First successful bridge to cardiac transplantation in Chile using the heart mate II device. Report of one case Primer puente a trasplante cardiaco exitoso en Chile usando el dispositivo heart mate II

Bunster, Nicolás
Villavicencio, Mauricio
Lim, Jongsung
Donoso, Erika
Gajardo, Francesca
Rossel, Víctor

Implantable ventricular assist devices are an effective treatment option for end-stage heart failure patients as a bridge to cardiac transplantation, to improve the clinical condition and organ function allowing discharge from the hospital to await for transplantation. The second alternative is to use the device as destination therapy for patients with contraindications for cardiac transplantation, in whom it is maintained indefinitely. We report a 43-year-old patient, with a dilated cardiomyopathy, severe left ventricular dysfunction and advanced heart failure. A ventricular assist device Heart Mate II©, as a bridge to transplantation, was implanted to the patient in the United States. It was explanted for the first time in Chile at the National Thorax Institute. Heart transplantation was performed using the bicaval technique. Induction of immunosuppression was done with basiliximab. Generic immunosuppression was carried out with cyclosporine, mycophenolate mofetil and prednisone. Pos