ATC 2018 in Review

The American Transplant Congress (ATC) is an annual meeting hosted by the American Society of Transplant Surgeons (ASTS.org) and the American Society of Transplantation (myAST.org). Designed for the transplant professional, this meeting focuses on creating a forum for physicians, surgeons, scientists, nurses, organ procurement personnel, and pharmacists to collaborate, to exchange new scientific and clinical information, to review management techniques of recipients, and to facilitate discussion on socioeconomic, ethical and regulatory issues, all surrounding solid organ and tissue transplantation. Northwestern’s Comprehensive Transplant Center (CTC) had a strong presence this year with several members chairing or moderating panel discussions and presenting. Featured below are just a few presenters from our institution:

Transplant Center QAPI and Advanced Leadership: Navigating the Complex Regulatory Waters
- Advanced Transplant Leadership Crisis Management featured Michael Abecassis, MD, on “Crisis Management: Overall Concepts”
- Advanced Transplant Leadership Regulatory Readiness featured Gwen McNatt, APRN, PhD, on “How to Manage a Survey that is Not Going Well”

Reaching Across the Diaphragm: Dilemmas Posed by Combined Heart and Liver Disease (Case-Focused Discussions) CASE 1: 45 Year Old Female with ESLD Secondary to HCV Complicated by 3cm HCC and Prior History of Atrial Fibrillation Undergoing Evaluation for Liver Transplantation
- Lisa Van Wagner, MD, presented: “Cirrhotic Cardiomyopathy: Myth or Reality?”

Virtual Transplant Diagnostic Testing
- Anat Tambur, PhD, presented: “Predicting Lymphocyte Crossmatch Outcomes Virtually”

Innovation in Transplantation: Leadership and Education
- Gwen McNatt, APRN, PhD, presented: “Effective Communication Skills are Learned Not Born: How to Maximize Your Workplace Communication”

Should I Accept this Donor? When to call your ID Friends at 2AM - A Case-Based Panel
- Michael Ison, MD, presented: “Balancing the Donor Pool”

Viral Infections: State-of-the-Art Prevention
- Michael Ison, MD, presented: “State of the Art Respiratory Viruses”

The Legal and Pseudo-Legal: Navigating Substance Use and Abuse in Transplantation - Part 2
- Zeeshan Butt, PhD, presented: “Getting into The WEEDS: What’s Your Policy on Marijuana Use in the Transplant Candidate?”

Management of the Kidney Waitlist
- John Friedewald, MD, presented: “Real-time vs. Delayed Recipient Workup?”

Achieving Health Equity in Transplantation
- Elisa Gordon, PhD, presented: “Developing Cultural Competency in Transplant Centers to Improve Access to Transplantation”

Efforts to Reduce Organ Discards – Summary of the NKF’s Consensus Conference
- John Friedewald, MD, presented: “Recipient Selection and Allocation”

Biomarkers of Clinical Transplant Tolerance
- James Mathew, PhD, presented: “Phenotypic and Functional Assessment for Clinical Transplant Tolerance”

For more information, please contact Hayden Polancich at hayden.polancich@nm.org