

Infection Diseases and Organ Transplantation

BK virus revisited

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It has been more than 3 decades since BK virus infections were recognized as an important complication after kidney transplantation. Unfortunately, the transplant community has not made significant advancements in terms of developing effective and replicable evidence based strategies to prevent and treat this viral infection. However, the future is promising with new transplant technologies promising potential applications in the prevention and management of BK virus infections. The advent of cell-mediated immunity and cell-free DNA assays may pave the way for more precise monitoring of BK virus reactivations while monoclonal antibody and virus-specific T-cell treatments may represent the holy grail in finally transforming BK virus infections into a treatable one. This lecture will summarize the currently available evidence on some of the latest advances in the monitoring and treatment of BK virus infections.