

Annual Report of Activities of ESPN Working Group

(To be submitted to ESPN Secretary before January 31, 2026)

Name of Working Group	Click or tap here to enter text.
Year	2025
WG Chair	Lars Pape (2024)
WG Board Members	Agnieszka Prytula (2024), Nele Kanzelmeyer (2024), Stephen Marks (2024), Evgenia Preka (2024)
Number of WG Members	103
New members approved this year (2025)	JJ Kim

Brief description of the scope of the WG

(May be repeated every year - max 100 words)

The WG Transplantation is associated with the CERTAIN Registry and the WG Transplantation of ERKnet. Scope is the support of research for transplanted children within the CERTAIN-network, the creation of educational activities in pediatric kidney transplantation and the creation of guidelines.

Research Activities

A. Completed Studies (Title, coordinator):		
See publications		
B. and C.: Ongoing Studies and planned (Title, coordinator):		
StOPping Hypertension and imprOving Children's Lives after KidnEy TranSplantation (SOPHOCLES)	Anette Melk Elke Wühl	Recruiting
Artificial Intelligence and Biomarkers after Pediatric Renal Transplantation: Innovative Tailoring of Immunosuppression. (AIRTrain)	Thurid Ahlenstiel-Grunow	Recruiting
Prospective longitudinal multi-center study evaluating modifiable barriers to accessing transplantation and transplant outcomes in children, in Europe; short title:	Ji Soo Kim Stephen D Marks	Data analysis

European Paediatric Access to Kidney Transplantation (EuPAKT)		
Pathomechanisms for metabolic acidosis post-transplant – a prospective study	Agnieszka Prytula	In preparation
Recurrence of nephrotic syndrome after paediatric kidney transplantation in Europe: risk factors, treatment and outcome. (SRNS 2019)	Antonia Bouts	Data collection ongoing
Arterial hypertension and cardiovascular comorbidity after renal transplantation – triggers, treatment and sequelae. (Hypertension 2020)	Anette Melk Elke Wühl	Data collection ongoing
Kidney transplantation in patients with complement-mediated/atypical hemolytic uremic syndrome (aHUS): management, outcome and risk of recurrence. (aHUS 2024)	Sebastian Loos Raphael Schild	Data collection ongoing
European study on the risks of SARS-CoV-2 infection in paediatric kidney transplant recipients. (COVID-19 2023)	Camille Laroche Stephen D Marks	Data analysis
Target trial emulation with CERTAIN data on late steroid withdrawal	Jon Jin Kim	Data analysis
Infection risk after paediatric kidney transplantation, its determinants, and effects on graft function - a retrospective CERTAIN analysis	Lena Brunkhorst Nele Kanzelmeyer	Data analysis
Hyperparathyroidism after paediatric renal transplantation: risk factors, management strategies and association with longitudinal growth (PTH 2019)	Agnieszka Prytula	Data analysis
Association of immunosuppressive therapy with MMF vs. azathioprine with viremias and hospitalization rates in children during the first two years post-kidney transplant	Evgenia Preka	Data analysis
Long-term outcome after pediatric combined liver and kidney transplantation: A CERTAIN registry analysis (KLTX 2018)	Raphael Schild Jun Oh	Manuscript in preparation
The impact of delayed graft function on rejection and long-term outcome in paediatric kidney transplant recipients - a multicentre matched case-control study	Christian Patry	Manuscript in preparation
Kidney transplantation for IgA vasculitis/nephropathy or IgA nephropathy in childhood	Johannes Holle Dominik Müller	eCRF in preparation
PANDA-Kids-ATLAS: An International, Multicentre Observational Cohort Study on Molecular Profiling of Kidney Allograft Rejection in Paediatric Transplant Recipients	Evgenia Preka	In preparation
Prospects of success and complications in patients with cystinosis after kidney transplantation	Katharina Hofenfellner	Analysis plan in preparation
Assessing the long-term outcome of various management approaches to <i>de novo</i> DSA formation with no rejection in Pediatric Kidney transplant recipients	Daniella Levy Erez	Analysis plan in preparation

Donation after circulatory death	Jelena Stojanovic	Analysis plan in preparation
Biomarkers for paediatric transplantation in children (BioPTIC)	Stephen D Marks	Analysis plan in preparation
Effect of dyslipidaemia on graft function and cardiovascular measures	Anette Melk	In preparation
Risk factors for PTLD	Britta Hoecker	Analysis plan in preparation
Patient-reported outcome measures in paediatric KTx	Anke Doyon	Analysis plan in preparation

Guideline Projects

A. Completed (Title, coordinator)
Immunosuppression after Kidney Transplantation, Lars Pape
B. Ongoing (Title, coordinator):
None
A. Planned (Title, coordinator):
None

WG Meetings (Date – Place)

CERTAIN / ESPN WG Tx meeting Essen, 11./12.04.2025 CERTAIN / ESPN WG Tx meeting Heidelberg, 05./06.11.2025

Publications

A. Published papers:
1. Incidence, risk factors, management strategies and outcomes of antibody-mediated rejection in pediatric kidney transplant recipients – a multicenter analysis of the Cooperative European Paediatric Renal Transplant Initiative (CERTAIN). Alexander Fichtner, Laura Gauché, Caner Süsal, Thuong Hien Tran, Rüdiger Waldherr, Kai Krupka, Isabella Guzzo, Andrea Carraro, Jun Oh, Matthias Zirngibl, Marcus Weitz, Jens König, Anja Büscher, Laszlo Berta, Thomas Simon, Atif Awan, Krisztina Rusai, Rezan Topaloglu, Licia Peruzzi, Nikoleta Printza, Jon Jin Kim, Lutz T. Weber, Anette Melk,

Lars Pape, Susanne Rieger, Christian Patry, Britta Höcker, Burkhard Tönshoff. <i>Pediatr Nephrol.</i> 2025 Feb;40(2):491-503. 2. Risk of cellular or antibody-mediated rejection in pediatric kidney transplant recipients with BK polyomavirus replication – an international CERTAIN registry study. Alexander Fichtner, Jeremy Schmidt, Caner Süsal, Andrea Carraro, Jun Oh, Matthias Zirngibl, Sabine König, Isabella Guzzo, Lutz T. Weber, Atif Awan, Kai Krupka, Paul Schnitzler, Hans H. Hirsch, Burkhard Tönshoff, Britta Höcker. <i>Pediatr Nephrol.</i> 2025 Mar;40(3):835-848. 3. Microvascular Inflammation of Kidney Allografts and Clinical Outcomes. Marta Sablik, Aurélie Sannier, Marc Raynaud, Valentin Goutaudier, Gillian Divard, Brad C. Astor., Patricia Weng, Jodi Smith, Rouba Garro, Bradley A. Warady, Rima S. Zahr, Katherine Twombly, Vikas R. Dharnidharka, Raja S. Dandamudi, Marc Fila, Edmund Huang, Anne-Laure Sellier-Leclerc, Burkhard Tönshoff, Marion Rabant, Jérôme Verine, Arnaud del Bello, Thierry Berney, Olivia Boyer, Rusan Ali Catar, Richard Danger, Magali Giral, Daniel Yoo, François R. Girardin, Alaa Alsadi, Pierre-Antoine Gourraud, Emmanuel Morelon, Moglie Le Quintrec, Mélanie Try, Jean Villard, Weixiong Zhong, Oriol Bestard, Klemens Budde, Bertrand Chauveau, Lionel Couzi, Sophie Brouard, Julien Hogan, Christophe Legendre, Dany Anglicheau, Olivier Aubert, Nassim Kamar, Carmen Lefaucheur, and Alexandre Loupy. <i>N Engl J Med.</i> 2025 Feb 20;392(8):763-776. 4. International validation of a pre-transplant risk assessment tool for graft survival in pediatric kidney transplant recipients. Loes Oomen, Liesbeth L. de Wall, Burkhard Tönshoff, Kai Krupka, Jerome Harambat, Julien Hogan, Cécile Couchoud, Emilie Savoye, Huib de Jong, Elisabeth A.M. Cornelissen, Antonia H.M. Bouts, Mandy G. Keijzer-Vee, Wout F.J. Feitz, Charlotte M.H.H.T. Bootsma-Robroeks. <i>Clin Kidney J.</i> 2025 Jan 28;18(3):sfaf031. 5. Factors associated with statural growth in pediatric kidney transplant recipients, with a focus on metabolic acidosis. Agnieszka Prytula, Dries Reynders, Els Goetghebeur, Kai Krupka, Justine Bacchetta, Nele Kanzelmeyer, Isabella Guzzo, Raffaella Labbadia, Elisa Benetti, Mohan Shenoy, Anne-Laure Sellier-Leclerc, Jun Oh, Mieczysław Litwin, Jacek Rubik, Atif Awan, Ilmay Bilge, Lutz Weber, Dominik Müller, Thomas Simon, Lars Pape and Burkhard Tönshoff. <i>Pediatr Nephrol.</i> 2025 Jun;40(6):2059-2070. 6. Incidence and determinants of graft failure and death with functioning graft after re-transplantation. Ferran Coens, Els Goetghebeur, Dries Reynders, Ineke Tiekens, Serge Vogelaar, Kai Krupka, Ann Raes, Frans Claas, Burkhard Tönshoff and Agnieszka Prytula. <i>Pediatr Nephrol.</i> 2025 Dec;40(12):3761-3774. 7. Association of intrapatient tacrolimus variability and concentration-to-dose ratio with outcomes in pediatric kidney transplantation. Maral Baghai Arassi, Nora Fisch, Manuel Feit, Kai Krupka, Britta Höcker, Alexander Fichtner, Nele Kanzelmeyer, Jens König, Anette Melk, Jun Oh, Lars Pape, Lutz T. Weber, Marcus Weitz, Burkhard Tönshoff. <i>Pediatr Nephrol.</i> 2025 Dec;40(12):3743-3754.	B. Submitted papers: 1. Risk assessment of delayed graft function in pediatric kidney transplantation - A CERTAIN research network analysis. Christian Patry, Miriam Boung, Manuel Feit, Kai Krupka, Britta Höcker, Lars Pape, Nele Kanzelmeyer, Lutz T. Weber, Jun Oh, Atif Awan, Thomas Simon, Licia Peruzzi, Ali Duzova, Jon Jin Kim, Mohan Shenoy, Claus P. Schmitt, Alexander Fichtner, Burkhard Tönshoff. <i>Submitted to Transplant International</i> 2. Management of children and adolescents with failing kidney allografts – a review of current practice across Europe. Zainab Arslan, Agnieszka Prytula-Ebels, Anne Laure Sellier-Leclerc, Antonia Bouts, Augustina Jankauskiene, Ariane Zaloszy, Alex Lalayiannis, Brankica Spasojevic, Claus Schmitt, Diletta Torres, Elisa Benetti, Esra Baskin, Helen Jones, Isabella Guzzo, Ismail Dursun, Kai Krupka, Lucy Plumb, Jérôme Harambat, Moritz Scheerer, Maria Sameiro Faria, Martin Christian, Mohan Shenoy, Nikoleta
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Printza, Nur Canpolat, Sara Testa, Sevcen Bakkaloglu, Simon Thomas, Victor Hugo Martins, Burkhard Tönshoff, Rukshana Shroff. *Submitted to Pediatr Nephrol*.

3. Lower cumulative blood pressure after pediatric kidney transplantation is associated with better graft function and survival: A longitudinal analysis of the CERTAIN registry. Rizky I. Sugianto, Carl Grabitz, Ali Duzova, Isabella Guzzo, Sabine König, Jun Oh, Mieczyslaw Litwin, Lars Pape, Anja Büscher, Anne-Laure Sellier-Leclerc, Licia Peruzzi, Sara Testa, Günter Klaus, Ilmay Bilge, Julien Hogan, Ortraud Beringer, Kai Krupka, Burkhard Tönshoff, Bernhard M. W. Schmidt, Elke Wühl, Anette Melk. *Submitted to Kidney International*.

4. The HPVaxResponse Study: a prospective, multicenter study on the immunogenicity of nonavalent HPV vaccination in children and adolescents before and after solid organ transplantation. Britta Höcker, Alexander Fichtner, Susanne Rieger, Paul Schnitzler, Kai Krupka, Isabella Guzzo, Lars Pape, Anja Büscher, Marcus Weitz, Atif Awan, Antonia H. M. Bouts, Nikoleta Printza, Sabine König, Jun Oh, Elke Lainka, Laura Prieto, Ortraud Beringer, Peter Sehr, Tim Waterboer, Julia A. Butt, Burkhard Tönshoff. *Submitted to Am J Transplant*.

Presentations at conferences during the year 2025

Oral and Poster presentations (published abstracts):

There have been numerous presentations at different congresses that we have not collected. Due to the high number of publications, the abstracts are probably not relevant.

Collaborations with other WGs or Scientific Societies

ERKNET WG Tx, IPTA, CERTAIN

Grants/finance support during the year 2025 (Start-End date)

JJ Kim, ESPN WG Grant 2025, Trial Emulation in Certain / Steroid Withdrawal

Appendix

List of all current WG members in 2024

(Please denote new members approved in 2024 with an asterisk (*))

Name	Surname	Country	E-mail
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