General considerations, indications and contraindications for liver transplantation in Chile. A multicenter consensus development document Trasplante hepático en Chile: Aspectos generales, indicaciones y contraindicaciones (Documento de consenso)

Zapata, Rodrigo Buckel, Erwin Martínez, Jorge Uribe, Mario Díaz, Juan Carlos Ferrario, Mario Sanhueza, Edgar Pérez, Rosa María Hunter, Bessie Ríos, Gloria Humeres, Roberto Poniachik, Jaime Oksenberg, Danny

Hepp K., Juan

Arrese, Marco

Liver transplantation is an excellent therapeutic option for terminal liver disease. During the last decades the results of liver transplantation have improved significantly with a patient survival rate of nearly 90% at one year and 80% at 5 years of follow-up. The main indications for liver transplantation include: end-stage liver disease associated to cirrhosis, acute liver failure, and hepatic tumors (mainly hepatocarcinoma). The absolute contraindications for a transplant are less frequent than in the past, and include: severe co-morbidity (cardiac or pulmonary), sepsis, advanced HIV disease and extra-hepatic malignancy. This document presents a Consensus of the main

groups performing liver transplantation in Chile, about its indications and contraindications. It also reviews general aspects of liver transplantation, including the selection and referral of liver transplant candidates, allocation of organs and the evaluation of severity of liver disease.