

# **Epidemiology of glomerulonephritis in Swiss kidney transplant recipients**

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Glomerulonephritis (GN) are a group of rare and heterogeneous diseases, which damage the glomerulus (filter) of the kidney. Even if their origins are multiple, they are often secondary to defects of the immune system and are therefore treated with immunosuppressive drugs. Despite being relatively uncommon (incidence rate of 0.6/100'000 in the western part of Switzerland), they are responsible for 15% of cases of end stage renal disease (ESRD). Moreover, a recent study showed that currently, renal lesions tend to be more severe at the time of diagnosis than 10 years ago. Thus, we are facing a probable rise in the cases of ESRD due to GN in the coming years, and consequently of GN patients needing kidney transplantation. However, because of the previous use of immunosuppressive drugs and inherent immune dysfunction, patients with GN might be more at risk of complications after transplantation, such as recurrence of the initial GN, graft rejection, cancers or infections, as compared to other transplant recipients.

To date, data are scarce regarding the post-transplantation course of GN patients. The goal of our study is to provide epidemiological and clinical data, taking advantage of the ongoing prospective Swiss Transplant Cohort Study (STCS). Our detailed analysis will contribute to improve the care of GN patients, in particular graft and patient outcome after kidney transplantation. Moreover, our data will provide evidence to help discuss benefits and risks when preparing a kidney transplantation with GN patients and their family.