Low Lung Allocation Score Predicts Poor Waitlist Outcomes for Patients on Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation as a Bridge to Lung Transplantation

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Hypothesis

 Hypothesis: Low LAS score for patients bridging to transplant on ECMO negatively impacts outcomes

Methods

- UNOS Database
- 5/4/5 12/31/18
- LAS score within two days of ECMO initiation
- Primary Outcomes:
 - Transplantation
 - Death or Removal from the Waitlist
- Secondary Outcome:
 - Post-Transplant Survival

Statistics

- LAS as continuous variable, and categorical high LAS (top 50%) vs low LAS (bottom 50%)
- Adjusted competing risk regression model for relationship between LAS and waitlist outcomes
- Adjusted cox regression for post-transplant survival

Results

954 patients bridged on ECMO 594 (62.2%) transplanted 329 (34.4%) died or delisted

Mean LAS in low cohort = 78.2 ± 15.6 Mean LAS in high cohort = 90.7 ± 1.4

> Low LAS cohort had decreased rate of transplant (SHR 0.80, 95% CI 0.67-0.96)
> Low LAS cohort had increased risk of death / delisting (SHR 1.34, 95% CI 1.05-1.70)
> For every 10 point increase in LAS, risk of transplant increased by 14% (p<0.01) and risk death / delisting decreased by 11% (p=0.02)
> There was no different in post-transplant survival between low and high LAS cohorts (HR 0.82, 95% CI 0.60-1.12)



Conclusion

Among patients on ECMO as bridge to transplant, a lower LAS was associated with decreased risk of transplant, and increased risk of death or delisting without different in post-transplant survival