

Title of the project:	
Evaluation of allocation criteria in paediatric kidney transplantation – a vignette study	
Principal investigator	Year of award
Leonie Greipel	Young Investigator Award 2023
Please provide an overall summary of the project (max 500 words)	
Donor kidneys are allocated to potential pediatric kidney transplant recipients based on criteria such as HLA immunology, but explicit guidance for accepting deceased-donor kidney offers is lacking. The final decision on a pediatric kidney transplant offer depends on the clinical on duty. Based on a precedent survey on factors with potential influence on the acceptance of a kidney offer, a vignette matrix consisting of 128 fictitious kidney offers was designed. This matrix includes seven dimensions with two levels each: mismatches on HLA A, B, C ($\leq 3/\geq 4$); mismatches on HLA DR, DQ ($\leq 2/\geq 3$); donor estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR) ($\geq 50/\leq 49$ mL/min/1.73m²); donor age ($\leq 1/2$-50 years); recipient age ($\leq 1/\geq 2$ years); recipient status (preemptive/on dialysis); donor history of sepsis or bacterial infection (yes/no). All vignettes were divided into 8 sets with 16 vignettes each. Between December 2024 and February 2025, clinicians involved in pediatric kidney transplantation evaluated a randomly assigned vignette set. Mixed-effects logistic regression assessed factors associated with acceptance. Forty participants from eleven allocation organizations in Europe, Iran and Canada, most commonly Eurotransplant (58%), including eight European countries, responded to 533 fictitious kidney offers (3-6 responses per vignette). In the multivariate analysis, four of the seven vignette dimensions decreased acceptance of the kidney offer: ≥ 4 HLA A, B, C mismatches ($p=0.011$), ≥ 3 HLA DR, DQ mismatches ($p<0.001$), donor eGFR ≤ 49 mL/min/1.73 m² ($p<0.001$), or donor age ≤ 1 year ($p=0.003$). Recipient age, dialysis status, and donor sepsis/bacterial infection had no significant impact. Allocation organization and respondent characteristics (gender, experience) did not materially influence decisions. In this study, decisions on pediatric kidney offers were guided by factors such as HLA mismatches, donor eGFR and donor age, independent of participant's allocation organization. This underlines the potential value of investigating the impact of these factors on kidney transplantation outcome.	
How was the grant used for the project? (max 200 words)	
The grant was used for statistical and biometrical analysis support.	
Please list all publications completed, with links to open access publications where available	
Greipel, L., Xiaofei, L., Preka, E., Brunkhorst, L., Tönshoff, B., Haffner, D., Kanzelmeyer, N. Factors influencing the acceptance of deceased donor kidney transplant offers in children - a vignette survey. (under Review at Clinical Kidney Journal)	
Are any other publications planned?	

Please list all presentations relating to the project

Greipel, L., Preka, E., Tönshoff, B., Kanzelmeyer, N. Factors influencing the acceptance of a kidney offer to potential pediatric kidney transplant recipients – a European survey. 20th Congress of the International Pediatric Nephrology Association, Cape Town, South Africa, 19.-23.02.2025, E-Poster

Greipel, L., Xiaofei, L., Preka, E., Tönshoff, B., Kanzelmeyer, N. A vignette survey on the acceptance of a kidney offer for pediatric kidney transplantation. 13th Congress of the International Pediatric Transplant Association, Berlin, Germany, 18.-21.09.2025, Oral Presentation

Greipel, L., Xiaofei, L., Preka, E., Tönshoff, B., Kanzelmeyer, N. Acceptance of a kidney offer to potential pediatric kidney transplant recipients – a vignette survey. 57th Annual Meeting of the European Society of Paediatric Nephrology, Athens, Greece, 15.-18.10.2025, Oral Presentation