

1th step

Primary Audience: Heart Failure & Transplantation Secondary Audience: Basic Science & Translational; Infectious D Pediatric Transplantation; Pharmacy & Pharmacology	Identify Audience
Title: Controversies in Heart Transplantation: How Low Can You Go? – Tailoring Immunosuppression	
Symposium Summary: Immunosuppression management balances the risks of under-immunosuppression and allograft rejection. Recent studies have demonstrated the efficacy of gene expression profiling and the T-cell immune response. However, the ISHLT registry indicates that a significant number of patients require immunosuppressant therapy at 5 years. This session will focus on the minimization of immunosuppression as well as the debates of controversial issues.	Summarize the Goals & Need for the Symposium
Need for Symposium & Objectives: New strategies have emerged for immune surveillance; however, despite this almost half of heart transplant recipients remain on triple immunosuppressive therapies. This symposium will serve to review current immunosurveillance and will conclude with: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To review the pharmacology and pharmacodynamics of immunosuppressants.2. To understand strategies for immunosuppression maintenance.3. To understand approaches for immunosurveillance.4. To understand measures to assess the quality of transitions of care.5. To understand resource utilization and impact of the national programs on transitional care.	Identify Clear Objectives to Guide the Speakers
Discussion Format: Panel discussion at end of session Session Length: 120 minutes	Specify the Design



2nd step

Presentations (15 minutes each):

Presentation 1: Back to Basics: Pharmacology & Pharmacodynamics of Immunosuppressants

- **Objectives:**
 - To discuss the pharmacology of currently available immunosuppressants.
 - To discuss the pharmacodynamics of currently available immunosuppressants.
 - To review emerging immunosuppressants

Presentation 2: The ABCs of Immunosuppression: Approaches to Maintenance Immunosuppression in Heart Transplantation

- **Objectives:**
 - To review varying approaches to maintenance immunosuppression with impact on

- Identify the Presentations
- Provide Objectives for Each Presentation
- Identify Primary and Backup Speakers
- Identify Session Co-Chairs & Backup Co-Chairs

Pro: Endomyocardial biopsy is standard for rejection surveillance
Con: Endomyocardial biopsy should not be used for rejection surveillance

Objectives:

- To debate methods of rejection surveillance and utility of endomyocardial biopsy and gene-expression profiling

Debate 2: How much is enough? -

Pro: Tacrolimus use should be in conjunction with other immunosuppressants
Con: Tacrolimus monotherapy is sufficient immunosuppression.

Objectives:

- To debate pros and cons of varying approaches to immunosuppression maintenance