

ISHLT Monograph Series Volume 6: ISHLT Guidelines for the Care of Heart Transplant Recipients

PREFACE

This Monograph contains the complete work of three separate taskforces, supported by the ISHLT Standards and Guidelines Committee and approved by the ISHLT Board of Directors. Each of the three taskforces (represented by Parts 1-3 in this Monograph) was chaired by one of the three editors, who received contributions from an international group of experts within ISHLT.

Throughout the guidelines, background extensive literature review is followed by specific recommendations, using the following classes of recommendations and level of evidence:

Class I	Evidence and/or general agreement that a given treatment or procedure is beneficial, useful and effective
Class II	Conflicting evidence and/or divergence of opinion about the usefulness/efficacy of the treatment or procedure
Class IIa	Weight of evidence/opinion is in favor of usefulness/efficacy
Class IIb	Usefulness/efficacy is less well established by evidence/opinion
Class III	Evidence or general agreement that the treatment or procedure is not useful or effective and in some cases may be harmful
Level of Evidence A	Data derived from multiple randomized clinical trials or meta-analyses
Level of Evidence B	Data derived from a single randomized clinical trial or large non-randomized studies
Level of Evidence C	Consensus of opinion of the experts and/or small studies, retrospective studies, registries

This exhaustive composition is authoritative and contemporary, reflecting expert current practice as well as knowledge gaps that will help shape future studies.

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Editor
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