



BACKGROUND

Vancomycin-resistant enterococcus [VRE] has become a significant nosocomial pathogen in the immunocompromised population, including solid-organ transplant patients¹. Transplant candidates are at risk for VRE colonization due to prolonged periods of hospitalization, exposure to broad spectrum antibiotics, and need for renal replacement therapy.

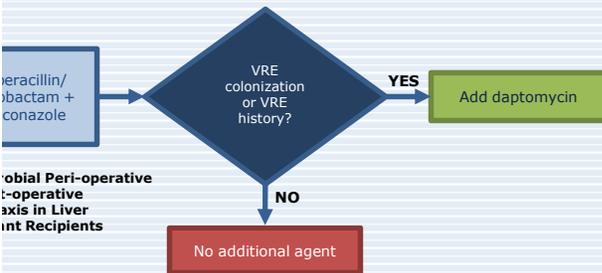
Topal et al. has demonstrated that VRE colonization in liver transplant candidates and recipients leads to a 3-fold risk of developing a VRE infection. VRE infection is associated with increased length of hospital stay, organ dysfunction, and biliary infections^{2,3}. Furthermore, the data suggests VRE colonization is associated with a 2-fold increased risk of mortality. The objective of this study is to assess whether perioperative prophylaxis against VRE mitigates this mortality risk. The study hypothesis is that perioperative prophylaxis with daptomycin will decrease the risk of infection and mortality in colonized liver transplant recipients.

OBJECTIVES

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Primary outcomes (at 28 days) | Secondary outcomes (at 6 months) |
| Rate of VRE infection | ➢ VRE infection rate |
| Overall bacterial infection rate | ➢ Mortality rate |
| Mortality rate | ➢ Graft loss |

METHODS

Retrospective chart review of adult liver transplant recipients between July 2008 through July 2011 was performed. VRE positivity was defined as VRE isolated from a clinical microbiology specimen or active surveillance via a peri-rectal swab. VRE negative was defined as having a negative result on peri-rectal swab or if there was no history of VRE from a clinical microbiological specimen. The VRE positive cohort received daptomycin (6mg/kg) prior to incision and continued for 48 hours post transplant in addition to standard anti-infective prophylaxis. The VRE negative cohort did not receive antimicrobial prophylaxis against VRE.



Antibiotic Peri-operative Prophylaxis in Liver Transplant Recipients

Baseline Characteristics

Table 1: Patient Characteristics

	VRE Positive (n=31)	VRE Negative (n=59)	P Value
Mean age, yrs	53	50	0.37
Average MELD score	33	24	<0.01
Hepatitis C Infection	19 (61%)	20 (34%)	0.02
Multi-organ transplant	9 (29%)	7 (11%)	0.08
Living Donor	3 (10%)	10 (16%)	0.53
Deceased Donor	28 (90%)	51 (84%)	0.84
MRSA Colonization	2 (6%)	2 (3%)	0.89
Induction Type			
Thymoglobulin	0 (0%)	1 (1.6%)	0.46
Basiliximab/Daclizumab	31 (100%)	58 (97%)	0.46

Outcomes

Table 2: Primary and Secondary Outcomes Per 100 Patient Days

Outcome	VRE Positive (n=31)	VRE Negative (n=59)	P value
At 28 Days			
Rate of VRE infection	2 (0.23%)	0 (0%)	0.21
Overall bacterial infection	7 (0.8%)	4 (0.29%)	0.10
Mortality at 28 days	0	1	0.80
At 6 Months			
Rate of VRE infection	2 (0.04%)	0 (0%)	0.19
Mortality at 6 months	0	1	0.82
Graft loss at 6 months	0	3*	0.55

*2 patients with primary graft non-function, 1 patient had graft failure due to hepatocyte calcification

RESULTS

Outcomes

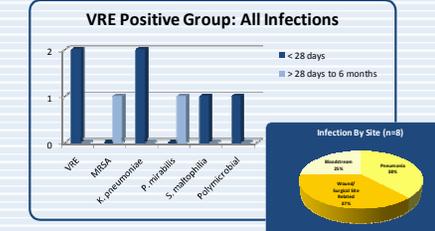
Characteristics of VRE Infection

- VRE positive group: 2 infections
 - 1 patient had a spontaneous bacterial peritonitis, with VRE growing out of the ascitic fluid (PMN count ≥ than 250 cells/mm³)
 - 1 patient had VRE grow from an abdominal abscess, peritoneal fluid, and pleural fluid

Overall Infections (Figure 1)

- There was no statistically significant differences between the groups in overall rate of infection

Figure 1a: Isolates of All Infections from VRE Positive Group



ICU Length of Stay (LOS)

- VRE positive group, mean: 5.2 days (range 1-10)
- VRE negative group, mean: 4.5 days (range 1-10)

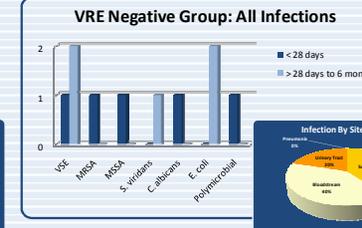
Overall Length of Hospital Stay (Post-transplant)

- VRE positive group, mean: 17.6 days (range 1-30)
- VRE negative group, mean: 14.0 days (range 1-30)

Characteristics of Mortalities

- VRE negative group: 1 death
 - 1 patient had acute bowel ischemia for unknown reasons

Figure 1b: Isolates of All Infections from VRE Negative Group



CONCLUSIONS

1. Targeted antimicrobial prophylaxis against VRE with daptomycin may improve morbidity and mortality in VRE colonized liver transplant recipients contrary to prior findings in VRE colonized patients.
2. The incidence of VRE infection post transplant was low in the VRE colonized cohort and such infections were limited to the initial 28 days post transplant.
3. A comparative study with a larger sample size of VRE colonized patients who receive daptomycin prophylaxis versus no VRE specific prophylaxis would be required to confirm our findings.

REFERENCES

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Slide 1

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