



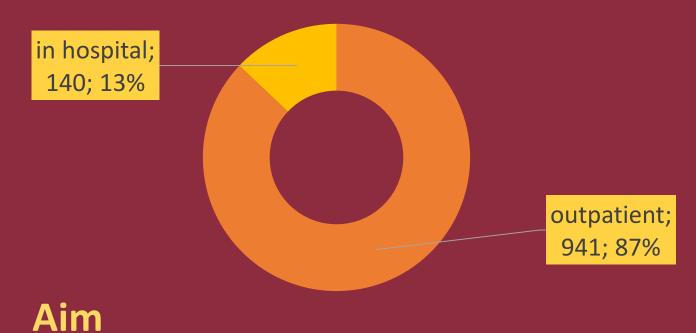
Background

Kidney biopsy (BX) is frequently performed in our center as an outpatient procedure.

Outpatient vs in hospital kidney biopsies

2018 - 2022

in University Hospital Center Merkur, Zagreb, Croatia N = 1081



To evaluate the safety of biopsy in the outpatient setting.

SAFETY OF KIDNEY (INCLUDING PROTOCOL KIDNEY TRANSPLANT) BIOPSIES IN UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL MERKUR

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Patients and methods

We analyzed kidney biopsies performed from 2018 to 2022 (5 years). 941 of 1081 biopsies (87 %) were performed in the outpatient setting. Other patients underwent BX during the ongoing hospitalization or were hospitalized for the BX, as assessed as at higher risk for complication by nephrologist. All were performed under ultrasound guidance using an 18G needle, with freehand technique. In all patients with estimated glomerular filtration rate < 30 mL/min/1.73m² body surface area desmopressin was administered. Patients were observed after the BX and complete blood count test and urinalysis were done after 4 h. Data on complications of BX - drop in serum hemoglobin concentration, bleeding, hospitalization, transfusion, surgery or radiological intervention, death (the last three being the major) were analyzed.

Results

The presented results included outpatient BXs only. Each BX was performed by one of 8 nephrologists (the report authors). Protocol kidney transplant biopsies were done at 2, 6 or 12 months after transplantation.

| Outpatient biopsies (n = 941), patients' characteristics and outcomes | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Patients age (years) | median 53 (min. 15 – max. 86) |
| Patients gender (male) | 609 (64.7 %) |
| Transplant kidney | 754 (80.1 %) |
| Received desmopressin for bleeding prevention | 100 (10.6 %) |
| Protocol transplant kidney biopsy | 518 (55.1 %) |
| Complications | 19 (2 %) |
| Macrohematuria | 16 (1.7 %) |
| Perirenal hematoma | 2 (%) |
| Need for hospitalization | 11 (1.2 %) |
| Drop in hemoglobin | 2 (%) |
| Need for blood transfusion | 0 (0 %) |
| Need for surgery | 0 (0 %) |
| Need for radiologic intervention | 0 (0 %) |
| Death | 0 (0 %) |

Conclusion

Kidney BX performed in outpatient setting in our center in selected patients was only rarely associated with complications, never a major one, and is generally a safe procedure.