School of Biomedical Engineering & College of Medicine

Liver Allograft Viability Sensor

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Background

- 4.5 million US Citizens have Liver Disease (LD)^[1]
- Liver transplantation is the only treatment for patients with endstage liver disease (ESLD),
- 13,000 new additions are added to the waitlist yearly ^[2]
- 9,500 livers are donated annually ^[2]
- 10% of donated livers are discarded
- Normothermic Machine Perfusion (NMF) carringrove organ preservation and utilization by replicating physiological conditions
- · No quantitative measure to assess viability or improvements to allograft health during NMP

Existing Solutions

Oxygenation Saturation:

Non-invasive hand-held device that can monitor organ viability and through hypoxemia. It is restricted to user/surgeon interaction and can only obtain point in time measurements as opposed to constant monitoring Physician assessment of allograft:

Quick but subjective assessment of organ without quantitative measures. It can also vary across centers and the lack of standardization may lead to higher discard rates



Constraints

- Time: 9 months Budget: \$300 2. **3.**Functional Near-Infrared Spectroscopy (fNIRs) 4.No interference with NMP device
- Secure attachment to liver 5.
- Sterilizable sleeve to cover 6.
- 7. Testing must use phantom
- instead of transplant livers

Requirements

1.Read relative blood oxygen % change 2.Collect data in tissue 6-15mm deep. 3.Uninterrupted 30-minute reading intervals. 4.Collect data at multiple locations on organ.



Provide a continuous, quantitative metric to assess liver allograft tissue viability during Normothermic Machine Perfusion.

Solution

- Solution: Functional near-infrared spectroscopy (fNIRs)^[3] Measurement: Quantify intrahepatic oxygenated and
- deoxygenated hemoglobin near the organ surface. Implemented during normothermic machine perfusion (NMP) of the tissue to help physicians determine real time viability of transplant organs.



Working Models & Prototype





ortal Vein & lepatic Artery



Verification & Validation



- **1.Blood Pressure Cuff** a. Modulate blood occlusion
- b.Reqs 1, 3, 4
- 2.Mock Tissue compartment a. Mimics photo-absorbance b.Reqs 2,3,4
- 3.Mock Hematologic Compartment a. Working solution of Sheep blood b. Reqs 1,3,4



Societal Impact

Provide a standardized method with quantitative data for Liver Transplant Surgeons and NMP technicians to better predict the success of tissue transplantation.

Provide a Point of Care to:

- Reduce 13,000 people on waiting list
- Reduce ~950 livers we throw away

Financial Impact

- **\$94,100/liver** spent on procurement with \$700 million total ^[4]
- **\$812,500/liver = \$6 billion** spent on total procedure costs
- \$718,400/ liver difference could be saved on non-viable liver transfer
- **\$13.5 million** total in post-op complications reduced

Conclusion

Top-Down View

This sensor provides a novel change to liver allograft transplantation assessment and can be used to reduce medical waste and save lives.

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