

## **MONITORING OF CYCLOSPORINE TROUGH LEVELS AT VARIOUS POST-TRANSPLANT PERIODS IN RENAL GRAFT RECIPIENTS ON MICROEMULSION CYCLOSPORINE (PANIMUN BIORAL)**

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Measurement of Cyclosporine blood and serum levels are useful in clinical application of the drug. High trough levels and nephrotoxicity or low trough levels and rejection are by no means accurate barometer of immunomodulation. HPLC is highly specific and precise method of choice. 210 Blood Trough Levels in 85 renal transplant patients were measured by HPLC. These patients were divided into 6 groups on the basis of post-transplant period. All these patients received Panimun Bioral in b.i.d. dosage. The mean blood levels of cyclosporine in different post-transplant periods will be presented.

We observed that  $91 \pm 3.4\%$  of blood levels were above 100 ng/ml and only 2.17% were below 50 ng/ml in this study. Our analysis shows that to maintain the therapeutic trough levels in the range of 200-300 ng/ml between 2-4 weeks and 1-3 months, cyclosporine (Panimun Bioral) dose required was 4.74 - 7.09 mg/kg and 3.62 - 5.43 mg/kg respectively. After 3 months, upto 2 years 2.40 - 4.0 mg/kg was sufficient to keep the blood levels between 150 - 250 ng/ml. We conclude that Panimun Bioral was able to generate sufficient blood levels required for long-term immunosuppressive therapy with cyclosporine.