



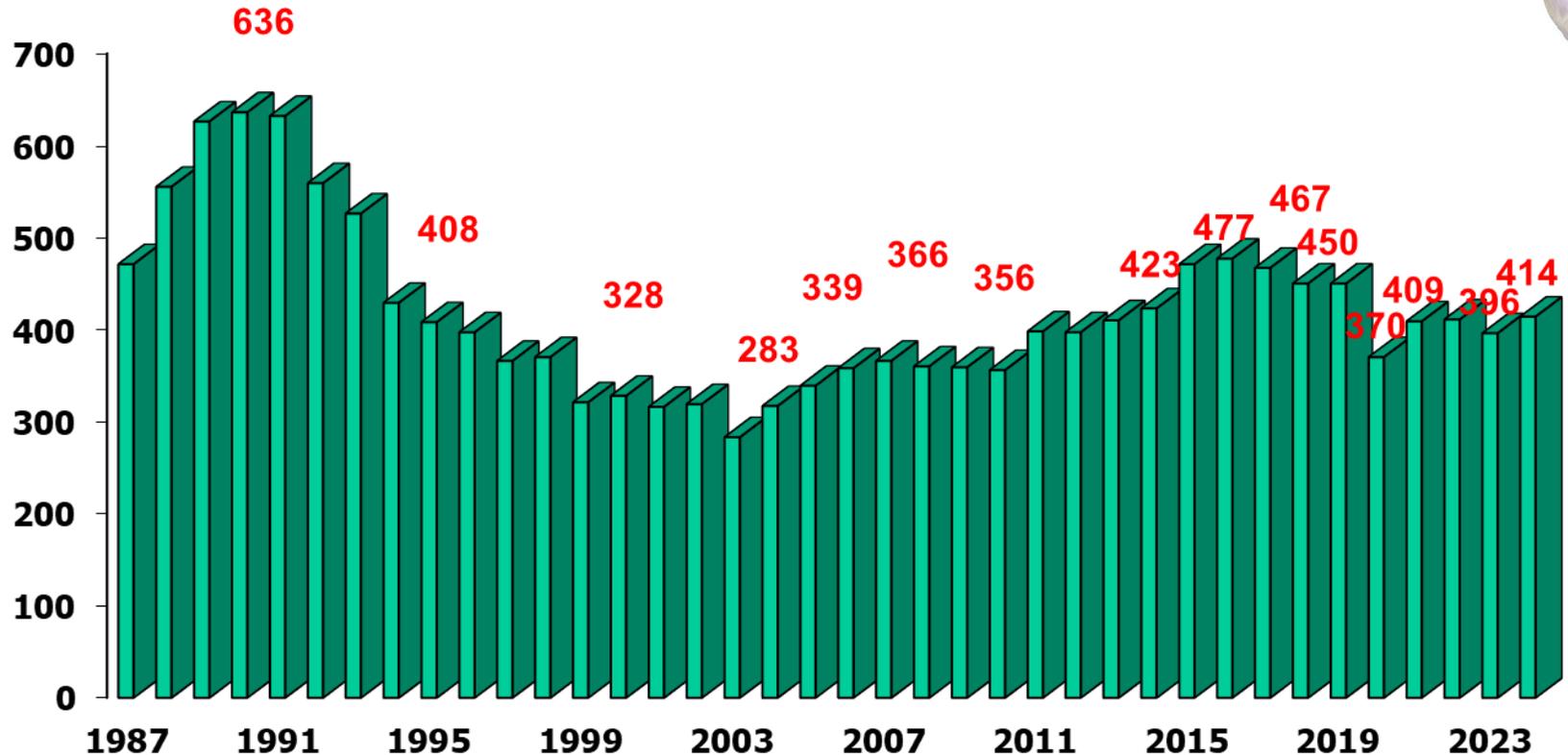
# Rejet de greffe cardiaque et PCE

Congrès de la Société Française d'Hémaphérèse  
Lyon le 29 janvier 2026

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Praticien Hospitalier  
Transplantation cardiaque  
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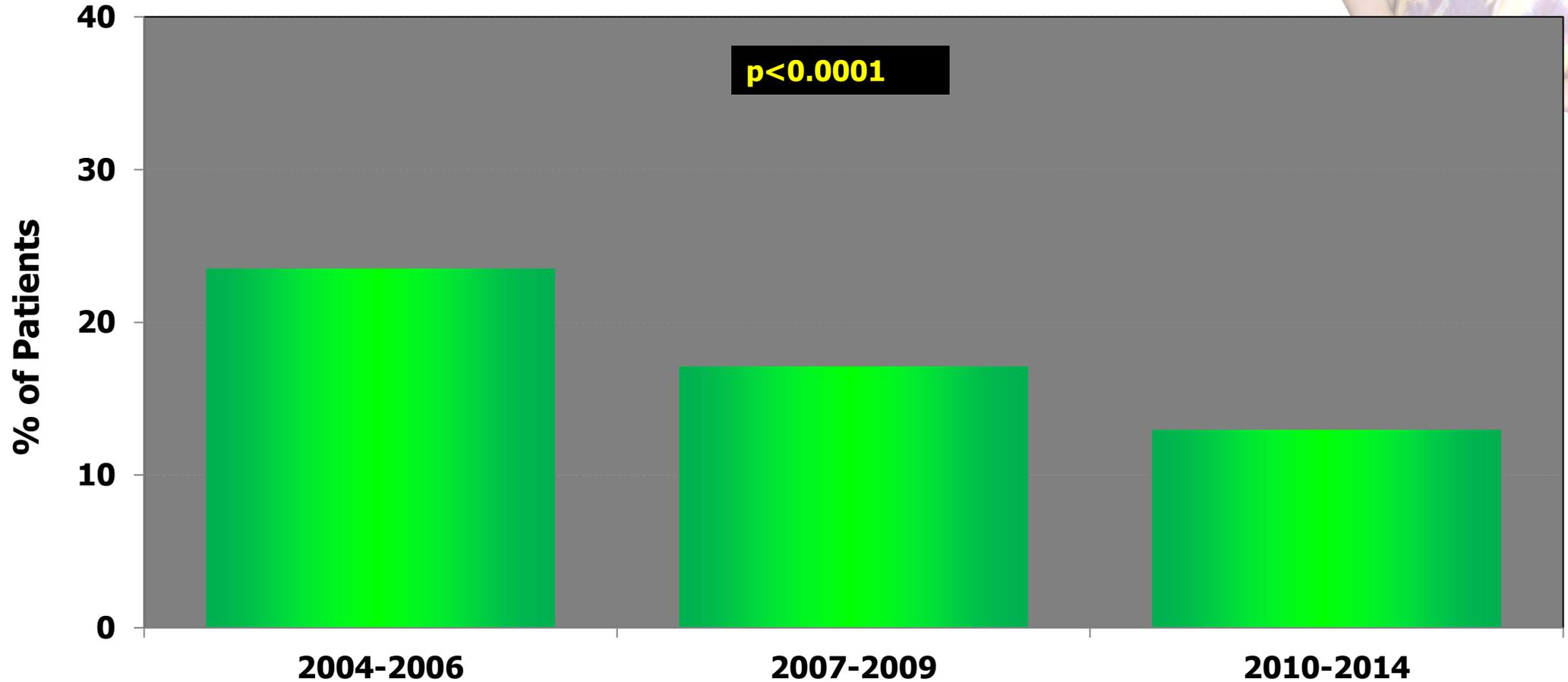
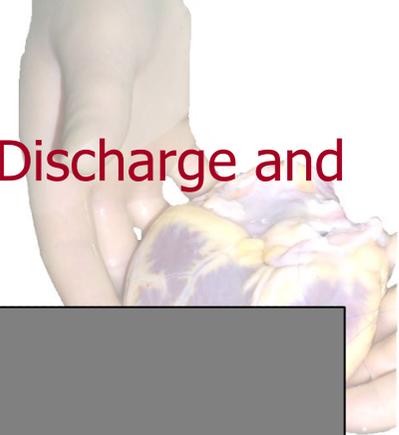


# Greffe cardiaque en France



# Adult Heart Transplants

% of Recipients Experiencing Treated Rejection Between Transplant Discharge and 1-Year Follow-Up by Era



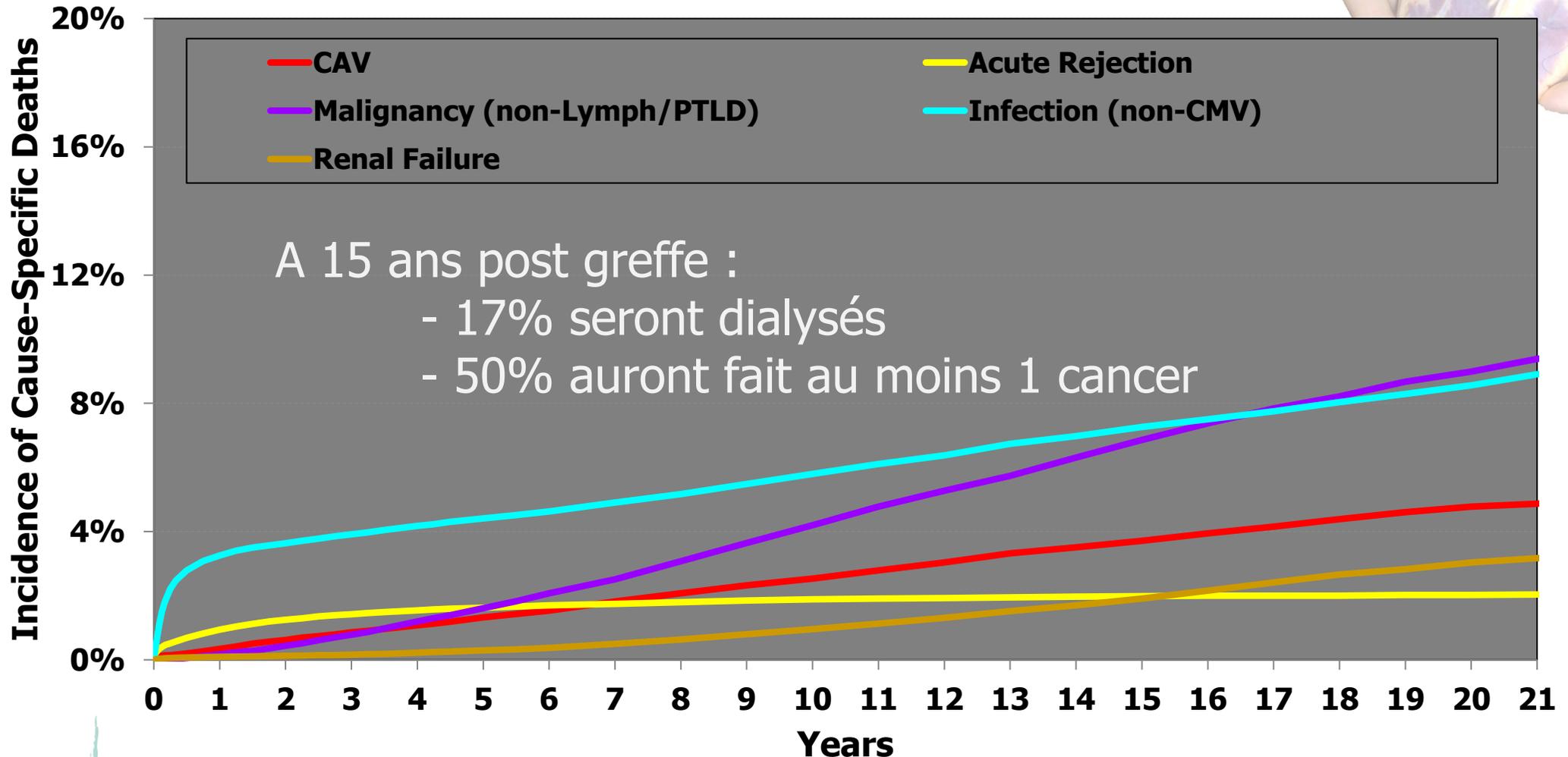
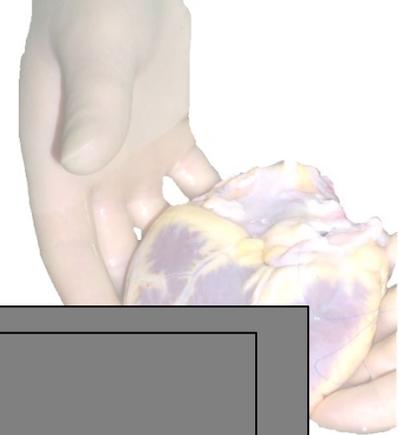
Analysis is limited to patients who were alive at the time of the follow-up.

Treated rejection = Recipient was reported to (1) have at least one acute rejection episode that was treated with an anti-rejection agent; or (2) have been hospitalized for rejection.

# Transplanté cardiaques adultes

## Causes de décès

(Transplants: January 1994 – June 2015)



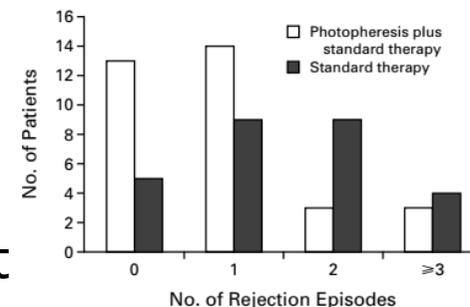
# PHOTOPHERESIS FOR THE PREVENTION OF REJECTION IN CARDIAC TRANSPLANTATION

MARK L. BARR, M.D., BRUNO M. MEISER, M.D., HOWARD J. EISEN, M.D., RANDALL F. ROBERTS, M.D., UGOLINO LIVI, M.D., ROBERTO DALL'AMICO, M.D., PH.D., RICHARD DORENT, M.D., JOSEPH G. ROGERS, M.D., BRANISLAV RADOVANČEVIĆ, M.D., DAVID O. TAYLOR, M.D., VALLUVAN JEEVANANDAM, M.D., AND CHARLES C. MARBOE, M.D.,  
FOR THE PHOTOPHERESIS TRANSPLANTATION STUDY GROUP

NEJM 1998



- Etude prospective randomisée multicentrique
- 60 patients consécutifs transplantés cardiaques suivi 6 mois
  - Bras Standard : Cya-aza-st
  - Bras ECP : Cya-aza-st + **ECP 24 sessions**
- Nombre de rejet aigus cellulaires dans le bras ECP  $p=0,04$ 
  - Bras Standard : 1,44 épisodes par patients
  - Bras ECP : 0,91 épisodes par patients
- Complications rapportés à la photophérèse
  - Infection de catheter Serratia traité avec succès : 1 patient
  - Difficultés d'accès veineux : 6 patients





# Prophylactic photopheresis and chronic rejection: effects on graft intimal hyperplasia in cardiac transplantation

**Mark L Barr, Craig J Baker,  
Felicia A Schenkel, Susan  
N McLaughlin, Bruce  
C Stouch, Vaughn A Starnes  
and Eric A Rose**

Divisions of Cardiothoracic Surgery,  
University of Southern California, Los  
Angeles, CA and Columbia University, New  
York, NY

- Etude monocentrique randomisée
- 23 patients transplantés cardiaques suivi 2 ans
  - Bras Standard : Cya-aza-st N=13
  - Bras ECP : Cya-aza-st + **ECP 24 sessions** N=10
- Diminution des anticorps HLA (PRA) dans le groupe ECP à 3 mois ( $p < 0,03$ ) et 6 mois ( $p < 0,05$ )



# Prophylactic photopheresis and chronic rejection: effects on graft intimal hyperplasia in cardiac transplantation

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- Etude monocentrique randomisée
- 23 patients transplantés cardiaques suivi 2 ans
  - Bras Standard : Cya-aza-st N=13
  - Bras ECP : Cya-aza-st + **ECP 24 sessions** N=10
- IVUS : Epaisseur intimale significativement moins importante dans le bras ECP
  - 0,23mm ± 0,09 vs 0,49 mm ± 0,2 p<0,04 à 1 an
  - 0,28mm ± 0,08 vs 0,46mm ± 0,07 p<0,02 à 2 ans

# Influence de la photophérèse sur le rejet en transplantation cardiaque



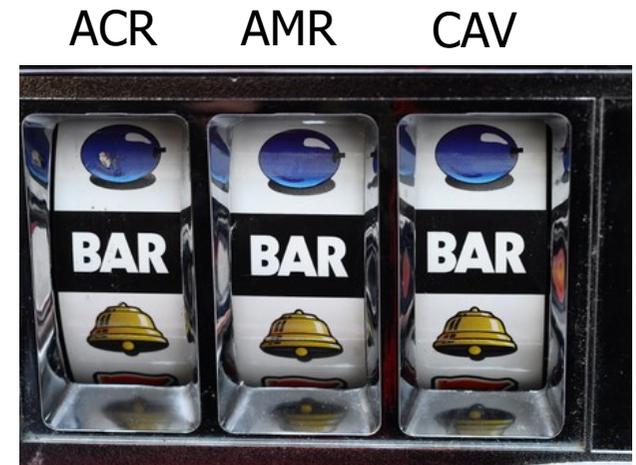
- ACR
  - Barr NEJM 1998
- CAV
  - Barr Clin Transpl 2000
- AMR
  - Barr Clin Transplant 2000



# Influence de la photophérèse sur le rejet en transplantation cardiaque



- ACR
  - Barr NEJM 1998
- CAV
  - Barr Clin Transpl 2000
- AMR
  - Barr Clin Transplant 2000



# Rejet aigu cellulaire

## Littérature

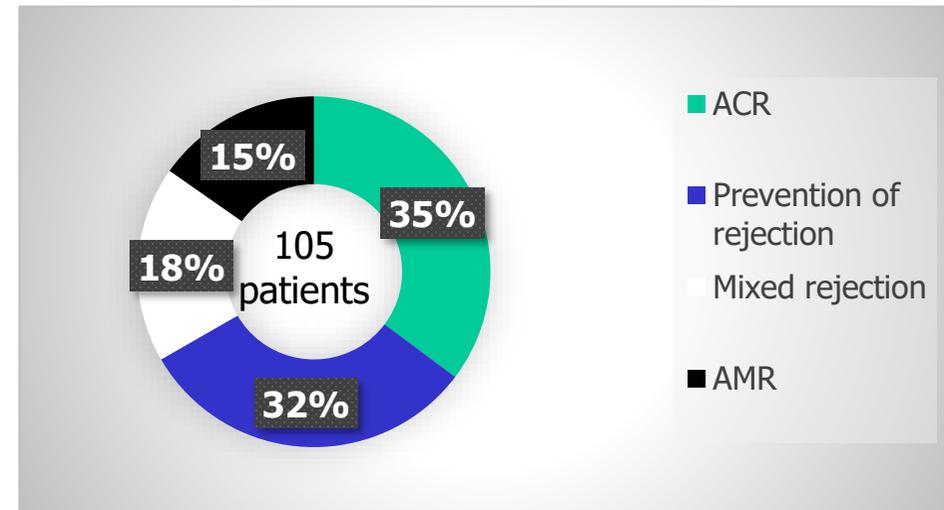


Author	Year	Nb Patients	
Rose	1992	4	High PRA Duration 12-14m : √ rejection √ PRA
Costanzo Nordin	1992	9	Steroids vs ECP : Same ACR incidence
Dall'Amico	1995	8	Adjuvant to standard IS : √ of 8 √ of rejection rate
Giunti	1999	6	Recurrent ACR Duration 6 m : √ of rejection rate
Dall'Amico	2000	11	Recurrent ACR Duration 6 m : √ of rejection rate
Lehrer	2001	4	4 ACR treated
Maccherini	2001	12	√ ACR rate
Kirklin	2006	36	√ ACR rate
Gokler	2021	28	IS Minimization

## European multicenter study on the real-world use and clinical impact of extracorporeal photopheresis after heart transplantation

Markus J. Barten, MD,<sup>a</sup> Balázs Sax, MD,<sup>b</sup> Simon Schopka, MD,<sup>c</sup> Cristiano Amarelli, MD,<sup>d</sup> Eric Epailly, MD,<sup>e</sup> Benedetta Natali, MD,<sup>f</sup> Tímea Teszák, MD,<sup>b</sup> Johannes Gökler, MD,<sup>g</sup> Kathrin Borchert, MPH,<sup>h</sup> Julia Theil, MPH,<sup>h</sup> Andy Ingram, MBA,<sup>i</sup> and Andreas Zuckermann, MD<sup>g</sup>

- 7 centres européens
- Etude retrospective
- Patients transplantés cardiaques ayant commencé un traitement par photophérèse entre 2015 et 2021
- Données extraites des dossiers



Barten JHLT 2023

Hambourg, Regensburg, Strasbourg, Budapest, Siena, Naples, Vienna

# Résultats : Rejets aigus cellulaires

## 21 patients avec photophérèse terminée

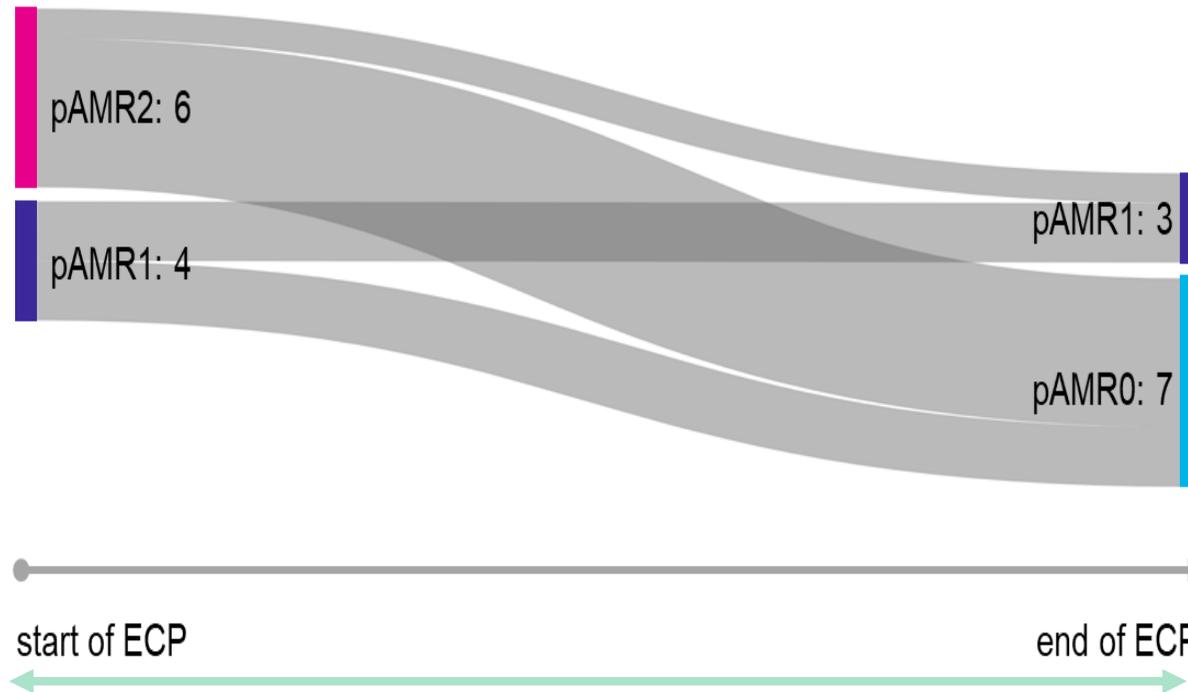


start of ECP → end of ECP



Durée moyenne de photophérèse = 6.8 mois

# Résultats : Rejets aigus humoraux 10 patients avec photophérèse terminée



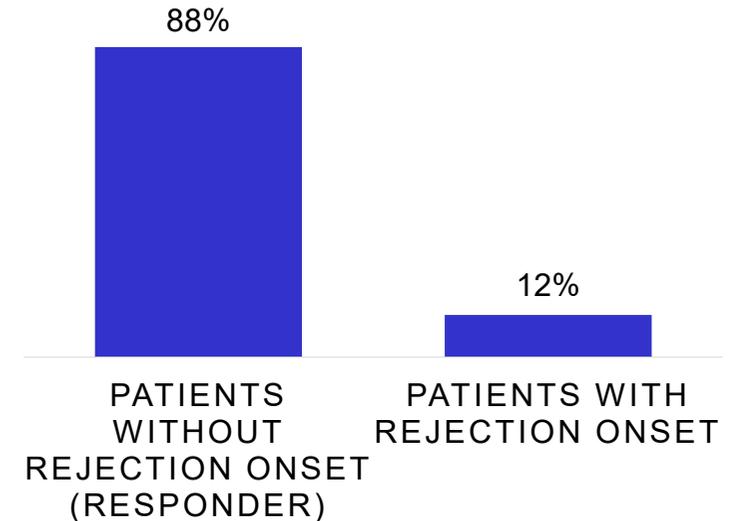
Durée moyenne de traitement par photophérèse = 6.1 mois

# Résultats

## Groupe prévention



- 33 patients considérés à haut risque de rejet, 29 (88%) indemnes de rejet après le début de la photophérèse sur un suivi de 2 ans.



- 4 patients avec rejet aigu cellulaire. 2 patients ont développé des DSA sans rejet.

# Resultats

## Survival N=105



- Survie 95%
- Suivi moyen de 2 ans
- 5 patients décédés (3 après la fin du traitement)
  - Insuffisance cardiaque : 2
  - Mort subite: 1
  - Non définie : 1
  - Rupture d'anévrisme aortique : 1

Aucun décès lié à la photophérèse

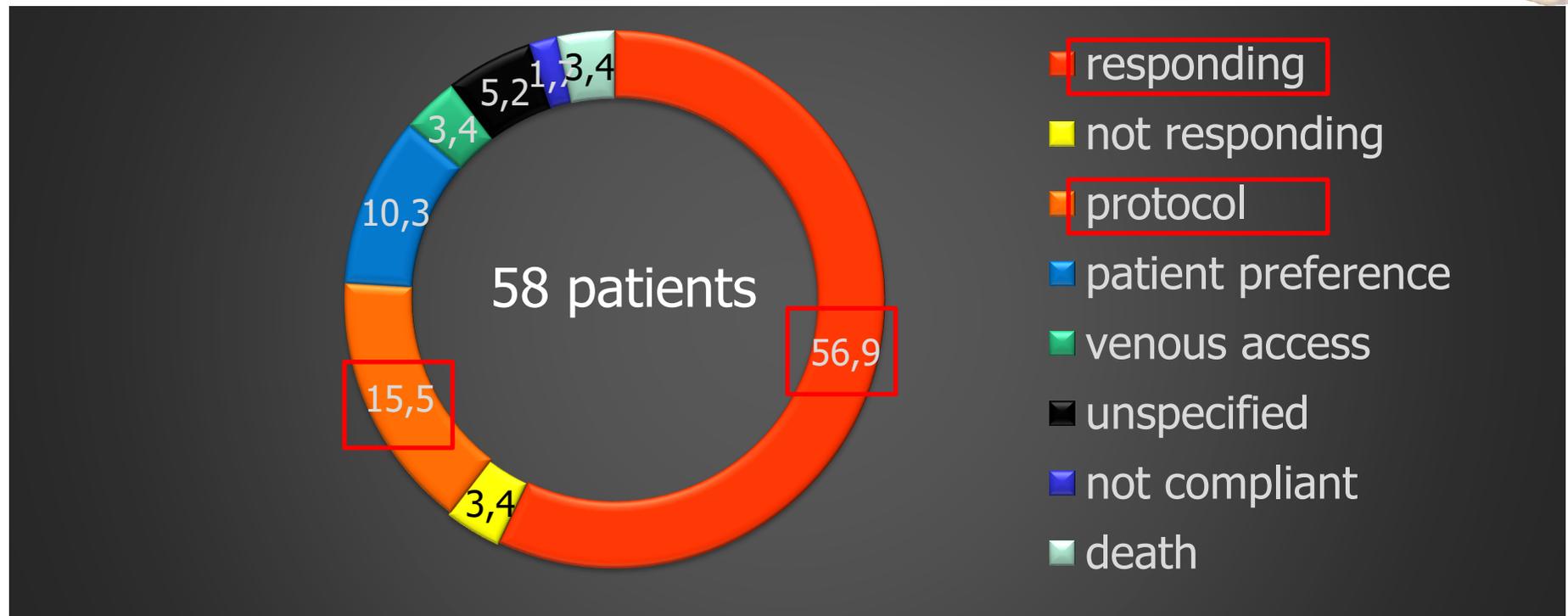
# Resultats

## Effets indésirables liés à la photophérèse



- 78 événements chez 18 patients (17%)
  - Accès veineux insuffisants : 13 patients (2 arrêt de traitement)
  - Anémie : 6 patients (6%)
  - Hypotension 3 patients (3%)
  - Fièvre : 1 patients (1%)
  - indéterminés : 2 patients (2%)

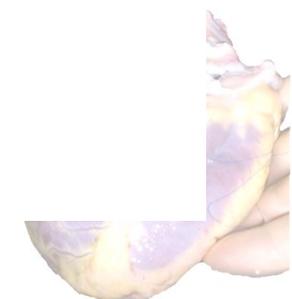
# Raison de l'arrêt



# Limitations de l'étude



- Etude non comparative
- Population inhomogène (vraie vie)
- Protocoles inhomogènes (vraie vie)
- Données non auditées
- Faibles effectifs



# The International Society for Heart and Lung Transplantation (ISHLT) Guidelines for the Care of Heart Transplant Recipients

Costanzo 2010

Velleca 2023

Additional approaches that can be considered for recurrent or resistant acute cellular rejection include methotrexate pulse therapy, photopheresis and total lymphoid irradiation.

Class IIb, Level of Evidence: B

Recurrent or resistant acute cellular rejection that occurs after treatment with CS and cytolytic immunosuppressive therapy and optimization of the patient's maintenance immunosuppressive regimen can be treated with photopheresis or total lymphoid irradiation

**Class IIa, Level of Evidence: B**

## Antibody-Mediated Rejection in Cardiac Transplantation: Emerging Knowledge in Diagnosis and Management A Scientific Statement From the American Heart Association

*Endorsed by the International Society for Heart and Lung Transplantation*

Monica M. Colvin, MD, MS, Chair; Jennifer L. Cook, MD, Co-Chair; Patricia Chang, MD;



**Table 8. Summary of Commonly Used Agents for AMR**

Therapeutic Modality	Mechanism of Action	Adverse Events	Dose	Frequency	Duration	Cost
Corticosteroids	Upregulation of anti-inflammatory gene expression, mediated by activated protein-1 and NF- $\kappa$ B	Dyslipidemia, hyperglycemia, osteoporosis, leukocytosis	Oral: 1–3 mg/kg IV: 250–1000 mg	Daily	3 d	\$
Mg	Blockade of Fc- $\gamma$ receptor	Headache	1–2 g/kg in 2–4 divided doses	1–3 Times weekly	Variable	\$\$\$\$
	Complement inhibition	Chills				
	Downregulates B-cell receptor	Rigors				
	Neutralizes circulating antibody and cytokines	Fever Myalgia				
Tissue plasma exchange (plasmapheresis)	Nonselective removal of circulating alloantibody, proteins, cytokines; IAP removes only immunoglobulins	Volume overload	1–7 Sessions/wk, 1–4 weekly cycles  Exchange 1–2 times the blood volume with FFP or albumin as replacement	1–7 Sessions	Variable	\$\$\$
		Rebound antibodies				
		Bleeding diathesis				
		Hypotension				
<u>Photopheresis</u>	Upregulation of costimulatory molecules, downregulation of T cells, immunoregulation via T-regulatory cells	Allergic reaction	Oral: 0.6 mg/kg (target level $\geq$ 50 ng/mL 2 h after ingestion) or 25 mg/m <sup>2</sup>	Variable	Up to 6 mo	\$\$\$\$
		Transmission of blood-borne pathogens				
		Vascular access complications, skin erythema, pruritus, nausea, rare drug-induced lupus or scleroderma-like syndrome				

Coût d'une procédure en France: 1387 euros

Colvin Circulation 2015

# Guidelines on the Use of Therapeutic Apheresis in Clinical Practice – Evidence-Based Approach from the Writing Committee of the American Society for Apheresis: The Eighth Special Issue



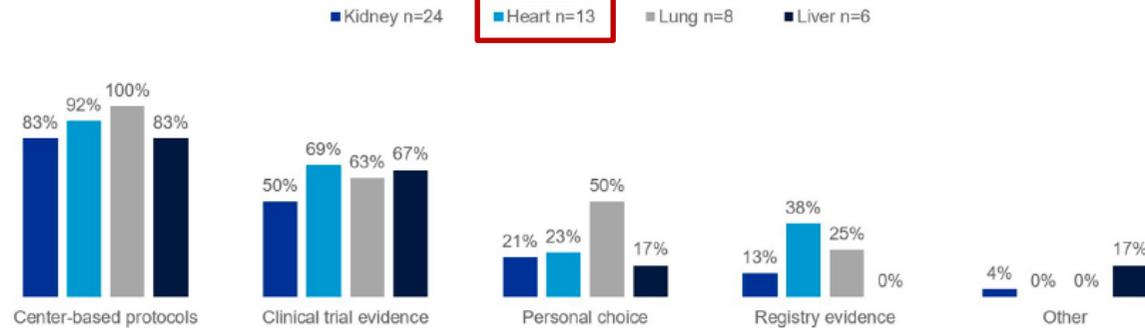
Anand Padmanabhan<sup>1</sup> | Laura Connelly-Smith<sup>2</sup> | Nicole Aqui<sup>3</sup> | Rasheed A. Balogun<sup>4</sup> | Reinhard Klingel<sup>5</sup> | Erin Meyer<sup>6</sup> | Huy P. Pham<sup>7</sup> | Jennifer Schneiderman<sup>8</sup> | Volker Witt<sup>9</sup> | Yanyun Wu<sup>10</sup> | Nicole D. Zantek<sup>11</sup> | Nancy M. Dunbar<sup>12</sup> |

Disease	TA modality	Indication	Category	Grade	Page
Transplantation, cardiac	ECP	Cellular/recurrent rejection	II	1B	331
	ECP	Rejection prophylaxis	II	2A	
	TPE	Desensitization	II	1C	
	TPE	Antibody mediated rejection	III	2C	

# Current Usage of Extracorporeal Photopheresis in Solid Organ Transplantations in Europe: A Narrative Review

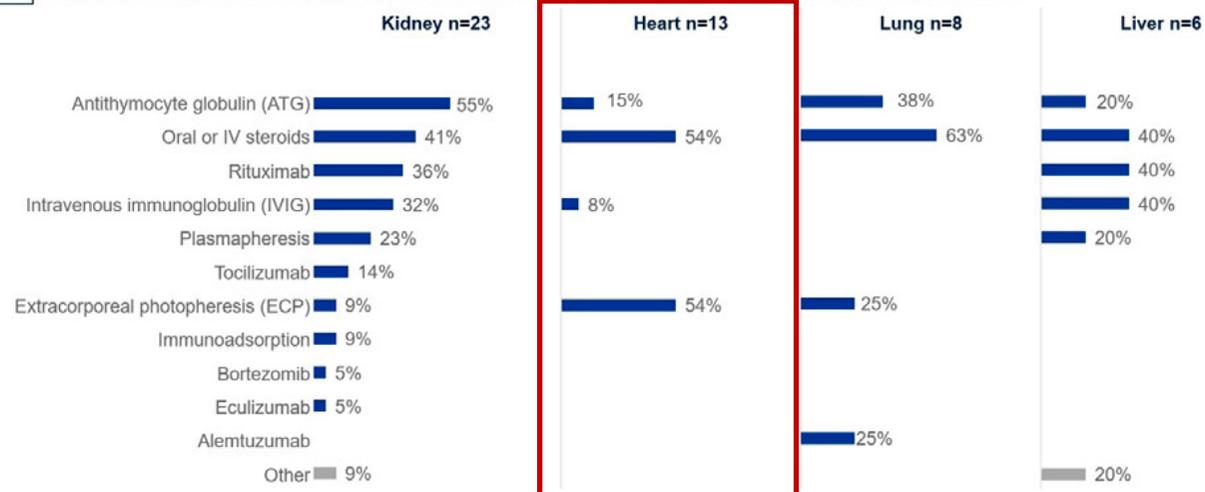


Sarah-Jane Cashmore<sup>1\*</sup>, Markus Johannes Barten<sup>2</sup>, Fritz Diekmann<sup>3</sup>, Eric Epailly<sup>4</sup>, Andrew J. Fisher<sup>5</sup>, Andrew R. Gennery<sup>5</sup>, Ben Gibbons<sup>1</sup>, Johannes Gökler<sup>6</sup>, Julie Guest<sup>7</sup>, Anne-Elisabeth Heng<sup>8</sup>, James A. Hutchinson<sup>9</sup>, Teresa Rampino<sup>10</sup>, Robin Vos<sup>11</sup> and Luciano Potena<sup>12</sup>



**FIGURE 1 |** Percentage of European clinicians using each of the following as part of their clinical rationale for approach taken regarding treatments to prevent against rejection in transplant recipients, by organ type.

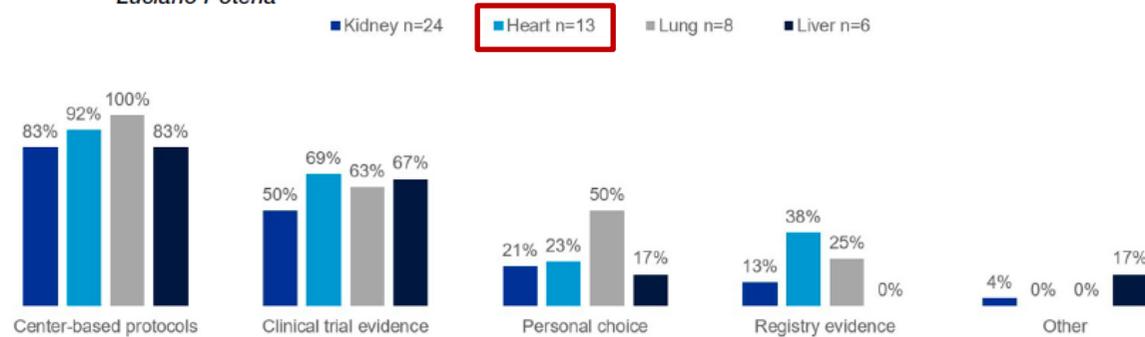
## D TREATMENT PRESCRIBED AS FIRST LINE TREATMENT FOR RECURRENT REJECTION IN TRANSPLANT PATIENTS



# Current Usage of Extracorporeal Photopheresis in Solid Organ Transplantations in Europe: A Narrative Review

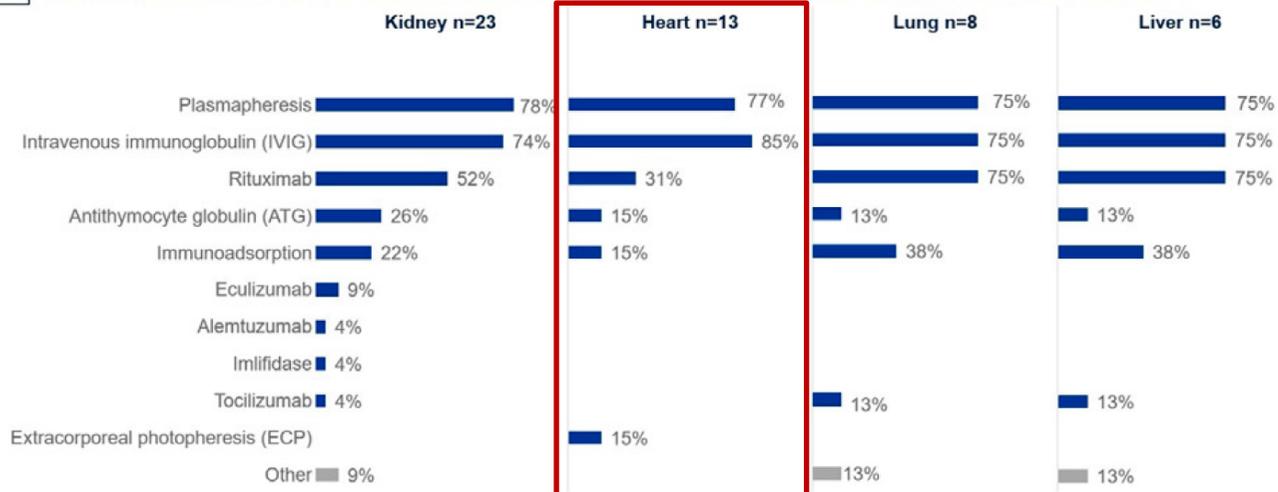


Sarah-Jane Cashmore<sup>1\*</sup>, Markus Johannes Barten<sup>2</sup>, Fritz Diekmann<sup>3</sup>, Eric Epailly<sup>4</sup>, Andrew J. Fisher<sup>5</sup>, Andrew R. Gennery<sup>5</sup>, Ben Gibbons<sup>1</sup>, Johannes Gökler<sup>6</sup>, Julie Guest<sup>7</sup>, Anne-Elisabeth Heng<sup>8</sup>, James A. Hutchinson<sup>9</sup>, Teresa Rampino<sup>10</sup>, Robin Vos<sup>11</sup> and Luciano Potena<sup>12</sup>



**FIGURE 1 |** Percentage of European clinicians using each of the following as part of their clinical rationale for approach taken regarding treatments to prevent against rejection in transplant recipients, by organ type.

## B TREATMENT PRESCRIBED AS FIRST LINE TREATMENT FOR ACUTE ANTIBODY MEDIATED REJECTION IN TRANSPLANT PATIENTS



# Accessibilité à la photophérèse ?



■ Yes- routinely

■ Yes- but only normally as part of clinical trials

■ No access to ECP at all

■ Don't know

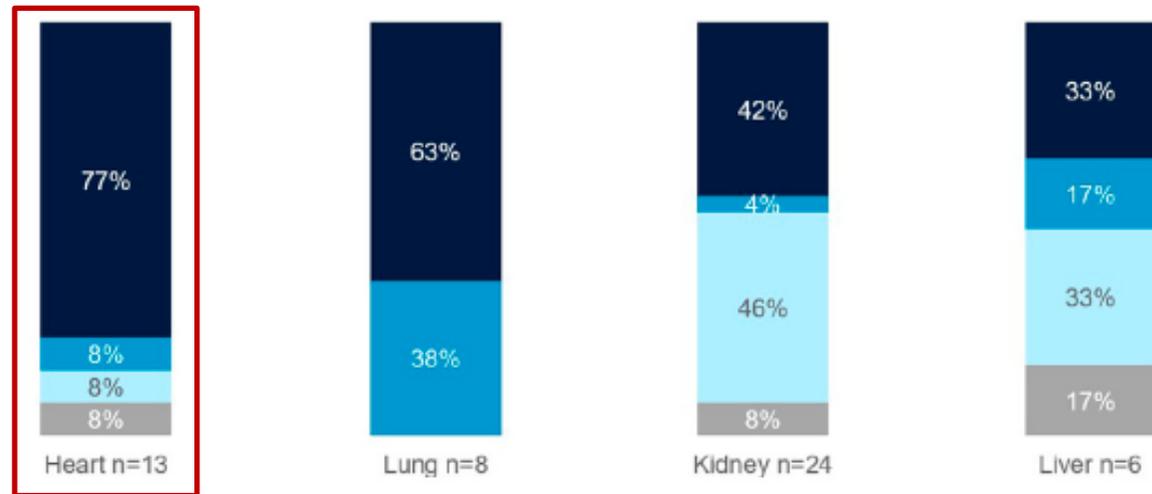


FIGURE 7 | Rates of routine access to ECP. Percentage of European clinicians treating transplants of the heart, lung, kidney, and liver.

# Photophérèse et baisse des CNI

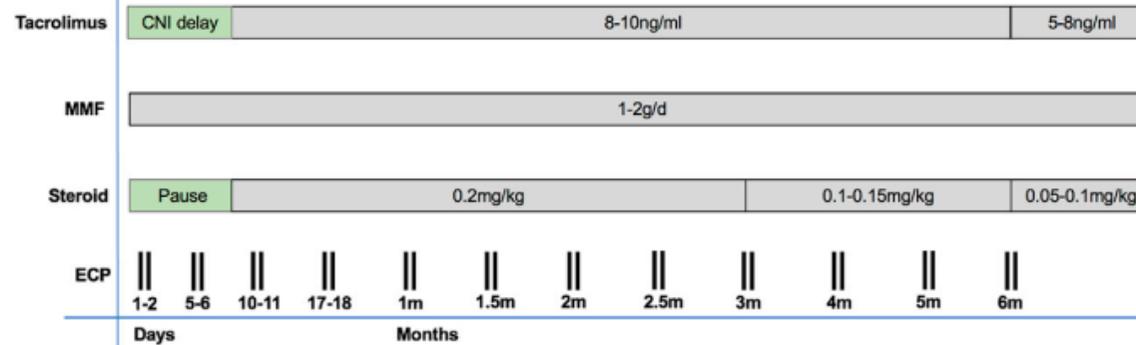
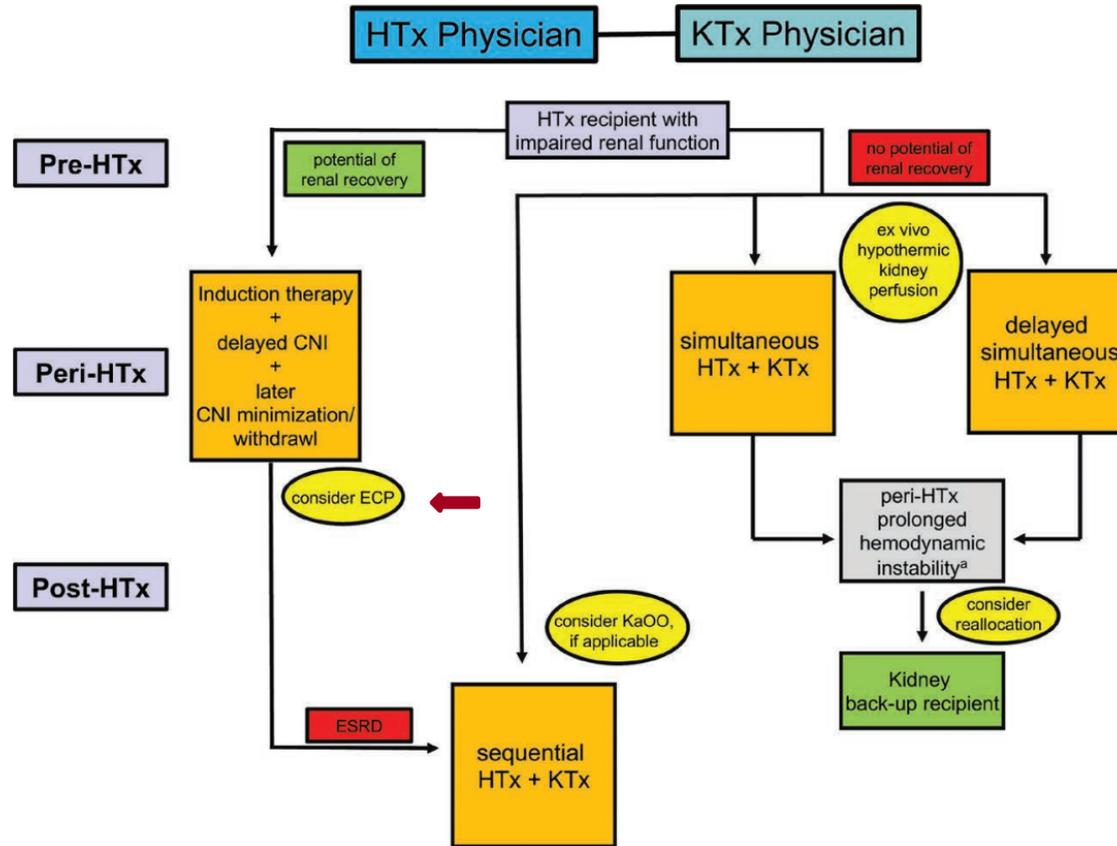


FIGURE 1 | An overview on our immunosuppressive protocol including ECP.

- 28 patients transplantés cardiaques
- Pas d'induction, CNI introduction à J3
- Tacro résiduel cible : 8-10ng/ml and 5-8ng/ml après M6
- ACR  $\geq$  2R à 1 an : 14,3% (N=4)

Gokler Transpl int 2022

# Minimisation de l'immunosuppression épargne rénale



<sup>a</sup> primary and secondary graft dysfunction (ISHLT definition)

**FIGURE 1.** Proposal for an algorithm for HTx recipients with impaired renal function based on an interdisciplinary work-up between HTx and KTx physicians to preserve kidney function after HTx alone, after sHKTx, or sequential HTx and KTx. For sHKTx, the proposed use of ex vivo hypothermic kidney perfusion by Lutz et al in this issue seems to be favorable. CNI, calcineurin inhibitor; ECP, extracorporeal photophoresis; ESRD, end-stage renal disease; HTx, heart transplantation; ISHLT, International Society of Heart and Lung Transplantation; KaOO, Kidney after Other Organs; KTx, kidney transplantation; sHKTx, simultaneous HTx and KTx.

# Extracorporeal Photopheresis in the Treatment of Cardiac Allograft Rejection in the Modern Era: A Single-Center Experience

Gal Rubinstein<sup>1</sup> | Andrea Fernandez Valledor<sup>1,2</sup> | Cathrine M. Moeller<sup>1</sup> | Julia Baranowska<sup>1</sup> | Daniel Oren<sup>1</sup> | David Kyung Taek Oh<sup>1</sup> | David Bae<sup>1</sup> | Adil Yunis<sup>1</sup> | Dor Lotan<sup>1</sup> | Afsana Rahman<sup>1</sup> | Jayant K. Raikhelkar<sup>1</sup> | Justin A. Fried<sup>1</sup> | Ersilia M. DeFilippis<sup>1</sup> | Kevin J. Clerkin<sup>1</sup> | Farhana Latif<sup>1</sup> | Gabriel T. Sayer<sup>1</sup> | Nir Uriel<sup>1</sup>



Etude rétrospective  
15 patients  
suivi médian 11 mois  
Immunosuppression très inhomogène

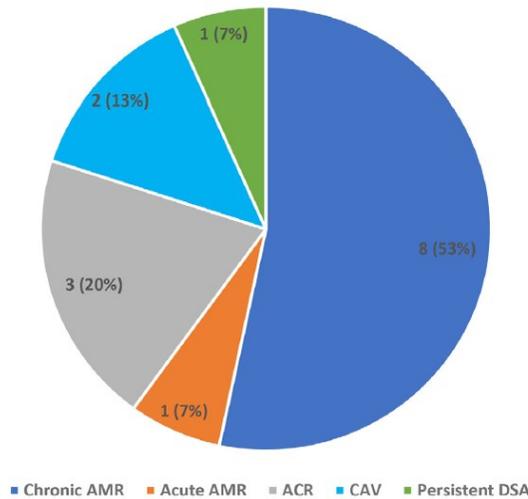


FIGURE 2 | Indications for ECP therapy.

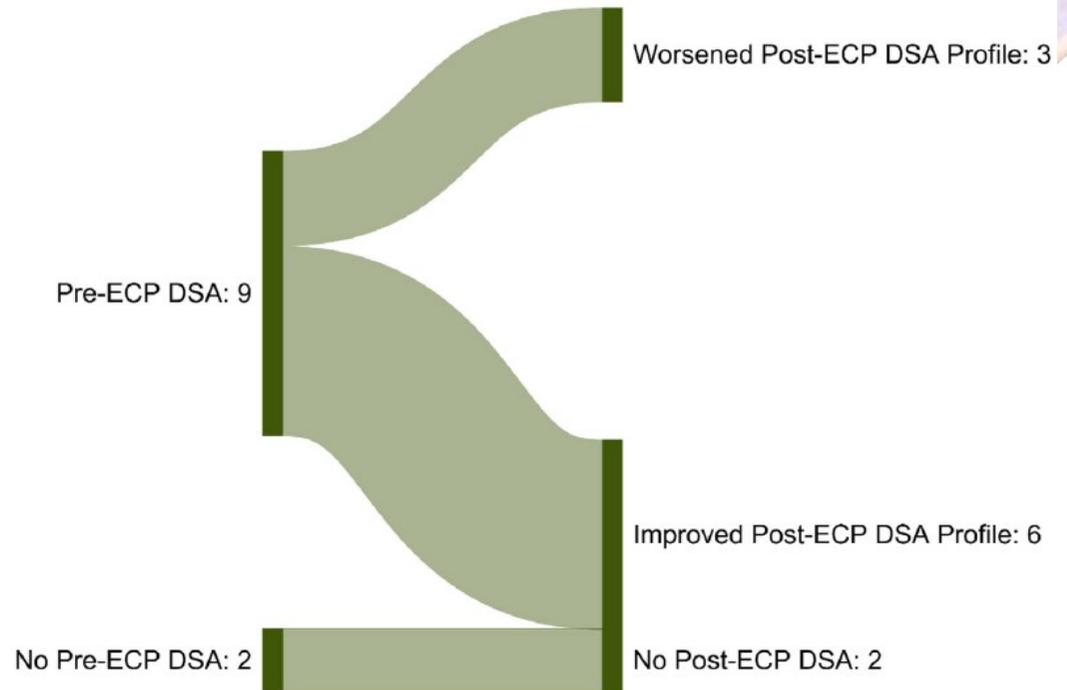


FIGURE 4 | DSA profile trend pre- and post-ECP.

Complications :

- 2 infections liées au KT, 1 thrombose de KT
- 2 décès défaillance multi-organes
- 1 Bkvirus, 2 cancers cutanés
- 1 retransplantation pour rejet humoral résistant

# Extracorporeal photopheresis in the treatment of cardiac allograft rejection: A single-centre experience

Timea Teszak<sup>a,\*</sup>, Alexandra Assabiny<sup>a</sup>, Akos Kiraly<sup>a</sup>, Zoltan Tarjanyi<sup>a</sup>, Nora Parazs<sup>a</sup>, Zsafia Szakal-Toth<sup>a</sup>, Istvan Hartyszky<sup>a</sup>, Zoltan Szabolcs<sup>a</sup>, Kristof Racz<sup>a</sup>, Marienn Reti<sup>b</sup>, Bela Merkely<sup>a</sup>, Balazs Sax<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Heart and Vascular Centre, Semmelweis University, 68 Varosmajor Street, Budapest, 1122 - Hungary

<sup>b</sup> Department of Apheresis, National Institute for Haematology and Infectious Diseases, 5-7 Albert Florian Road, Budapest, 1097 - Hungary



## 22 patients en rejet (cellulaire humoral ou mixte traités par photophérèse)

Additional immunosuppressive therapy in the ECP patient cohort.

	HTx patients (n = 22)
Intravenous methylprednisolone, (%)	14 (64%)
Rituximab, (%)	1 (4.5%)
Therapeutic plasma exchange, (%)	5 (23%)
Intravenous immunoglobulin, (%)	5 (23%)

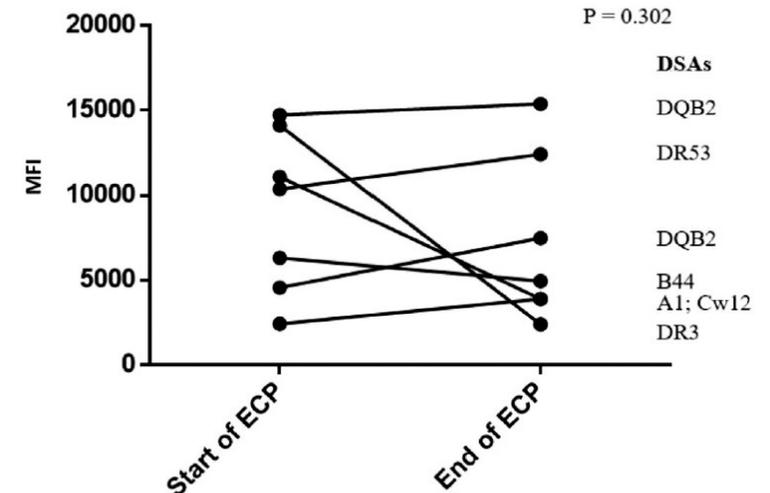
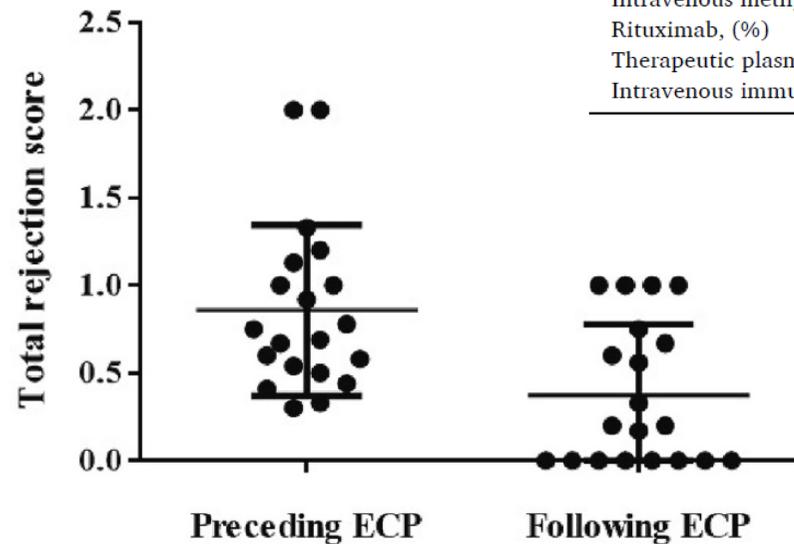
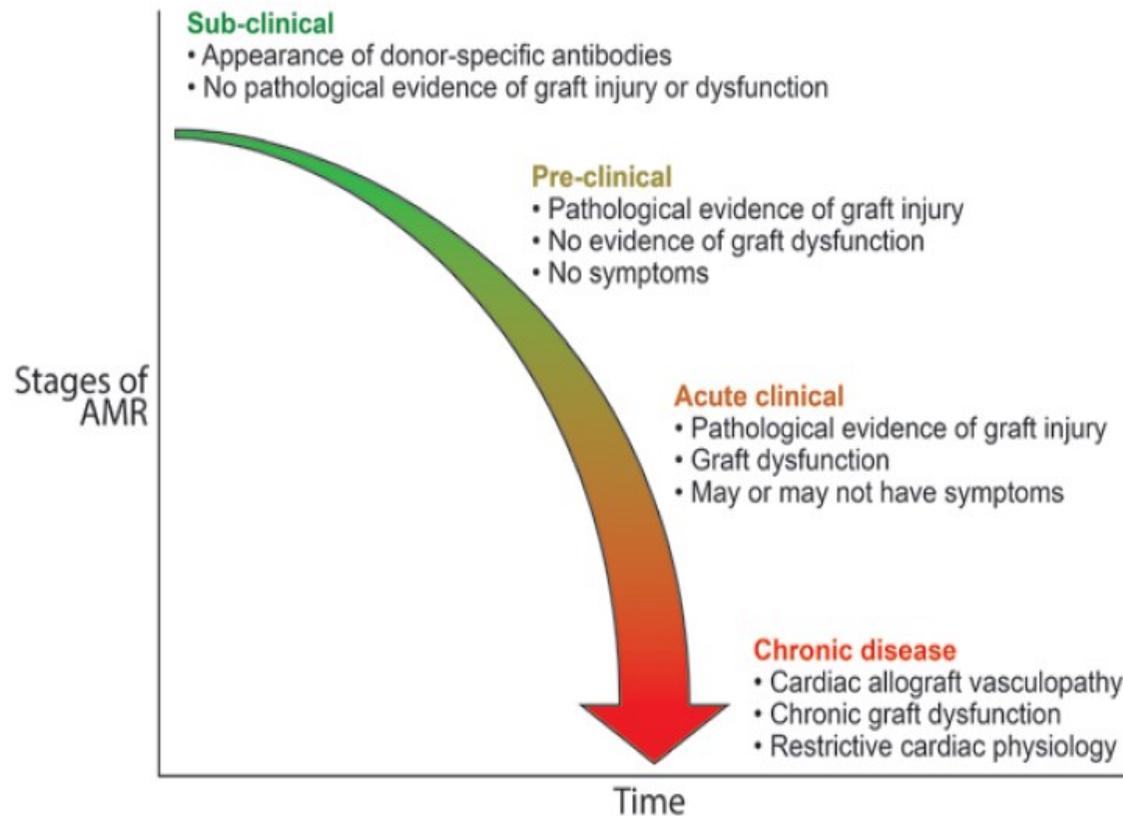


Fig. 1. Total rejection score at initial and last ECP treatments.

ECP = extracorporeal photopheresis.

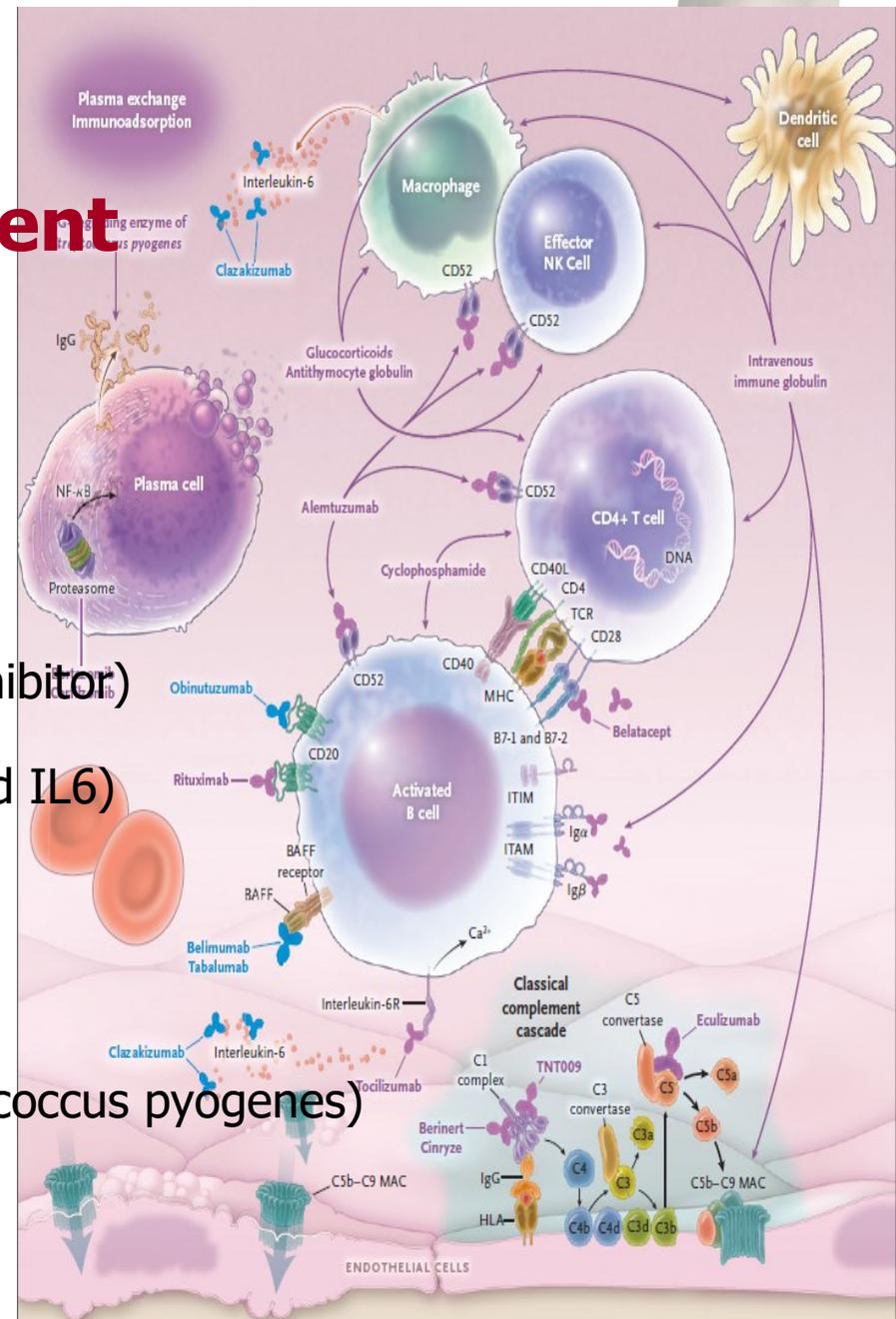
\*Statistical significance after Wilcoxon matched-pairs signed-rank test.

# Continuum clinique du rejet humoral



# AMR : No standardized treatment

- Plasma exchange
  - FDA approved
- IVIG
  - FDA approved
- Rituximab (antiCD20)
  - Rituxerah
- Bortezomib Carflizomib (proteosome inhibitor)
  - Borteject
- Tocilizumab Clazakizumab (AntiIL6R and IL6)
  - Ongoing clinical trial
- Eculizumab (antiC5)
  - Ongoing clinical trial
- C1q esterase inhibitor
  - Ongoing clinical trial
- IdeS (IgG-degrading enzyme of streptococcus pyogenes)
  - Not evaluated



Loupy NEJM 2018

Editorial

## Therapeutics for Antibody-Mediated Rejection: A Slippery Slope Into Confusion

R. A. Montgomery\*

### « A field awash in the use of unproven, off-label medications »

- Rituximab : no level 1 evidence
- Eculizumab : (+ plasmapheresis) 1 single center single arm with historical controls
  - 4263 euros per 300mg (300 000 euros/years)
- C1-INH : 6 patients, change in DSA C1q status from 6/6 to 1/6 positive ( $p = 0.0253$ ) compared to historical cohort 21 pts

Viglietti 2016



# Conclusion



- La photophérèse après transplantation cardiaque a démontré:
  - Un effet bénéfique sur le rejet cellulaire humoral et « chronique » (Barr)
  - Un effet immunomodulateur permettant un passage à un état plus tolérant
  - Des effets secondaires mineurs
  - Un coût modéré
- La photophérèse est une option pour traiter le rejet humoral comme mentionné dans les recommandations récentes en transplantation cardiaque
- Des études (registre, essais cliniques) restent à faire