

Experience of Living Donor Liver Transplantation at Fukuoka University Hospital

Review of Referred Cases in Last Two Years

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Abstract : Introduction: In the last 2 years, living donor liver transplantation (LDLT) has been performed at Fukuoka University Hospital, however, only one quarter of the referred patients actually undergo LDLT. We herein review our experience and find out the problems in the patients that were not indicated to undergo LDLT. Subjects and Methods : The medical records of all patients that were referred to the Department of Gastroenterological Surgery (formerly the 2nd Department of Surgery), Fukuoka University Hospital to be considered for liver transplantation from December 2004 to November 2006 were analyzed. Results: Fourteen patients were referred for consideration to undergo liver transplantation. They included nine with hepatitis C related liver cirrhosis, three with fulminant hepatitis, one with non-B non-C liver cirrhosis, and one with hepatitis B virus (HBV) related acute hepatitis. Of the 9 hepatitis C related liver cirrhosis patients, 7 had hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC). Of these, 3 patients (21.4%) had undergone LDLT. The model for end-stage liver disease (MELD) score of LDLT group tended to be lower than that of no-LDLT group, although those parameters did not show any statistical difference. The contraindication for these patients was advanced HCC beyond the Milan criteria, refusal of LDLT by the patient and multi-system organ failure (MOF). The contraindication for the donor was a graft size mismatch and ABO incompatibility. Discussion: The general condition of the patient, status of liver tumor and necessary and sufficient condition of live donor should thus be taken into account when determining the indications for LDLT. Conclusion : Efforts to educate general practitioners who take care of the patients suffering from end-stage liver disease are thus called for to increase the referral of appropriate patients for LDLT.

Key words : Living Donor Liver Transplantation (LDLT)