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## IN BRIEF

### TRANSPLANTATION

#### Late loss of DCD kidneys in children

Kidneys donated after cardiac death (DCD) are used in a small but increasing number of pediatric recipients, but little is known about outcomes in this group. Adults receiving DCD kidneys have similar graft and patient survival to those receiving kidneys donated after brain death but a higher risk of delayed graft function. However, authors of a new study urge caution in the use of DCD kidneys in pediatric recipients after finding that children who received such kidneys were at increased risk of graft loss, starting 4 years after transplantation.

**Original article** Van Arendonk, K. J. *et al.* Late graft loss among pediatric recipients of DCD kidneys. *Clin. J. Am. Soc. Nephrol.* doi:10.2215/CJN.03760411

### POLYCYSTIC KIDNEY DISEASE

#### Macrophages involved in cyst growth in PKD

A recent study suggests that inhibiting the homing and proliferative signals of macrophages might slow cyst growth in polycystic kidney disease (PKD). Karihaloo *et al.* found that numbers of alternatively activated macrophages were abnormally high around cysts in orthologous mouse models of PKD. They found that proliferation of cyst-lining cells was reduced in macrophage-depleted mice compared with control mice, and that cystic index was lower, renal parenchyma were better preserved and renal function was improved.

**Original article** Karihaloo, A. *et al.* Macrophages promote cyst growth in polycystic kidney disease. *J. Am. Soc. Nephrol.* 22, 1809–1814 (2011)

### GLOMERULAR DISEASE

#### EGFR inhibitors: useful in glomerulonephritis?

Epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) inhibitors might be beneficial in rapidly progressive glomerulonephritis (RPGN), say researchers. Bollée *et al.* identified *de novo* induction of heparin-binding epidermal growth factor-like growth factor (HB-EGF, which increases phosphorylation of EGFR) in podocytes from mice and humans with RPGN. HB-EGF-deficient mice did not show EGFR activation in glomeruli and the disease course was improved. Deleting *Egfr* from mouse podocytes reduced RPGN severity, and use of EGFR blockers improved the disease course.

**Original article** Bollée, G. *et al.* Epidermal growth factor receptor promotes glomerular injury and renal failure in rapidly progressive crescentic glomerulonephritis. *Nat. Med.* doi:10.1038/nm.2491

### ANEMIA

#### Peginesatide for correction of renal anemia

The synthetic, investigational, peptide-based erythropoiesis-stimulating agent peginesatide can increase hemoglobin level in patients with chronic kidney disease who are not on dialysis, say researchers. Macdougall *et al.* treated 139 patients with peginesatide in 10 different cohorts (differing in dose, frequency and route of administration). Administering peginesatide every 4 weeks increased and maintained hemoglobin levels.

**Original article** Macdougall, I. C. *et al.* Dose-finding study of peginesatide for anemia correction in chronic kidney disease patients. *Clin. J. Am. Soc. Nephrol.* doi:10.2215/CJN.10831210