

## Correlation Between Ischemic Time with Kidney Graft Function in Living Donor Kidney Transplant at Sardjito Hospital

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### ABSTRACT

**Background:** Kidney transplant function is expected to recover soon after transplantation, marked by decrease in serum creatinine and increase in urine output. Ischemic time is one of the factors that can affect kidney function. Creatinine Reduction Ratio day 2 (CRR2) can graft function

**Objective:** To know the correlation between ischemic time and early graft function in living donor kidney transplantation, measured by CRR2.

**Methods:** This research used a retrospective cohort observational method. Data were collected from medical records of all kidney transplant patients at RSUP Dr. Sardjito from January 2017 to December 2024. The inclusion criteria are patients aged over 18 years, exclusion criteria are patients with hyperacute rejection, recipients lost of data, and those with extreme values. Normality tests using the Kolmogorov-Smirnov test, followed by Spearman correlation analysis. The cutoff for ischemic time was determined based on the highest sensitivity and specificity. The ischemic time and other variables that could affect CRR2 were analyzed bivariate. Variables with p-values < 0.25 are analyzed in multivariate analysis using logistic regression with backward method to identify variables influencing kidney transplant function.

**Results:** The total procedures was 91 samples, of which 82 patients met the inclusion criteria. One patient was excluded due to hyperacute rejection, six patients had no ischemic time data, and two patients were outliers. From the 82 samples, the average age was  $38.65 \pm 12.34$  years, with 75.6% male and 24.4% female. The average BMI was  $23.64 \pm 4.72$  kg/m<sup>2</sup>. There is no significant correlation ( $r = -0.015$ ,  $p = 0.891$ ) between ischemic time with CRR2. Variables such as DM ( $p = 0.017$ , OR = 5.079) and KS2 ( $p = 0.01$ , OR = 2.249) had a significant relationship with kidney transplant function, while variables such as BMI ( $p = 0.148$ , OR = 0.886), Inotropics ( $p = 0.734$ , OR = 1.235), GFR2 ( $p = 0.404$ , OR = 1.019), and UOP 2 ( $p = 0.489$ , OR = 0.896) did not show a significant relationship with graft function.

### Conclusion:

There is no significant relationship between ischemic time and early graft function in living donor kidney transplant surgery at Sardjito hospital.

**Keywords:** Living donor kidney transplant, Ischemic time, Creatinine Reduction Ratio day 2

## Introduction

Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) is defined as abnormalities in kidney structure or function that persist for more than 3 months. CKD is a non-communicable disease whose incidence has increased over the past two decades, with more than 800 thousand patients diagnosed. According to data from the Indonesian Renal Registry in 2018, 133,142 people underwent hemodialysis as a result of CKD. The etiologies of CKD include hypertension (51%), diabetes mellitus (21%), cardiovascular diseases (7%), and other diseases such as viral infections, malignancies, and others.<sup>1,2</sup>

CKD is a progressive and irreversible kidney dysfunction that results in nephron damage, causing the body to fail in maintaining metabolism, fluid, and electrolyte balance, with the manifestation of uremia. Patients depend on Renal Replacement Therapy (hemodialysis, peritoneal dialysis, or kidney transplantation) to prevent life-threatening uremia (Roberta H, 2018). Kidney transplantation is currently the best available therapy for CKD patients. Kidney transplantation can reduce mortality and improve patients' quality of life.<sup>3</sup> The kidney transplantation procedure involves a flank incision, which can be performed laparoscopically or through open surgery. The allograft kidney is placed in the extraperitoneal space in the right or left iliac fossa. Vascular anastomosis is performed with the external iliac artery.<sup>4</sup>

Ischemic time is defined as the time between the donor renal artery cross-clamp and the recipient renal artery declamp. Ischemic time is divided into several terminologies, including the donor warm ischemic time, which represents the time between the donor renal artery cross-clamp and cold storage. This time is short and has minimal consequences on nephrectomy surgery for the donor. Meanwhile, the recipient warm ischemic time refers to the time when the donor kidney is removed from cold storage until reperfusion after declamping the recipient renal artery.<sup>4</sup> Tubular epithelium and endothelium are highly sensitive to ischemic conditions, and damage occurs in accordance with the duration of ischemia experienced. Hypoxic cells are unable

to produce adequate adenosine triphosphate (ATP) (Ponticelli C, 2022). After reperfusion in the recipient's body, the ischemic-damaged transplanted kidney will receive reactive oxygen species (ROS) and inflammatory mediators, which cause further damage through oxidative stress and local inflammation. This condition is known as ischemic reperfusion injury (IRI).<sup>5</sup>

A retrospective cohort study conducted in 2015 with a sample size of 35,901 patients compared a group with ischemic times between 10 to <20 minutes to a group with ischemic times of  $\geq 30$  minutes. The study showed a significant difference ( $p < 0.0001$ ), where the group with ischemic times of  $\geq 30$  minutes was associated with higher mortality and kidney transplant failure rates.<sup>6</sup> Patients are expected to have good allograft kidney function soon after surgery. Early kidney function post-transplant surgery varies, from the immediate production of adequate urine, known as immediate graft function (IGF), to anuria, where there is no urine production after surgery. Adequate urine output (UOP) is a good indicator of allograft kidney function.<sup>4</sup> Delayed graft function (DGF) is defined as a transplant kidney that does not function immediately and requires dialysis within 72 hours after transplantation surgery. Several factors contribute to DGF, including donor factors (organ donors from deceased patients, donors with extended criteria such as those over 60 years old or over 50 with high blood pressure and serum creatinine levels  $> 0.5$  or death due to stroke, ischemic time, organ quality, donor age, acute kidney injury conditions, high body mass index, organ transport distance, African American ethnicity), recipient factors (dialysis history before transplantation, prior transplant surgeries, Human Leukocyte Antigen mismatch, ABO incompatibility, high body mass index, African American ethnicity), and perioperative factors (hemodynamic instability, calcineurin inhibitors, nephrotoxic antibiotics, nephrotoxic analgesics).<sup>5</sup>

Acute tubular necrosis (ATN) is a kidney condition that arises after prolonged renal ischemia. ATN is the most common cause of delayed graft function (DGF). Ischemic causes include tubular damage in the donor, prolonged

cold or warm ischemic time, and ischemia-reperfusion injury.<sup>4</sup>

There are several biomarkers that can help clinicians to assess graft function. The first marker used to assess kidney function is urea. Currently, the gold standard for assessing kidney function is serum creatinine. A study by Nugroho conducted in 2019 on 28 patients undergoing kidney transplantation showed a significant decrease in serum creatinine ( $p = 0.008$ ) from  $7.9 \pm 2.53$  before surgery to  $5.2 \pm 4.4$  after kidney transplantation. Another study conducted in 2021 assessed the serum creatinine reduction ratio on day 2 (CRR<sub>2</sub>), which is defined as the ratio of serum creatinine reduction between day 1 and day 2. This study, conducted on 44 patients who underwent kidney transplantation, showed that ischemic times of less than 40 minutes were associated with CRR<sub>2</sub> > 30%, indicating immediate graft function (IGF) ( $p = 0.013$ ).<sup>7,8</sup>

### Research Methodology

This study used a retrospective cohort method to assess correlation between ischemic time and graft function, as described by CRR<sub>2</sub>, in kidney transplant patients from living donors at Sardjito Hospital. The study was conducted after obtaining approval from the Ethics Committee of the Faculty of Medicine, Public Health, and Nursing, Gadjah Mada University, as well as approval from the Education and Research Division (Diklit) of Sardjito Hospital Yogyakarta with the letter number DP. 04.03/D/ XI 2/34695/2024.

The target population of this study was patients with end-stage chronic kidney disease who underwent kidney transplantation at Sardjito Hospital, and the accessible population was the target population who underwent kidney transplantation between 2017 and 2024. The study subjects were kidney transplant patients at Sardjito Hospital who met the inclusion and exclusion criteria. The inclusion criteria were: Age >18 years. The exclusion criteria included recipients with hyperacute rejection reactions, recipients with incomplete data (lacking ischemic time data and/or serum creatinine data, which were the main variables in the study), and extreme sample values

(outliers). The total sample size studied was 82 patients.

Data were obtained from medical records at Sardjito Hospital. Continuous data were expressed as mean (SD), and categorical data were presented as frequency (n) and percentage. Normality testing was performed using the Kolmogorov-Smirnov test. A scatterplot was used to present the correlation between ischemic time and the independent variable, which was kidney transplant function, assessed by CRR<sub>2</sub>. Spearman correlation testing was used to examine the correlation between the two variables. Bivariate analysis of the correlation between ischemic time, as well as CRR<sub>2</sub>, which are nominal-scale variables, was analyzed using the chi-square test or Fisher's exact test. The correlation of secondary variables with serum creatinine and urine output (UOP) was analyzed using an unpaired t-test / Mann-Whitney test for continuous variables, and chi-square test or Fisher's exact test for categorical variables. Furthermore, for variables with a p-value <0.25 in the bivariate analysis, multivariate analysis was conducted using logistic regression because the dependent variable was nominal scale. All statistical analyses were performed using the SPSS software package (version 26.0) with a 95% confidence level.

### Results

Based on the results presented in Table 1, the demographic characteristics of kidney transplant patients show that the average age of patients was  $38.65 \pm 12.34$  years. Regarding gender, the proportion of male patients was 75,6 %, while female patients accounted for 24,4 % of all recipients. The patients' BMI had an average value of  $23.64 \pm 4.72$ , indicating that there were no obese patients in this study population. The ischemic time variable had an average of 82,5 (47- 128) minutes, and the kidney transplant function variable, CRR<sub>2</sub>, had an average value of 30,14 (-46,09 - 79.48) with 41 patients having DGF (CRR<sub>2</sub> < 30) and 41 patients having IGF (CRR<sub>2</sub> > 30).

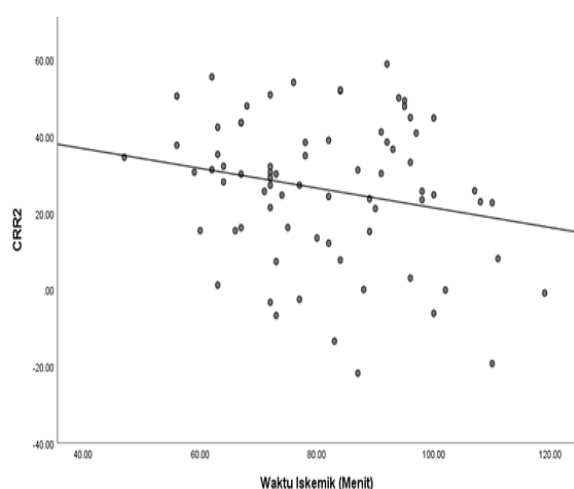
**Table 1. Patient Demographic**

Characteristic		n	%	Mean±SD atau Median (range)
Gender	Male	62	75,6%	
	Female	20	24,4%	
Age (years)				38.65 ± 12.34
BMI (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )				23.64 ± 4.72
GFR <sub>1</sub> (mL/mnt)				23.85 (7.35-72.12)
GFR <sub>2</sub> (mL/mnt)				33.59 (7.14-113.98)
KS <sub>1</sub> (mg/dL)				3.62 (1.14-10)
KS <sub>2</sub> (mg/dL)				2.54 (0.69-8.85)
UOP <sub>1</sub> (cc/kgbb/ jam)				2.88 (0.09-18.73)
UOP <sub>2</sub> (cc/kgbb/ jam)				1.76 (0.03-11.84)
Ischemic Time (Menit)				82.5 (47-128)
CRR <sub>2</sub> (%)				30.14 (-46.09- 79.48)
<30		41	50,0%	
>30		41	50,0%	

BMI: Body Mass Index, GFR: Glomerular Filtration Rate, KS: Kreatinin Serum, UOP: Urine Output, CRR<sub>2</sub>: Creatinine Reduction Ratio day 2

**Table 2. Spearman Correlation Test**

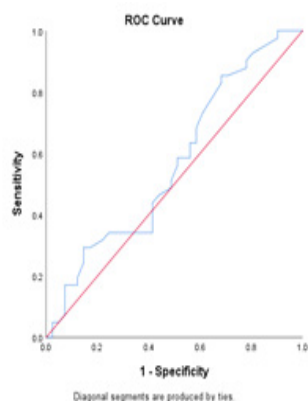
Characteristic	CRR <sub>2</sub>
Waktu Iskemic (menit)	r= -0,015 P= 0,891

**Figure 1. Scatterplot Graphic between Ischemic time and CRR<sub>2</sub>**

To assess the correlation between the ischemic time and CRR<sub>2</sub> variables, which are both numeric and have a abnormal distribution, Spearman's correlation test was used (Table 2). The p-value was 0.891 with an r value of -0.015, indicating no significant correlation between ischemic time and CRR<sub>2</sub>. In the scatterplot (Figure 1), the correlation between ischemic time (x-axis)

**Table 3. Sensitivity, Specificity, Youden Index**

Waktu iskemic	Sensitivity	1 - Specificity	Youden index
62,5	0,951	0,854	0,098
63,5	0,927	0,805	0,122
65,0	0,902	0,780	0,122
66,5	0,878	0,780	0,098
67,5	0,854	0,707	0,146
69,5	0,854	0,683	0,171
71,5	0,829	0,683	0,146
72,5	0,732	0,610	0,122
73,5	0,683	0,585	0,098
74,5	0,659	0,585	0,073
75,5	0,634	0,585	0,049



**Figure 2. ROC Curve to measure Ischemic Time Cut Off**

and CRR2 (y-axis) is shown. The graph displays a linear trend, meaning there is no significant correlation between ischemic time and CRR2. Based on the displayed ROC curve (Figure 2), the AUC value in the ROC analysis was 0,567, showing that the classification model used had a poor accuracy to distinguish between ischemic time and CRR2, with a p-value of 0,295 and a 95% CI of 0,44-0,69. The optimal cutoff point for ischemic time, analyzed using the Youden Index method (Table 3), was found to be 69,5 minutes. For the bivariate analysis evaluating the correlation between the two groups (CRR2 < 30

**Table 5. Multivariate Analysis**

Characteristic		CRR2<30 (n=41)	CRR2>30 (n=41)	p	RR	CI 95%
Ischemic time (Menit)	>69.5 minute	35 (55.6%)	28 (44.4%)	0.067	1.76	0.87-3.54
	<69.5 minute	6 (31.6%)	13 (68.4%)			
Age (years)		38.32 ± 13.29	38.97 ± 11.46	0.811		
BMI (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )		24.28 ± 4.74	22.99 ± 4.67	0.220		
Gender	male	32 (51.6%)	30 (48.4%)	0.607	1.15	0.67-1.97
	female	9 (45%)	11 (55%)			
DM	Yes	14 (77.8%)	4 (22.2%)	0.008*	1,84	1.26-2.69
	No	27 (42.2%)	37 (57.8%)			
Hypertension	Yes	39 (50%)	39 (50%)	1.000*	1.00	0.36-2.73
	No	2 (50%)	2 (50%)			
Autoimmune	Yes	7 (38.9%)	11 (61.1%)	0.286	0,73	0.39-1.36
	No	34 (53.1%)	30 (46.9%)			
Reduced Heart Function	Yes	10 (45.5%)	12 (54.5%)	0.618	0.88	0.52-1.48
	No	31 (51.7%)	29 (48.3%)			
Inotrope	Yes	17 (58.6%)	12 (41.4%)	0.248	1.29	0.85-1.98
	No	24 (45.3%)	29 (54.7%)			
Vasopressor	Yes	16 (51.6%)	15 (48.4%)	0.820	1.05	0.68-1.64
	No	25 (49%)	26 (51%)			
GFR1(mL/mnt)		23.69 (8.1-72.11)	24.13 (7.35-54.63)	0.849		
GFR2 (mL/mnt)		27.44 (7.14-77.67)	43.88 (18.06-113.97)	0.001*		
KS1(mg/dL)		3.63 (1.14-10)	3,46 (1,3-9,6)	0.422		
KS2 (mg/dL)		3.23 (0.87-8.85)	1,97 (0.69-5.47)	0,001*		
UOP 1 (cc/kg/hour)		2.01 (0.08-18.72)	3,66 (0,76-16.14)	0.078		
UOP 2 (cc/kg/hour)		1.43 (0.02-6.7)	2,16 (0,66-11.83)	0.018*		

**Table 5. Multivariate Analysis**

Characteristic		p	OR Lower	95% C.I. Upper	
Step 1 <sup>a</sup>	Ischemic time (>69,5Menit)	,135	2.780	,728	10.622
	DM	,013	7.139	1,515	33.626
	Inotrope	,734	1.235	,367	4.155
	BMI	,148	,886	,752	1.044
	GFR <sub>2</sub>	,404	1.019	,975	1.065
	SCr <sub>2</sub>	,007	3.211	1.378	7.482
	UOP <sub>2</sub>	,489	,896	,655	1.224
	Constant	,333	,146		
Step 2 <sup>a</sup>	Ischemic time(>69,5Menit)	,140	2,759	,716	10.625
	DM	,012	7,143	1,529	33.357
	BMI	,150	,889	,756	1.044
	GFR <sub>2</sub>	,421	1.018	,975	1.064
	KS <sub>2</sub>	,006	3.246	1.397	7.540
	UOP <sub>2</sub>	,521	,903	,663	1.232
	Constant	,333	,145		
	Ischemic time(>69,5Menit)	,163	2.574	,681	9.726
Step 3 <sup>a</sup>	DM	,014	6.891	1,468	32.345
	Characteristic	p	OR	95% C.I. Lower Upper	
	BMI	,182	,900	,770	1.051
	GFR <sub>2</sub>	,517	1,014	,973	1.057
	KS <sub>2</sub>	,006	3,234	1.400	7.471
	Constant	,249	,107		
	Ischemic time (>69,5Menit)	,167	2.508	,680	9.245
	DM	,017	6.246	1.380	28.269
Step 4 <sup>a</sup>	BMI	,231	,917	,795	1.057
	KS <sub>2</sub>	,000	2.656	1.536	4.593
	Constant	,328	,204		
	Ischemic time(>69,5Menit)	,150	2.611	,706	9.657
Step 5 <sup>a</sup>	DM	,029	4.527	1.166	17.570
	KS <sub>2</sub>	,001	2.329	1.431	3.791
	Constant	,000	,038		
Step 6 <sup>a</sup>	DM	,017	5,079	1,334	19,339
	KS <sub>2</sub>	,001	2,249	1,402	3,608
	Constant	,000	,084		



and  $CRR_2 > 30$ ), for the ischemic time variable, the group with ischemic times greater than 69.5 minutes consisted of 35 patients (55,6 %) with DGF, indicated by  $CRR_2 < 30$ , and 28 patients (44,4%) with IGF, indicated by  $CRR_2 > 30$ . For the group with ischemic times less than 69.5 minutes, 6 patients (31,6%) had  $CRR_2 < 30$ , and 13 patients (72,2%) had  $CRR_2 > 30$ . This correlation was not significant with a p-value  $< 0.067$ ,  $RR = 1,75$ , and a 95% CI of 0,87-3,54.

The age variable showed no statistically significant difference between the two groups, with a p-value of 0.811. The mean age in the  $CRR_2 < 30$  group was  $38.82 \pm 13.29$  years, while in the  $CRR_2 > 30$  group it was  $38.97 \pm 11.46$  years. Similarly, BMI did not differ significantly between groups ( $p = 0.220$ ), and sex was also not significantly associated with  $CRR_2$  classification ( $p = 0.607$ ;  $RR = 1.15$ ; 95% CI: 0.67–1.97). In contrast, Diabetes Mellitus (DM) showed a statistically significant association with  $CRR_2$  ( $p = 0.008$ ). Among patients with DM, 14 (77.8%) had  $CRR_2 < 30$ , while only 4 (22.2%) were in the group with  $CRR_2 > 30$ . Among patients without DM, 27 (42.2%) had  $CRR_2 < 30$  and 37 (57.8%) had  $CRR_2 > 30$ .

In this study, the variable hypertension was not significantly associated with  $CRR_2$  outcomes ( $p = 1.000$ ;  $RR = 1.00$ ; 95% CI: 0.36–2.73), with each group comprising 39 patients (50%). Among patients without hypertension, 2 (50%) were in the  $CRR_2 < 30$  group and 2 (50%) in the  $CRR_2 > 30$  group. Unlike hypertension, autoimmune comorbidities showed a borderline significant association with  $CRR_2$  outcomes ( $p = 0.092$ ;  $RR = 0.58$ ; 95% CI: 0.27–1.22). The autoimmune conditions considered included nephrotic syndrome, Henoch-Schönlein purpura, and psoriasis. Reduced ejection fraction was not significantly associated with  $CRR_2$  ( $p = 0.618$ ;  $RR = 0.88$ ; 95% CI: 0.52–1.48), nor was the use of inotropic agents ( $p = 0.241$ ;  $RR = 1.29$ ; 95% CI: 0.85–1.98). Similarly, vasopressor use showed no significant relationship with  $CRR_2$  outcomes ( $p = 0.820$ ;  $RR = 1.02$ ; 95% CI: 0.68–1.64). Both  $GFR_2$  (Glomerular Filtration Rate on Day 2) and  $SCr_2$  (Serum Creatinine on Day 2) showed statistically significant associations with  $CRR_2$ , each with a p-value of 0.001.

Subsequently, variables with p-values  $< 0.25$  were included in a multivariate logistic regression analysis using the backward elimination method, with the aim of identifying significant predictors of kidney transplant function and controlling for potential confounding variables. The results of the backward multivariate logistic regression analysis (Table 5) show that the variables significantly affecting  $CRR_2$  were DM and  $SCr_2$ .

## Discussion

Kidney transplantation is the most effective therapy for patients with chronic kidney disease (CKD), as it significantly reduces mortality and improves quality of life (Kaballo, 2018). Proper perioperative management contributes greatly to graft function and both short- and long-term graft survival. Various factors may affect kidney transplant outcomes, including ischemic time, which is recognized as an independent variable influencing renal function.  $CRR_2$  can be used as a predictor of early kidney transplant function.<sup>3,8</sup> This study compared ischemic time and  $CRR_2$  as indicators of transplant kidney function, categorizing the outcomes into Delayed Graft Function (DGF,  $CRR_2 \leq 30$ ) and Immediate Graft Function ( $CRR_2 > 30\%$ ). Previous research has identified  $CRR_2$  as an independent predictor of transplant kidney function and an early detector of renal dysfunction.<sup>7,8</sup>

In terms of patient demographics, the mean recipient age in this study was  $38.65 \pm 12.34$  years, which aligns with findings by Tennankore et al. (2015), who reported an average transplant age of  $39 \pm 16$  years. This suggests that kidney transplantation commonly occurs between ages 35–50. In this study, age was not a significant factor in the bivariate analysis ( $p = 0.811$ ). However, donor age has been recognized as a risk factor for impaired kidney transplant function. A meta-analysis by Yao in 2025 involving 28,936 patients (8,708 DGF cases) reported a significant association between donor age and DGF ( $p = 0.003$ , OR 1.02, 95% CI: 1.01–1.03), with high heterogeneity ( $I^2 = 84.6\%$ ,  $p < 0.0001$ ).<sup>10</sup>

Recipient BMI was analyzed numerically in this study and showed no significant association

with CRR2, which is consistent with a 2025 meta-analysis by Yao involving 25,060 kidney transplant patients (both living and deceased donors), where 6,472 cases of DGF were recorded. Among deceased donors, recipient BMI was not significantly associated with DGF ( $p = 0.065$ , OR 1.23, 95% CI: 0.99–1.53), and the same was found for living donors ( $p = 0.303$ , OR 1.91, 95% CI: 0.85–1.66).<sup>10</sup>

In contrast, donor BMI significantly affected transplant function. In a meta-analysis by Yao (2025) involving 3,832 patients, donor BMI was a significant risk factor for DGF ( $p < 0.0001$ , OR 1.09), with low heterogeneity ( $I^2 = 25.2\%$ ,  $p = 0.263$ ). Two of the three included studies involved deceased donors. According to WHO classifications, high donor BMI is associated with pathophysiological mechanisms such as vascular access difficulties, prolonged ischemic and anastomosis times, and a deficiency in anti-inflammatory factors that protect against ischemia-reperfusion injury. Obesity is also linked to comorbidities like hypertension and hyperlipidemia, which compromise donor quality and increase the risk of DGF. Jindal et al. also reported a positive correlation between recipient obesity and increased DGF risk.<sup>10</sup>

In this study, ischemic time was not significantly associated with transplant kidney function as assessed by CRR2, aligning with findings from Kinoshita (2021), who studied 272 Asian patients and found no significant association between ischemic time and CRR2 ( $p = 0.34$ , OR 1.17). However, a large meta-analysis by Yao (2025) including 153,008 patients showed that prolonged ischemic time significantly increased DGF risk ( $p < 0.0001$ , OR = 1.05, 95% CI: 1.03–1.07). Ischemic injury and inflammation likely underlie this association, particularly due to the sensitivity of tubular epithelium and endothelium to ischemia (Bellini MI, 2021).<sup>10</sup>

In this study, the optimal ischemic time cut-off was identified as 69.5 minutes, with a sensitivity of 0.854 and 1-specificity of 0.683. However, ischemic time does not appear to be a reliable early detection tool for predicting good transplant kidney function outcomes. This aligns with studies showing that ischemic durations between 60 and <120 minutes are associated

with poor outcomes, including DGF and lower graft survival (Foley M, 2023). Tennankore et al. (2015), in a study of 131,677 patients, reported that prolonged ischemic time correlated with long-term CRR2 outcomes. Toufееq (2019) also found that warm ischemia time over 60 minutes significantly increased DGF incidence, delayed creatinine clearance, and led to higher serum creatinine by day seven. Yao's meta-analysis (2025) confirmed that cold ischemic time is a risk factor for DGF, with DGF groups showing longer CIT than non-DGF (OR = 1.05, 95% CI: 1.03–1.03,  $Z = 5.36$ ,  $p < 0.0001$ ), particularly in deceased donor transplants.<sup>10</sup> Diabetes Mellitus (DM) showed a significant association with CRR2 ( $p = 0.017$ , OR = 5.079, 95% CI: 1.334–19.339). This supports findings by Yao (2025), who reported a significant association between DM and transplant kidney function ( $p < 0.0001$ , OR = 1.52, 95% CI: 1.40–1.64), with low heterogeneity ( $I^2 = 39.3\%$ ,  $p = 0.176$ ). In diabetic patients, microvascular and macrovascular complications, combined with post-transplant steroid-induced hyperglycemia, may exacerbate risks. DM is a known risk factor for cardiovascular morbidity and mortality.<sup>10</sup>

HLA, encoded by the Major Histocompatibility Complex (MHC), plays a crucial role in kidney transplant immunology. Among HLA antigens, HLA-A, HLA-B, and HLA-DR are particularly important for transplant outcomes (Kang, 2023). New guidelines incorporate HLA mismatch grading to assess donor-recipient histocompatibility, based on 14 HLA molecules. Zhao et al. reported increased DGF incidence when HLA mismatch exceeded two factors. This study did not analyze HLA factors due to a lack of electronic medical records (EMR) data.<sup>10</sup> In this study, post-transplant serum creatinine (SCr2) was significantly associated with CRR2 ( $p = 0.001$ , OR = 2.249, 95% CI: 1.402–3.608). Good transplant kidney function is characterized by adequate urine output and a decrease in serum creatinine (Subramaniam K, 2017). Kim J (2019) found that serum creatinine and urine measurements on post-transplant day 2 were most reliable, likely due to elevated renin-angiotensin II levels for up to 48 hours post-surgery. Declining urine output



and rising serum creatinine are early indicators of graft dysfunction.<sup>4,8,10</sup> This study has limitations, this study did not differentiate between warm ischemic time and cold ischemic time, both of which may affect transplant kidney outcomes.

### Conclusion

There was no significant association between ischemic time and early kidney transplant function as measured by CRR2.

### Suggestions

Future research should distinguish and analyze both warm ischemic time and cold ischemic time independently.

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