APOL1 and the NIH-APOLLO Study



Global Innovations in Patient Centered Kidney Care George Washington School of Medicine & AAKP May 21 2019

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Disclosures

- Research support NIH
- Consultant AstraZeneca and Renalytix AI
- Wake Forest University Health Sciences and Barry Freedman have rights to a U.S. patent relating to APOL1 gene testing

Need to Reclassify Etiologies of ESRD on the CMS 2728 Medical Evidence Report

Bryan M. Tucker and Barry I. Freedman

Clin J Am Soc Nephrol 13: 477-479, 2018. doi: https://doi.org/10.2215/CJN.08310817



Annual ESRD incidence rates (USRDS 2018)





African American pedigrees (black boxes = ESRD cases)

Disparate causes of ESRD seen in these families - but not other ancestral populations

Suggested an over-arching single gene cause of ESRD



Freedman BI et al AJKD: 21;387-393, 1993

No diabetes, low level proteinuria

Association of trypanolytic apoL1 variants with kidney disease in African Americans

Giulio Genovese^{*}, David J. Friedman^{*,} Michael D. Ross, Laurence Lecordier, Pierrick Uzureau, Barry I. Freedman, Donald W. Bowden, Carl D. Langefeld, Taras K. Oleksyk, Andrea L. Uscinski Knob, Andrea J. Bernhardy, Pamela J. Hicks, George W. Nelson, Benoit Vanhollebeke, Cheryl A. Winkler, Jeffrey B. Kopp, Etienne Pays, Martin R. Pollak *Science* 329: 841 – 845, 2010





Two risk variants (G1G1, G2G2, G1G2) cause CKD: autosomal recessive



Tsetse fly *Glossina Genus*



Trypanosoma brucei *rhodesiense*

> Chancre Human African Trypanosomiasis

Transgenic expression of human *APOL1* risk variants in podocytes induces kidney disease in mice

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APOL1 variants are the <u>cause</u> of kidney disease





APOL1 - strongest genetic association in complex human disease

Frequency of renal-risk variants in African Americans:

13% two copies = RISK [5.33 million people]

39% one copy = **CARRIER**

48% no copies

- Risk variants virtually absent in European, Asian and Hispanic populations
- Population attributable risk in FSGS & HIVAN is 70%
- APOL1 only found in humans, gorillas and baboons

Sickle cell variants are present in ~8% of the African American population

Spectrum of APOL1-associated nephropathy

Solidified Glomerulosclerosis

Hypertensive nephrosclerosis

Focal Segmental Glomerulosclerosis Collapsing FSGS (HIVAN)



Odds Ratio=7.3

OR=17

OR>29

Proteinuria & nephropathy progression rate

+ sickle cell nephropathy

+ severe lupus nephritis

+ donor allograft failure

Freedman, Bowden & Rich. Brenner and Rector's The Kidney 9th Edition 2011

APOL1 causes ~30-35% of ESRD in African Americans and contributes to:

- Excess risk of non-diabetic CKD in African Americans, relative to European Americans
- Poorer outcome in lupus nephritis among African American patients
- Shorter renal allograft survival in kidneys transplanted from African American donors

APOL1 genotyping could revolutionize kidney transplantation

- Now employed by many transplant programs to assess potential living kidney donors
- The NIH APOLLO Consortium is assessing APOL1 in deceased & living donor kidney transplantation
- APOL1 genotyping may:
 - Better define donor quality (change organ allocation)
 - Improve donor-recipient match with longer graft fxn
 - Reduce the discard rate of kidneys
 - Lead to more kidney transplantations
 - Improve safety in living kidney donation



Effect of Donor Factors on Early Graft Survival in Adult Cadaveric Renal Transplantation

S. John Swanson^{a,e}, Iman O. Hypolite^b, Lawrence Y. C. Agodoa^c, D. Scott Batty Jr^{a,e}, Paul B. Hshieh^d, David Cruess^d, Allan D. Kirk^e, Thomas G. Peters^{a,f} and Kevin C. Abbott^{g,*,**} Key words: African American donor, body mass index, cadaveric renal transplantation, donor death, donor/ recipient weight ratio, graft survival



Survival of transplanted kidneys from African American donors



Figure 1: Renal allograft survival according to APOL1 genotype.

Kaplan-Meier renal allograft survival curve for recipients of donor kidneys with (red line) and without (blue line) two APOL1 risk variant alleles.

The majority of failed allografts from 2 risk-variant donors had *APOL1*-associated lesions Recipient *APOL1* genotypes do not impact outcomes (not a circulating factor)

Reeves-Daniel & Freedman Am J Transplant 2011



Transplantation Month 2015 Volume 00 Number 00 DOI: 10.1097/TP.0000000000000969

APOL1 Genotype and Kidney Transplantation Outcomes From Deceased African American Donors

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FIGURE 1. Adjusted Kaplan-Meier survival plots (full model) in 1153 deceased-donor kidney transplantations from African American donors based on donor APOL1 genotypes. Plots compare survival of kidneys from donors with 2 renal-risk variants versus that for kidneys from donors with fewer than 2 renal-risk variants. The numbers within the parentheses below the curves reflect (number of functioning allografts at the start of each year, number of allograft failures within that year).

TABLE 2.

Multivariate association results for time to renal allograft failure, based on *APOL1* genotype (recessive model) in the full model (excluding recipient diabetes mellitus, BMI, dialysis vintage and induction immuno suppression)

Data set	Variable	Hazard Ratio	95% CI	Р
Full data set: Emory University, DeKAF Genomics,	APOL1 (recessive model)	2.05	(1.39-3.02)	0.0003
Wake Forest + University of Alabama at	Increasing donor age	1.18	(1.00-1.40)	0.05
Birmingham (N = 1153) 881 in analysis	Maximum panel-reactive antibodies	1.00	(1.00-1.01)	0.45
178 graft failures	Increasing recipient age	0.70	(0.56 - 0.87)	0.001
	No. HLA mismatches	0.94	(0.85-1.04)	0.25
	Cold ischemia time	1.00	(0.99-1.02)	0.58
	Standard-criteria donor (yes)	0.70	(0.43-1.12)	0.13
	Recipient sex (female)	0.97	(0.70-1.35)	0.87
	Source/recipient ethnicity (ref WFU/other)	Over	rall interaction, $P = 0.0$	6

ALLOCATION OF KIDNEYS

<u>Goal of new KDRI allocation system</u>: eliminate unrealized allograft years by improving matching of kidneys and recipients using estimates of organ quality and recipient longevity

<u>10 factors in deceased kidney donors contribute to KDRI:</u> age, height, weight, ethnicity (African American vs. non-African American), history of hypertension, history of diabetes, cause of death – stroke, serum creatinine, hepatitis C status, donation after circulatory death

American Journal of Transplantation 2017; 17: 1540–1548 Wiley Periodicals Inc. © 2016 The American Society of Transplantation and the American Society of Transplant Surgeons

doi: 10.1111/sjt.14113

Effect of Replacing Race With Apolipoprotein L1 Genotype in Calculation of Kidney Donor Risk Index

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genotype in KDRI better defines risk associated with kidneys transplanted from deceased African American donors, substantially improves KDRI score for 85-80% of kidneys offered, and enhances the link between donor quality and recipient need.

Changes in allocation based on APOL1

0/1 APOL1 RRVs

KDRI

Current

1.4972

KDPI Current 71%

2 APOL1 RRVs KDRI Current 1.4689 **KDPI** Current 69%

Changes in allocation based on APOL1



P value 2.2x10⁻¹⁶

APOL1 Genotype and Renal Function of Black Living Donors

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12 year follow-up of 136 African American living kidney donors

J Am Soc Nephrol 29: •••-•••, 2018. doi: https://doi.org/10.1681/ASN.2017060658

Predonation Characteristics	High-Risk Genotype, n=19	Low-Risk Genotype, n=117	P Value
Age, yr	37±9	37±9	0.84
Women. %	61	63	0.85
Weight, kg	85±16	82±18	0.49
Dody mass index, kg/m²	3015	29:10	0.45
Systolic BP, mm Hg	121±7	120±10	0.56
Diastolic BP, mm Hg	72±8	73±8	0.61
Serum creatinine, mg/dl	0.98±0.18	0.89±0.18	0.06
eGFR, ml/min per 1.73 m ²	98±17	108±20	0.03
Fasting blood sugars, mg/d	02+12	01±12	0.42
Education, %			0.09
None to 8th grade	11	1	
9th–11th Grade	6	15	
High school	40	34	
Some college	33	38	
Bachelors	11	6	
Postgraduate	0	6	
Individual income, %			0.97
<\$12,000	11	13	
\$12,000-\$25,000	28	28	
>\$25,000	61	60	
Employed, full or part time, %	83	80	0.79
Family history of hypertension, yes, %	79	71	0.48
Family history of ESRD, yes, %	89	76	0.20
Relationship to the recipient, %			0.27
Parent	11	9	
Sibling	37	38	
Child	42	28	
Spouse	5	9	
Other	5	16	

Table 1. Predonation characteristics of live kidney donors on the basis of APOL1 renal risk genotype

High-risk genotype is defined as carrying two APOL 1 renal risk alleles, and low-risk genotype is defined as carrying one or zero APOL 1 renal risk alleles. Data are presented as mean ±SD. To convert serum creatinine from milligrams per deciliter to micromoles per liter, multiplyby 88.4. Family history of hypertension and ESRD was defined as first degree relative with these conditions.

Postdonation Outcomes	High-Risk Genotype, n=19	Low-Risk Genotype, n=117	P Value	
Time since donation, yr	11.3 [9.1–12.5]	11.6 [9.1–13.6]	0.75	
Postdonation weight, kg	89±18	88±18	0.72	
Change in weight since donation, kg	+4.8±17	+5.5±17	0.87	
Systolic BP, mm Hg	128±12	130±19	0.70	
Change in systolic BP since donation, mm Hg	+7±12	+10±19	0.48	
Diastolic BP, mm Hg	82±10	83±27	0.81	
Change in diastolic BP since donation, mm Hg	+10±12	+7±12	0.89	
Hypertension, %	44	49	0.74	
Treated for hypertension with medication, %	/5	0/	0.29	
Serum creatinine, mg/dl	1.71±1.2	1.26±0.3	0.003	
CKD-EPI eGFR, ml/min per 1.732 m ²	57±20	67±15	0.02	
CKD-EPI eGFR <60 ml/min per 1.732 m ² , %	67	36	0.01	
MDRD eGFR, ml/min per 1.732 m ²	58±20	68±14	0.01	
MDRD eGFR <60 ml/min per 1.732 m ² , %	53	32	< 0.01	
ESRD, %	11	0	0.02	
Microalbuminuria, %	16	10	0.86	

Table 2. Postdonation outcomes between live kidney donors on the basis of APOL1 renal risk genotype

High-risk genotype is defined as carrying two APOL1 renal risk alleles, and low-risk genotype is defined as carrying one or zero APOL1 renal risk alleles. Data are presented as mean ± SD if normally distributed or median [interquartile range] in not normally distributed. To convert serum creatinine from milligrams per deciliter to micromoles per liter, multiply by 88. ESRD was defined by receipt of dialysis or kidney transplant. Microalbuminuria was defined as uACR>30 mg/g or >3 mg/ mmol. MDRD, Modification of Diet in Renal Disease.

• There is a need to improve safety of living kidney donation in African Americans

APOL1 genotyping may reduce post-donation kidney failure in African Americans

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