

Anaesthesia & Peri-operative Management

Management of sepsis in transplant recipients

Simon SIN

Worldwide, the number of organ transplantations is on the rise, but the primary concern remains the risk of complications related to infections. While the risk of graft rejection is now stable, infections present a significant risk, particularly in the early stages following surgery. In the intermediate and late phases, opportunistic infections are a concern and require early diagnosis. In fact, organ transplant recipients are at higher risk of community-acquired infections compared to those who are immunocompetent. Prophylaxis and early preemptive therapy are crucial for improving overall outcomes. Infected patients may require ICU admission due to acute respiratory failure, coma, or shock. Diagnostic tests should focus on clinical symptoms, medical history, and antimicrobial prophylaxis, with early treatment being essential for improving the prognosis of solid organ transplant recipients with severe infections.