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Risk factors for long-term mortality in live liver donors

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Introduction: long-term outcome in live liver donors remains in question. The aim of this study was to evaluate the long-term survival outcome and related factors of live liver donors in Korea.

Methods: Liver donors who were registered in the Korean Network Organ Sharing (KONOS) between February 2000 and December 2015 were included in this study.

Results: During the observation period, there were 52 deaths among 10,116 live liver donors. Median (interquartile range) follow-up was 5.71 (2.88-9.35) years. Univariate analyses showed that factors significantly associated with mortality after donation were individuals aged 50 to 59 years (HR 6.19, 95% CI 2.78–13.79, P<0.001), aged 60 years or older (HR 16.49, 95% CI 3.82–71.17, P<0.001), and divorced people (HR 7.13, 95% CI 2.81–18.10, P<0.001). Unemployed people (HR 9.39, 95% CI 2.51–35.09, P=0.001) and office workers (HR 3.82, 95% CI 1.27–11.52, P=0.017) were also associated with higher rates of long-term death compared with students. Donor sex, blood type, BMI, smoking or alcoholic habit, level of education, center volume, graft type, donor operation time, year of operation, recipient age, and recipient death were not significantly associated with mortality after donation (P>0.05). Multivariate analyses showed divorce (HR 7.075, 95% CI 2.57–19.51, P<0.001) and unemployment (HR 6.969, 95% CI 1.73–28.1, P=0.006) were significant factors of mortality after donation.

Conclusions: Careful health checkup should be continued and long-term risk information and informed consent should be given especially in live liver donors with risk factors.

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