by reducing the upregulating action of mTORC1 on insulin secretion. IRS indicates insulin receptor substrate; PI3K, phosphoinositide 3-kinase; JNK, Jun N-terminal kinase; GSK3, glycogen synthase kinase 3 $\beta$ ; IGF, insulin-like growth factor.



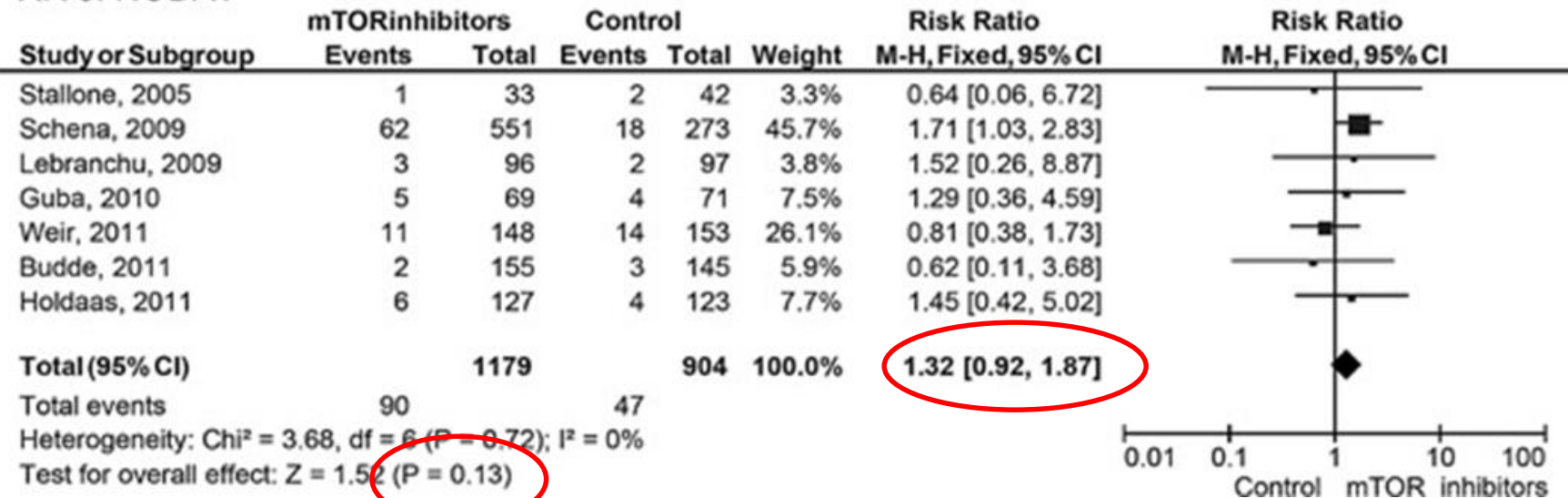
# Review of articles



Original Article | [Free Access](#)

## Risk of Metabolic Complications in Kidney Transplantation After Conversion to mTOR Inhibitor: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

RR of NODAT



NODAT

BPAR

Proteinuria



# Efficacy and Safety of Everolimus for Maintenance Immunosuppression of Kidney Transplantation: A Meta-Analysis of Randomized Controlled Trials

Jinyu Liu,<sup>1</sup> Dong Liu,<sup>1</sup> Juan Li,<sup>1</sup> Lan Zhu,<sup>2</sup> Chengliang Zhang,<sup>1</sup> Kai Lei,<sup>1</sup> Qiling Xu,<sup>3</sup> and Ruxu You<sup>4,\*</sup>

## Incidence of the most common adverse events up to 1 year after transplant.

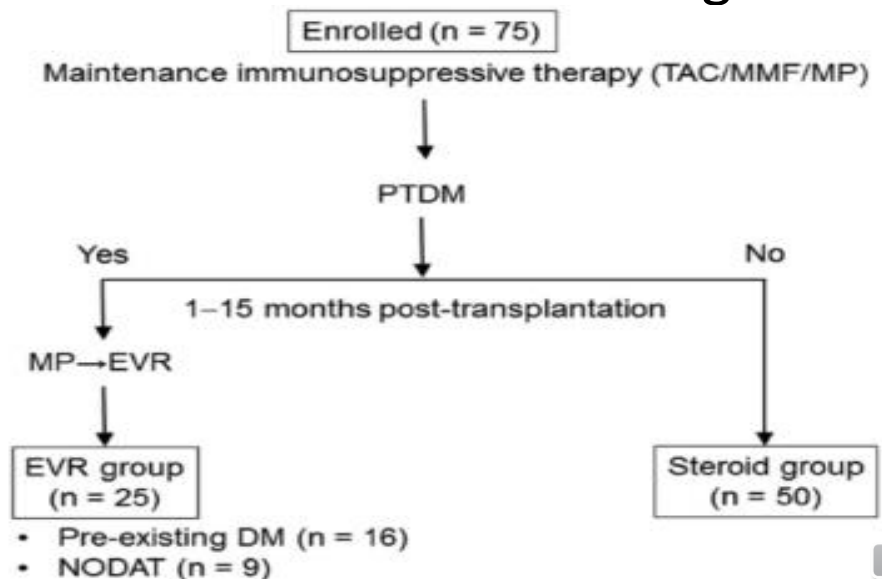
| Adverse events          | Incidence of adverse events (%) |       | p-Value |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|-------|---------|
|                         | Everolimus                      | CNI   |         |
| cytomegalovirus         | 8.90                            | 11.59 | 0.11    |
| BK virus                | 2.85                            | 4.88  | 0.14    |
| urinary tract infection | 21.48                           | 25.61 | 0.27    |
| diabetes mellitus       | 4.92                            | 8.29  | 0.16    |
| hypertriglyceridaemia   | 2.16                            | 2.51  | 0.77    |

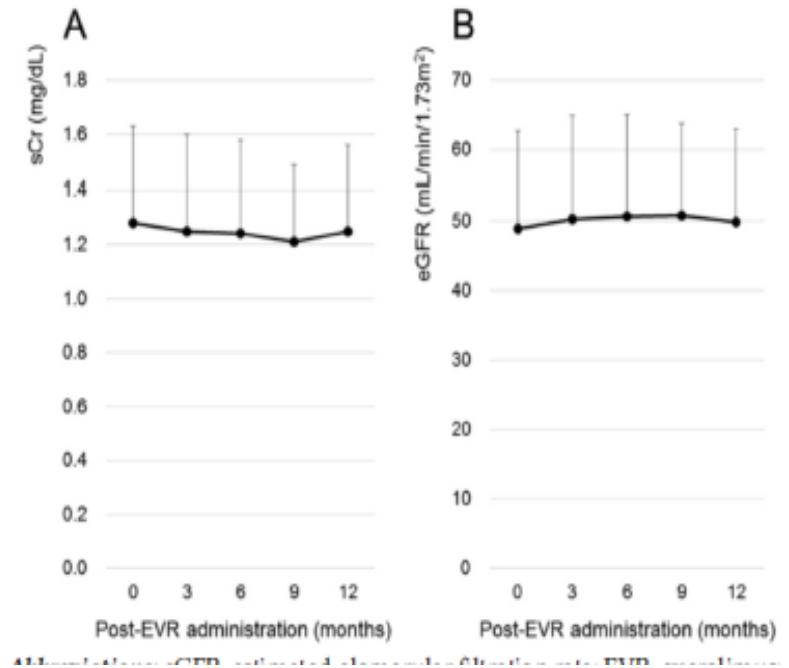
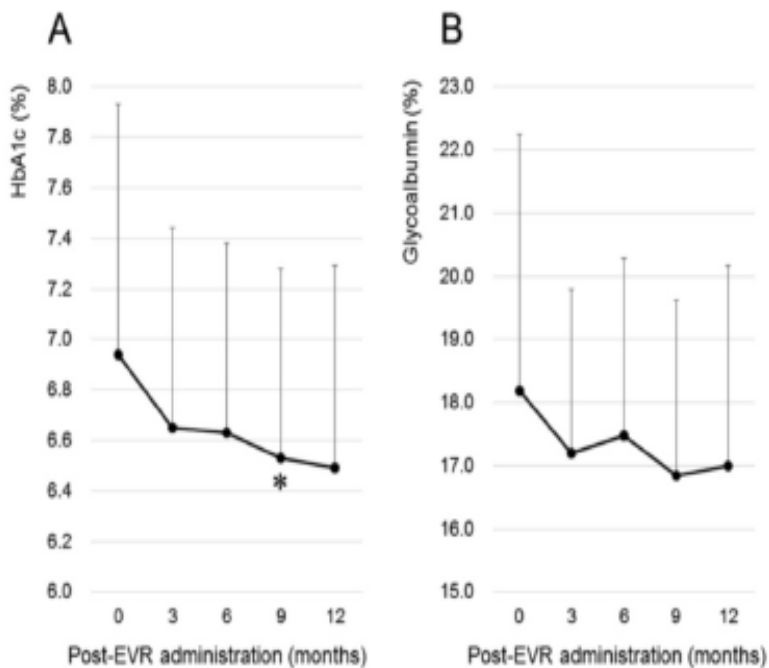


# Conversion From Steroid to Everolimus in Maintenance Kidney Transplant Recipients With Posttransplant Diabetes Mellitus

*Koji Nanmoku, Akira Kurosawa, Taro Kubo, Takahiro Shinzato, Toshihiro Shimizu, Takaaki Kimura, Takashi Yagisawa*

- use of **steroids** is associated with a potential risk of not only the deterioration of **preexisting diabetes** and **NODAT**
- steroid withdrawal can reduce the incidence of PTDM, this strategy has been associated with an increased risk of graft rejection





all graft survival ,

biopsy-proven acute rejection rates

did not significantly differ between the groups (16%vs 12%;  $P = .72$ ).

no acute rejection occurred after everolimus administration.

In the everolimus group, **hemoglobin A1c** significantly declined at 9 months after everolimus administration (6.94% vs 6.53%;  $P = .047$ ).

**Prospective study**



RESEARCH ARTICLE

Open Access



# mTOR inhibitor versus mycophenolic acid as the primary immunosuppression regime combined with calcineurin inhibitor for kidney transplant recipients: a meta-analysis

11 RCT = 4930 patients

Group1= CNI + MMF

Group 2= CNI + MTORI

immediate post-transplant period



# MTORI vs MPA

- mTOR-I-treated patients showed an **increased risk of NODAT**(RR = 1.32)
- mTOR-I significantly **reduced the risk of CMV infections** (RR = 0.43), and **malignancy** (RR = 0.64) compared with MPA
- mTOR-I showed **no particular superiority** compared with MPA, but in fact had an **increased risk of graft loss**(RR = 1.2) when combined with CNI.





ORIGINAL ARTICLES: CLINICAL TRANSPLANTATION

Outline

Images

## Posttransplant Diabetes Mellitus in Kidney Transplant Recipients Receiving Calcineurin or mTOR Inhibitor Drugs

Araki, Motoo<sup>1</sup>; Flechner, Stuart M.<sup>1,3</sup>; Ismail, Hazem R.<sup>1</sup>; Flechner, Lawrence M.<sup>2</sup>; Zhou, Lingmei<sup>1</sup>; Derweesh, Ithaar H.<sup>1</sup>; Goldfarb, David<sup>1</sup>; Modlin, Charles<sup>1</sup>; Novick, Andrew C.<sup>1</sup>; Faiman, Charles<sup>1</sup>

**TABLE 2.** Incidence of PTDM among the three study groups

|  | Group I:<br>cyclosporine | Group II:<br>tacrolimus | Group III:<br>sirolimus | P value |
|--|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------|
| n  | 263                      | 60                      | 205                     |         |
| All PTDM   | 40                       | 14                      | 40                      | 0.2378  |
| Insulin use plus FBS >126 mg/dl<br>BS >200 mg/dl | 15.2%                    | 23.3%                   | 19.5%                   |         |
| Insulin use only                                 | 20 (7.6%)                | 7 (11.7%)               | 12 (5.9%)               |         |
| Insulin use the first year                       | 12 (4.5%)                | 5 (8.3%)                | 9 (4.3%)                | 0.3120  |

FBS, fasting blood sugar; BS, blood sugar.

TRANSPLANTATION

N=528  
39.2 ( 9.0–103.8)  
months follow up







## ➤ Glucose Metabolism in Renal Transplant Recipients: Effect of Calcineurin Inhibitor Withdrawal and Conversion to Sirolimus

Annalisa Teutonico, Paolo F. Schena and Salvatore Di Paolo

JASN October 2005, 16 (10) 3128-3135; DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1681/ASN.2005050487>

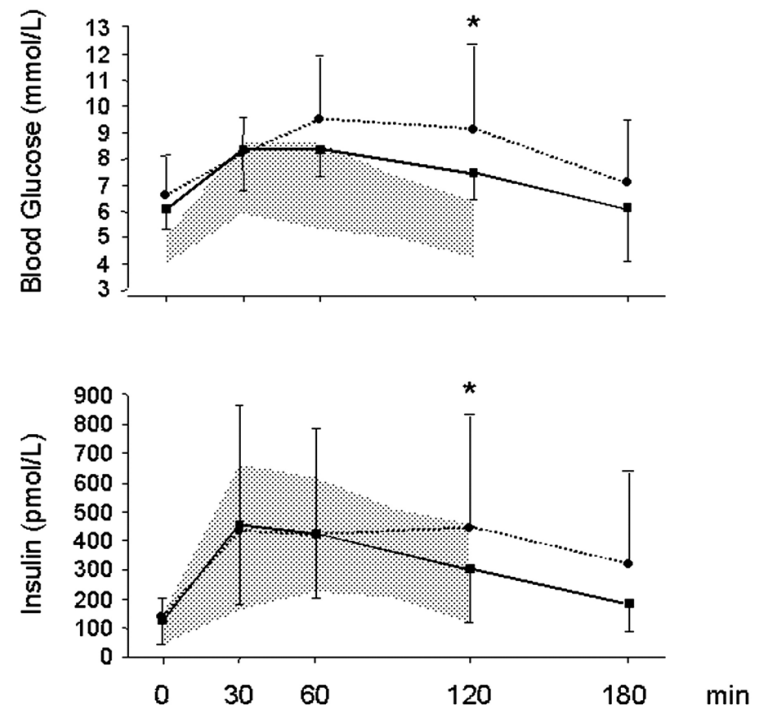
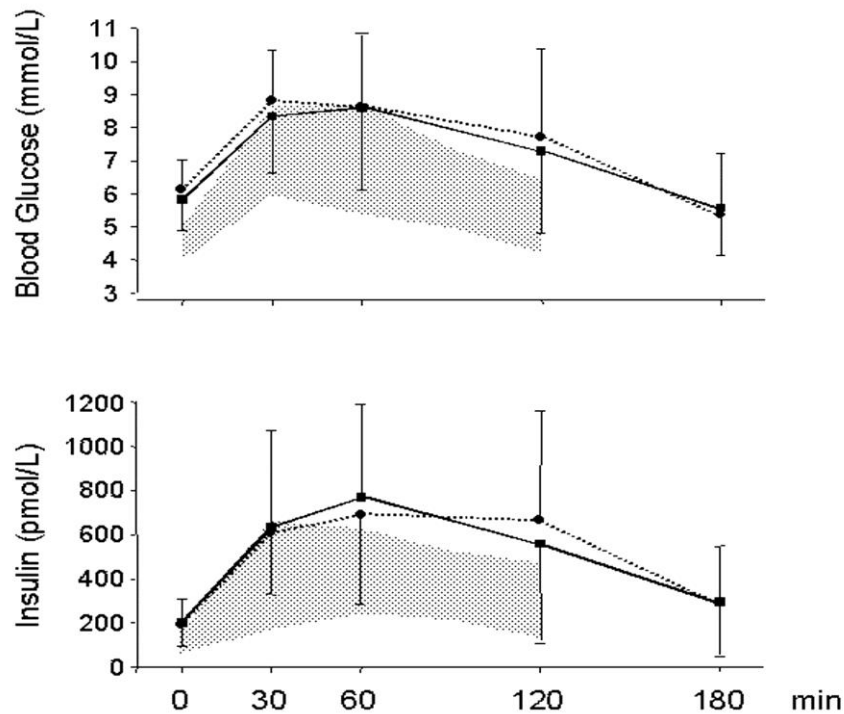
Prospective study

**Group 1:** 26 patients discontinued **CsA** and were converted to **sirolimus**

**Group 2:** 15 recipients of suboptimal kidneys who were treated with **tacrolimus plus sirolimus** for the first 3 mo after grafting and converted to **sirolimus alone**

Test: OGTT and intravenous insulin tolerance test before and 6 mo after conversion





Switch to sirolimus :

associated with a 30% increase of incidence of IGT and with 4 pt NODAT

In conclusion:

discontinuation of CNI and their replacement by sirolimus fail to ameliorate the glycometabolic profile of kidney transplant recipients.

it is associated with a worsening of insulin resistance and an inappropriately low insulin response.



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Published: 2021.01.22

## Effect of Everolimus with Low-Dose Tacrolimus on Development of New-Onset Diabetes After Transplantation and Allograft Function in Kidney Transplantation: A Multicenter, Open-Label, Randomized Trial

**12 months****NODAT**

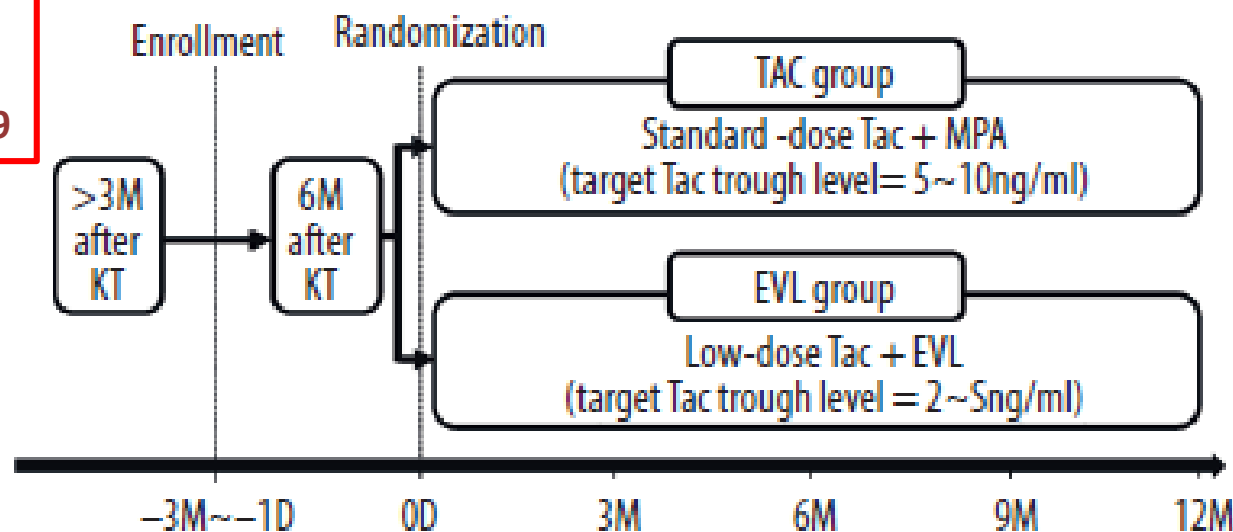
no significant difference

13.16% vs. 2.56%,  $p=0.0819$ 

no significant difference

eGFR

BPAR



findings suggest that the addition of EVL with a low dose of Tac is an acceptable strategy for maintenance immunosuppression in KT



RESEARCH ARTICLE

Open Access



# Onset and progression of diabetes in kidney transplant patients receiving everolimus or cyclosporine therapy: an analysis of two randomized, multicenter trials

Claudia Sommerer<sup>1\*</sup>, Oliver Witzke<sup>2</sup>, Frank Lehner<sup>3</sup>, Wolfgang Arns<sup>4</sup>, Petra Reinke<sup>5</sup>, Ute Eisenberger<sup>6</sup>, Bruno Vogt<sup>6</sup>, Katharina Heller<sup>7</sup>, Johannes Jacobi<sup>7</sup>, Markus Guba<sup>8</sup>, Rolf Stahl<sup>9</sup>, Ingeborg A. Hauser<sup>10</sup>, Volker Kliem<sup>11</sup>, Rudolf P. Wüthrich<sup>12</sup>, Anja Mühlfeld<sup>13</sup>, Barbara Suwelack<sup>14</sup>, Michael Duerr<sup>15</sup>, Eva-Maria Paulus<sup>16</sup>, Martin Zeier<sup>1</sup>, Martina Porstner<sup>16†</sup> and Klemens Budde<sup>15†</sup> on behalf of the ZEUS and HERAKLES study investigators



## Results from this post hoc analysis

- do not suggest **any difference** in the incidence or severity of PTDM in patients who were converted early post-transplant from a CsA-based regimen to everolimus, or in the progression of pre-existing diabetes.
- eGFR in patients with everolimus in patients with PTDM improved by **14** mL/min/1.73m<sup>2</sup> in the **ZEUS** study and by **4.9** mL/min/1.73m<sup>2</sup> in **HERAKLES** by month 12.
- Among patients with pre-existing diabetes, there was a numerically **greater** improvement



# Sirolimus vs everolimus

- data from a review of 12 RT show that the incidence of NODAT from 11.0% to 27.6% in patients treated with sirolimus + low dose of tacrolimus and from 17.8% to 38.1% in patients treated with everolimus and low dose of tacrolimus.
- in some RCT of everolimus with low-dose cyclosporine in renal transplant recipients, the incidence of NODAT was low ( $\leq 5\%$ ).



# Prevention of NODAT

2 possibilities:

- 1) treat patients with MS in the waiting list to **improve**  $\beta$ -cell dysfunction before transplantation
- 2) identify these patients and select a **less** diabetogenic therapy after transplantation.



- in all patients, **FPG** and **HbA1c** before starting a treatment
- an mTOR inhibitor : FPG every **2** weeks/ 1 month then every month and HbA1c every **3** months.
- **OGTT**
- **SMBG** should be intensified.
- In early period after TX , **insulin** is the preferable choice
- **Metformin** (in the absence of renal failure)





# Take home message

- MTOR-I seems exert a “Janus effect” on glucose metabolism.
- we can consider everlimus based regim for patients with a risk of PTDM (not high risk for rejection).
- NODAT with MTOR-I : Metformin is a good choice
- discrepancies in results may be related to timing of conversion and the dose of mTOR inhibitors.



Thank you

