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CUSTODIOL®

HTK Solution

The Cold Standard

"Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow." - Anon.

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Histidine-Tryptophan-Ketoglutarate Solution vs. University of Wisconsin Solution for Liver Transplantation: A Systematic Review



CUSTODIOL® HTK: The solution of Choice for Canadian transplant professionals

This recent meta analysis, published in the American Journal of Liver Transplantation, examines the safety and efficacy of Custodiol® HTK in liver transplantation. Ten articles, including eleven comparisons encompassing 1,200 patients, met the inclusion criteria for review.

While both solutions were shown to be effective organ protectors, over the years some limitations of UW solution have been identified. These included the risk of hyperkalemic cardiac arrest, high viscosity, ischemic-type biliary complications, microcirculatory disturbances by undissolved particles, and high cost.

The author also mentioned that in clinical practice many advantages of Custodiol® HTK have been observed, such as "low

potassium concentration, low viscosity, no particles, in situ perfusion, no need to flush before reperfusion, improved biliary protection, better recovery of microcirculatory changes and low cost". Furthermore, bile production after DCD liver transplantation was noted to be significantly higher with Custodiol® HTK. From a practical point of view because Custodiol® HTK does not need to be flushed away by a plasma product, it is easier to use and allows surgeons to perform anastomoses without interruption.

Custodiol® HTK was thought to be more cost-effective, more effective for biliary tract flush and prevention of biliary complications, and may be the better choice for use in extended criteria, DCD donor organs, and livers with existing ischemia type re-perfusion injury.

Transplantation Meeting Calendar

November 11-14, 2007

2007 Organ Donation Congress

Loews Philadelphia Hotel
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
www.isodp2007.org

February 27- March 2, 2008

2008 - CST Annual Scientific Meeting

The Fairmount Tremblant
Mont-Tremblant, Québec
<http://cst-transplant.ca>

May 31-June 4, 2008

2008 American Transplant Congress

Metro Toronto Convention Centre
Toronto, Ontario
www.astso.org

Heart arrives despite near miss

Each year thousands of people globally receive life saving organ transplants because of the often heroic efforts of those who have been charged with the safety of those organs. Laura Whitworth, a two-year-old girl, is one of these recipients. Laura has been given a new lease on life thanks to a heart transplant and the quick thinking of the donor organ's delivery driver.

Laura was airlifted 200 miles from a hospital in Leeds to London for the operation when a heart became available. It had been a year since she was diagnosed with a serious condition which left her with an enlarged heart, and at the time it was feared she might not survive the journey.

While Laura was being prepared for the transplant another drama was unfolding 10 miles away. The ambulance carrying her "new" heart was forced to swerve after a car pulled into its path. As a result, the ambulance hit the curb and caused two tires to blow out, leaving the driver stranded in the knowledge that every minute lost could be vital to the success of Laura's transplant.

The driver managed to flag down a passing motorist who took him *and the heart* to the nearest police station. Thanks to the quick thinking of the driver, the help of a passer-by, and the police, the heart arrived at the hospital in time for Laura to undergo a successful operation!

Do you have a suggestion for a topic to use in our future newsletters? Please contact Rob Sanderson at 1.800.287.7686 x 7231