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Lifeline Scientific's LifePort® Kidney Transporter demonstrates clear advantages over traditional ice box storage

Results of a clinical trial presented for the first time yesterday at the European Society of Transplantation (ESOT) show that preserving a deceased donor kidney with the LifePort® Kidney Transporter increases the likelihood of it functioning immediately post transplantation compared with the current standard practice of static storage using ice in a cool box. When cases of delayed graft function (DGF) did occur, the impact was significantly reduced when LifePort was used.

A patient who receives a kidney that is affected by DGF will be required to receive post-transplant dialysis treatment. DGF is also associated with an increased risk of organ rejection and greater costs to the healthcare system.

The Machine Preservation Trial compared outcomes in 338 pairs of kidneys, one preserved with machine preservation on the LifePort and the other by static ice box storage. The statistically significant results showed that DGF occurred in 20.8% of kidneys preserved with LifePort compared with 26.5% in kidneys preserved with static storage, and lasted for just 8 days with machine preservation compared with 13 days for static storage.

The trial also shows that machine preservation protects against graft loss. Only 76% of DGF kidneys preserved by static storage survived six months, compared with 87% of DGF kidneys preserved with machine preservation, a statistically significant improvement. In all patients, graft survival at six months after transplantation is significantly improved with machine preservation compared to static storage. Patients will continue to be monitored and further data will be extracted from the study. The study data is being submitted for peer reviewed publication.

“The results of this trial demonstrate the clear benefits of machine preservation from donor to recipient using the LifePort Kidney Transporter compared with traditional static ice box storage.” said David Kravitz, Chief Executive of Lifeline Scientific, Inc. “It is our hope that LifePort may significantly raise the quality and quantity of kidneys available for transplant as well as improve clinical outcomes for recipients.”

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About the Machine Preservation Trial

The Machine Preservation Trial is the first, prospective, statistically powered, randomized, controlled, multicentre trial to investigate the efficacy, cost effectiveness and practicalities of continuous hypothermic machine perfusion from donor to recipient versus static storage in deceased donor kidneys. The trial lasted for two years.

The Machine Preservation Trial was conducted in collaboration with Eurotransplant and the Deutsche Stiftung Organtransplantation ("DSO"). Since 1 November 2005, all cadaveric kidney donors over 16 years of age from Belgium, The Netherlands and the DSO Region Nordrhein-Westfalen Germany were considered for enrollment in the trial. The trial was sponsored by Organ Recovery Systems, an operating business of Lifeline Scientific.

About the LifePort Kidney Transporter

Created with the challenges of organ recovery and transport in mind, LifePort Kidney Transporter is designed to provide improved kidney preservation, evaluation and transport prior to transplantation. LifePort provides a sealed, sterile, protected environment where a solution is gently pumped through the kidney at cold temperatures to minimize damage while the organ is outside the body. LifePort is lightweight and portable, allowing organs to be perfused from the time of recovery until transplant. It is designed to travel unaccompanied by land or air, safely transporting the kidneys across town or between countries. While the kidney is being perfused, the LifePort records data on temperature, flow rate, vascular resistance and pressure every 10 seconds providing surgeons with additional data prior to transplant. During its pilot introduction, over 230 LifePorts have been installed in 75 transplant programmes worldwide treating more than 8,000 kidneys.

About Lifeline Scientific, Inc.

Lifeline Scientific, Inc. is a Chicago-based global medical technology company with European headquarters located in Brussels. Its primary focus is to commercialise its FDA approved, CE marked, clinical validated and revenue generating LifePort Kidney Transporter. Devices for preservation of the heart, lung, pancreas and liver are in late stage pre-clinical development. Its fully owned subsidiary, Bowman Research, was organized to develop and market a proprietary family of drug development tools for pharmaceutical and biotechnology industry.

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