Reviewer’s report

Title: Bloodstream infection following 217 consecutive systemic-enteric drained pancreas transplants

Version: 1 Date: 17 December 2005

Reviewer: Ron Shapiro

Reviewer’s report:

General This is a retrospective review of a reasonably large single center experience in pancreas transplantation at one of the large important transplant programs in Europe. The authors looked at the incidence of sepsis after pancreatic transplantation, and both examined the etiologies in detail, and the impact of sepsis on patient and pancreatic allograft survival.

Basically, for all of the limitations of being a retrospective analysis, this is a pretty good paper and should be accepted for publication after minor essential revisions are made (see below).

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached) None

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

In general, the grammar is imperfect, and the whole paper should be revised by a native English speaker to correct a number of relatively minor errors.

The authors comment that sepsis was associated with decreased pancreatic graft survival, but no difference in patient survival. For the sake of completeness, the authors should also analyze kidney graft survival in patients with and without sepsis.

The authors describe the immunologic and technical graft loss rates in the discussion, but really do not mention them in the results section. They should do so.

Once these changes are made, the paper will be a very nice contribution.

If the editors prefer, I would be happy to review the revised manuscript again.

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests
Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.