

International recommendations for screening and preventative practices for long-term survivors of transplant and cell therapy

A collaborative study across 30 international transplant and cell therapy experts

Study details:

An international group of experts updated the consensus guidelines for post-transplant care and long-term screening of survivors after hematopoietic cell transplantation (HCT) and cell therapies. The guidelines, initially established in 2006 and last revised in 2012, were updated to reflect the latest advancements and challenges in patient care. The process involved a collaborative effort of 30 experts who reviewed the relevant literature and used a structured voting process to achieve consensus on each recommendation. Guidelines were classified based on the strength of the supporting evidence, focusing on optimizing long-term care and survivorship planning.

Results at a glance:

- New recommendations emphasize **tailored care** for long-term survivors, considering their specific HCT indications and comorbidities.
- A consensus-driven approach ensures that the guidelines are **both evidence-based and reflect expert opinion**, providing a reliable framework for health care providers.
- Recommendations are **categorized by major organ systems and other critical health areas**, allowing for a comprehensive approach to post-transplant care.

Figure: Sample updated long-term follow-up recommendations by organ system category.

Category	Recommendation
Immunity and infections	All survivors should be offered a full vaccination program according to published guidelines considering patient age and country recommendations
Respiratory complications	PFTs at initial diagnosis of any cGVHD, then at least spirometry every 3 to 6 months until discontinuation of all systemic IST got cGVHD
Cardiac and vascular complications	Start HbA1c screening for insulin resistance/diabetes at 3–6 months post-HCT, then annually if low risk; high risk: every 6 months
Subsequent malignant neoplasms	Encourage avoidance of high-risk behaviors, unhealthy diet

Clinical impact:

The updated guidelines are crucial for improving long-term outcomes for HCT and cell therapy survivors. By providing health care providers with enhanced tools for decision-making in screening and preventative treatment, these guidelines will help recognize and address longer-term risk factors more effectively, including the early detection of graft-versus-host disease (GVHD). Wide dissemination and implementation of these guidelines are essential for advancing the field and ensuring that patients receive the most up-to-date and effective care strategies.

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Read the published abstract in Transplantation and Cellular Therapy (DOI: [10.1016/j.jtct.2023.12.001](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jtct.2023.12.001)).

Post-transplant care guidelines

NMDPSM adapted the guidelines for distribution through a mobile app and online, making it easier for clinicians to access and implement into practice.

[Access the guidelines](#)