

Preface

Transplantation medicine is a rapidly developing field comprising progress not only in surgical techniques but also in research of new immunosuppressants, technologies, biological agents and tissue engineering. Taking into consideration the above-mentioned fact, many researchers interested in experimental transplantation are not trained in surgery, even though they very often perform surgical experiments. Moreover, it is becoming more frequent for medical graduates preparing at transplantation surgery to start their career with an experimental work. For all those, we try to write a practical guide, describing surgical procedures of single organ transplantation amended with tips and tricks written by experienced authors. Rats were used as an experimental animal model, which are well accepted for transplantation research for many reasons (well-described genetic conditions, physiological and pathological behaviour). The procedures are written in “step-by-step” fashion, with detailed photos and diagrams. All contributors are skilled senior researchers, with long-term practical experience in experimental and clinical transplantation. We hope that this book will be helpful not only for young colleagues to avoid mistakes and so improve their results in experimental transplantation but also for skilled researchers to expand their view in this interesting scientific field.

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