

# Dengue Infection in Kidney Transplant Patients

## An Appraisal on Clinical Manifestation

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Dengue infection is a common tropical mosquito-borne infection. It manifests as high fever accompanied with thrombocytopenia. Kidney transplant patients, similar to general population, might be involved with this infection. The natural course of dengue infection is of interest among researchers dealing with kidney transplantation in tropical areas. Here, a small retrospective analysis on 5 previously published papers on 36 kidney allograft recipients with this condition is presented.<sup>1-5</sup> Overall, 44.4% of the patients required hospitalization. The symptoms included fever (100%), muscular pain (92.5%), malaise (81.3%), headache (84.3 %), and watery diarrhea (2.8%). Laboratory findings were thrombocytopenia (100%), leukopenia (100%), and elevated serum transaminase levels (2.8%). Concerning on the complications of dengue, acute colitis (2.8%), dengue shock (2.8%), and death were reported (2.8%). Of interest, the clinical manifestation of dengue in kidney transplantation is not different from that in the general population. However, a significant aspect is the detection of leukopenia which is different from that in the general population among whom leukocytosis with atypical lymphocytes is predominant. This might be due to the fact that the kidney transplant patients must be on immunosuppressive drug.

Overall, although some authors noted that dengue had a benign presentation in kidney transplant patients,<sup>3</sup> there were still considerable number of complicated cases in the so far reported studies.

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