

APPENDICES

Table 1 Characteristics of included studies

Study ID (author, year)	N	Study design	Setting	Participants	Intervention (experimental group)	Intervention (control group)	Follow up (months)	Main conclusions
Alexander <i>et al.</i> 1999 ³	212	Randomised controlled clinical trial	8 centres, US	Non-HLA identical living kidney transplant recipients	Donor-specific transfusion	No intervention	21 months	DST had no practical effect on patient or graft survival for up to 2 yrs, donor-specific responsiveness was more frequent in transfused patients
Sharma <i>et al.</i> 1997 ⁴	30	Randomised controlled clinical trial	India	Haplotype-matched living related renal transplant recipients	Donor-specific transfusion	No intervention	13 to 18 months	DST and cyclosporine administered 24 h before Tx is effective in improving graft function and reducing acute rejection

Table 2 Quality of randomised trials

Study ID (author, year)	Method of allocation concealment*	Blinding			Intention-to-treat analysis†	Loss to follow up (%)
		(participants)	(investigators)	(outcome assessors)		
Alexander <i>et al.</i> 1999 ³	Central	No	No	No	No	5.8%
Sharma <i>et al.</i> 1997 ⁴	Computer generated	No	No	No	Not stated	0.0%

*Choose between: central; third party (e.g. pharmacy); sequentially labelled opaque sealed envelopes; alternation; not specified.

†Choose between: yes; no; unclear.

Table 3 Results for dichotomous outcomes

Study ID (author, year)	Outcomes	Intervention group (number of patients with events/number of patients exposed)	Control group (number of patients with events/number of patients not exposed)	Relative risk (RR) [95% CI]	Risk difference (RD) [95% CI]
	Mortality at 2 yrs	4/115	2/97	13.69 (95%CI: 0.32, 9.01)	0.01 (95%CI: -0.03, 0.06)
	At least one rejection	60/115	44/97	1.15 (95%CI: 0.87, 1.52)	0.07 (95%CI: -0.07, 0.20)
Sharma <i>et al.</i> 1997 ⁴	Severe steroid-resistant rejections	2/15	3/15	0.67 (95%CI: 0.13, 3.44)	-0.07 (95%CI: -0.33, 0.20)
	Mortality	1/15	2/15	0.50 (95%CI: 0.05, 4.94)	-0.07 (95%CI: -0.28, 0.15)
	Graft loss	2/15	3/15	0.67 (95%CI: 0.13, 3.44)	-0.07 (95%CI: -0.33, 0.20)