

PEDIATRIC LIVER TRANSPLANTATION: INDICATIONS AND TECHNICAL PROCEDURES

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Abstract. *Liver transplantation is considered a life-saving procedure, being accepted as therapeutical method in the end-stage liver diseases. For children, liver transplantation is sometimes the only one therapeutical approach, but associated with risks.*

This study was conducted on a group of 31 children with liver transplantation for end-stage liver diseases between 2000-2009 in the Center of General Surgery and Liver Transplantation from Fundeni Clinical Institute, with the analysis of the indication for transplantation, surgical technical procedure and the postoperative outcome.

Keywords: indications, technical procedures, pediatric liver transplantation.

1. Introduction

In the today's surgery, liver transplantation is considered a life-saving procedure, being currently accepted as therapeutical method in end-stage liver diseases.

For both surgeons and researchers, the success of liver transplantation has led to extension of indications and at the same time to the reassessment of surgical treatment in the advanced stages of acute or chronic liver diseases, regarded without therapeutical approach.

Unlike the adult, to whom liver transplantation is considered in the terminal stage of liver disease, for children this can be sometimes the only one therapeutical option associated with important risks.

The first pediatric liver transplantation was performed by Professor T. E. Starzl in Denver, Colorado in 1967, to a one-year patient with hepatolastoma, with a 12-month survival. This famous achievement led to

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