

# Preface

The success of the previous editions of *Transplant Infections*, as a reference work to bring together information directed at the management of the infectious complications occurring specifically in immunocompromised individuals undergoing transplantation, has led to the creation of this fourth edition. No other text focuses solely on exogenously immunosuppressed transplant patients, and no text combines solid organ and hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (historically referred to as bone marrow transplantation). Many texts focus on immunocompromised patients, but the field of transplant infectious diseases has evolved over the past 25 years as a field unto itself, with conferences devoted solely to this specialty, and guidelines, both national and international, being developed for the management of such patients. In addition, peer-reviewed journals now exist that publish information on this specialized area, and training programs devoted to the subspecialty of transplant infectious diseases within the field of infectious disease are being developed.

The field of transplant infectious diseases has continued to grow and expand since the third edition was published in 2009. In this edition, we have continued to highlight differences between solid organ and hematopoietic stem cell transplantation by adding additional chapters where we felt this differentiation would give added value to the readers. We have added a chapter on the new rapidly evolving topic of the microbiome. The major problem of antibacterial resistance has also been addressed more in depth by having separate chapters on gram-negative and gram-positive bacterial infections. We have also expanded some chapters on viral infections, such as the respiratory viruses, since recognition of the importance of these pathogens has grown, and new diagnostic testing is now available in real time. We have added a chapter on long-term care of the transplant recipient, given the success of transplantation and the increasing number of long-term survivors. A number of new authors have been added, and chapters have been substantially revised or completely rewritten.

This edition remains a globally inclusive product of leading authors and investigators from around the world. Perspectives from Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Chile, New Zealand, Western Europe (Italy, Spain, Sweden, Austria, Germany, France, and Switzerland), the United States, Canada, and Israel have been synthesized in this edition.

We continue to believe that much can be learned from appreciating both the similarities and the differences in the pattern of infections and the resulting morbidity and mortality in various transplant settings. Our goal with this textbook is to provide background and knowledge for all practitioners who work with transplant patients, in order to improve both the care and outcomes of transplant recipients and to provide a framework for education of physicians, transplant coordinators, and trainees in the field. As success in the field continues to grow, we hope that this text will provide a knowledge base that would advance the field and make transplantation safer for all who need this lifesaving intervention. We thank all the contributors for their effort and trust the reader will find this a valuable reference text as they care for transplant recipients.

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