Kidney transplantation in Indonesia

Maruhum Bonar H. MARBUN

Kidney transplantation, one of the best treatments for end-stage renal disease besides with hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis, is the most favorable procedure nowadays since it offers the better outcome, such as lower risk of mortality, cardiovascular events, and better quality of life. In developed countries, kidney transplantation has become the recommended choice for ESRD patients. Meanwhile in developing countries, such as Indonesia, kidney transplantation is still low percentage due to ethical and medical aspects. In recent years, kidney transplantation is developed rapidly in Indonesia, especially in big cities and major health centers like Cipto Mangunkusumo Hospital where the first kidney transplantation is performed at 1977. In 1981, Indonesia government released regulations regarding surgery in deceased bodies and human tissues transplantation. However, Indonesia still encountered some difficulties from several areas as transplantation-procedure cost, including the expenditure of pre-transplantation dialysis and technical problems considering the procedure is relatively new for Indonesia. On the other hand, the lack of donor availability, well-prepared health facilities, lack of transplant registry, and research studies are also become a stumbling rock for Indonesia transplantation. In 2006-2010, there was significant increase of renal transplantation rate which resulted from the new regulations from Indonesia Health Ministry to use transplantation as the choice of ESRD and the application of minimal invasive technique. Meanwhile, the survival rate for 1-year, 3-year, 5-year, 10-year are 92%, 79.6%, 78%, and 74% respectively which indicating that there is improvement in transplantation management. On the other hand, the graft survival rate for 1-year, 3-year, 5-year, 10-year are 82.6%, 76.1%, 74%, 68%, and 17.1%. Innovations and strategies were continuously made to overcome those problems including the opening out of new transplant center. All of these policies are aiming to maximize and ensure the benefits of transplantation and protecting donor after transplantation.