

Disparities in lung transplantation among patients with idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis: data from the IPF-PRO Registry

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INTRODUCTION

- Although IPF is one of the leading indications for lung transplantation, only a small proportion of patients with IPF undergo a lung transplant.^{1,2} The influence of medical and non-medical characteristics of patients with IPF on the likelihood of receiving a lung transplant is largely unexplored.
- The Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis Prospective Outcomes (IPF-PRO) Registry (NCT01915511) is a prospective observational US registry of patients with IPF.³

AIM

- To identify clinical and socioeconomic characteristics that differentially predicted lung transplant compared with death in the IPF-PRO Registry.

METHODS

- Between June 2014 and October 2018, patients with IPF that was diagnosed or confirmed at the enrolling center in the previous 6 months were enrolled into the IPF-PRO Registry.
- Patients who were wait-listed for lung transplant were not eligible for enrollment in the registry, but patients could be listed for transplant after enrollment.
- A time-to-event analysis incorporating competing risks methodology was performed to examine differential associations between covariates related to demographic/clinical characteristics and social determinants of health and the likelihood of lung transplant versus death.
 - Covariates were modeled as time-independent or time-dependent as appropriate.
 - We first examined whether there was an association between each covariate and lung transplant and death, and then tested whether the strength and/or direction of the association was different between lung transplant and death.

CONCLUSIONS

- Among patients in the IPF-PRO Registry, median ZIP code income and care at a center that has a lung transplant program differentially impacted the likelihood of lung transplantation compared with death, irrespective of disease severity.
- Additional interventions are needed to mitigate inequalities based on patients' socioeconomic status and location.

RESULTS

Patients

- Of the 1002 patients enrolled in the IPF-PRO Registry, 47 had no follow-up data. Thus, the analysis cohort comprised 955 patients. Maximum follow-up was 5 years.
- Over the follow-up period, there were:



Event rates of lung transplant and death

	Lung transplant, % (95% CI)	Death, % (95% CI)	Lung transplant or death, % (95% CI)
1 year	3.7 (2.7, 5.1)	6.3 (4.8, 7.9)	10.0 (8.1, 11.9)
2 years	7.4 (5.8, 9.2)	16.3 (13.9, 18.9)	23.7 (20.8, 26.5)

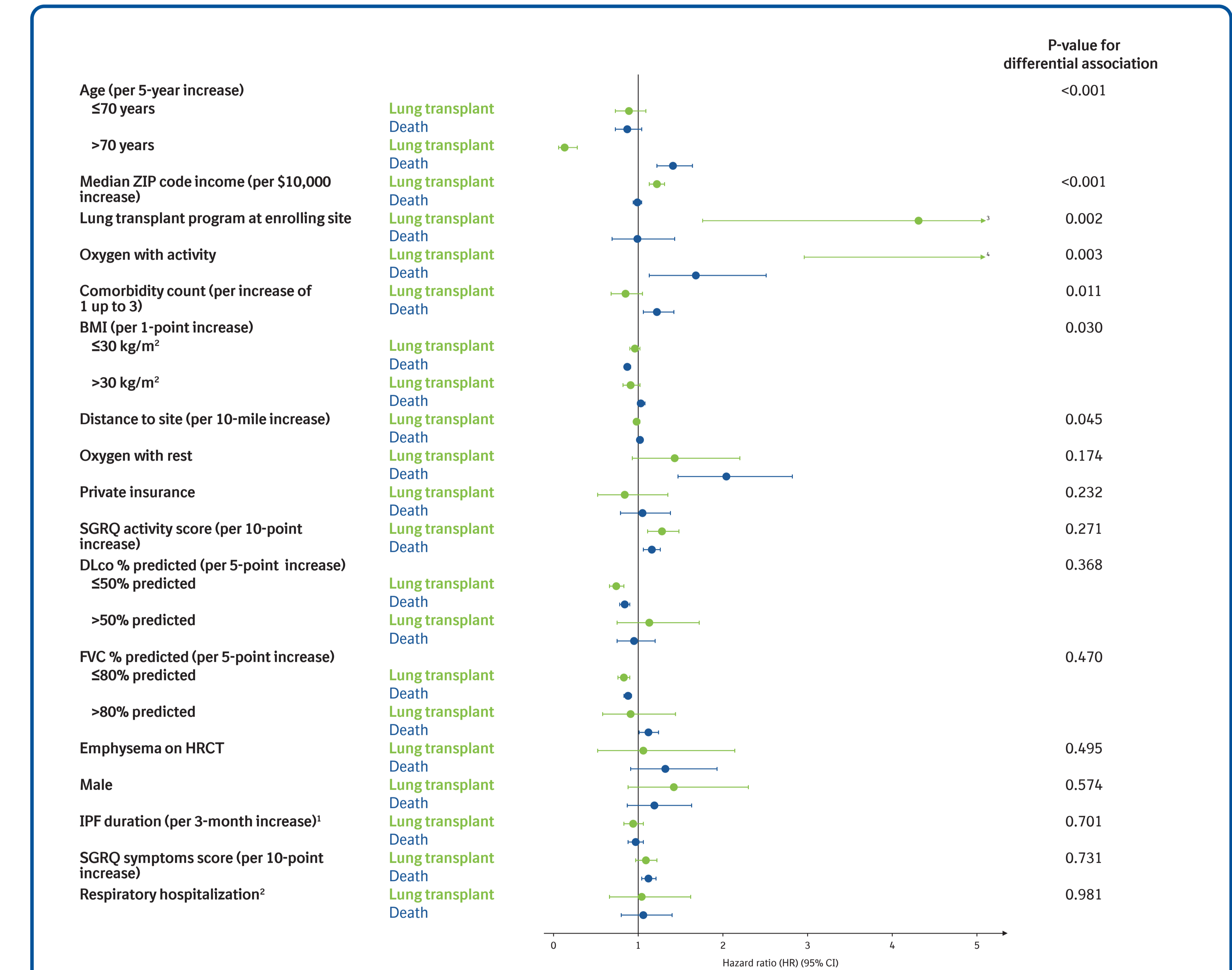
Patient characteristics at enrollment by lung transplant or death during follow-up

	Underwent lung transplant (n=96)	Did not undergo lung transplant and died (n=221)	Did not undergo lung transplant and alive (n=638)
Male	80.2	78.7	72.3
White	95.7	93.1	94.4
Age, years	65 (61, 69)	72 (67, 77)	70 (65, 75)
BMI, kg/m ²	29.3 (26.7, 32.1)	27.8 (24.9, 32.4)	29.0 (26.3, 32.4)
Private insurance	70.8	62.0	59.6
Family history of ILD	26.9	11.6	21.1
FVC % predicted	61.1 (49.5, 72.4)	64.2 (55.8, 74.9)	72.4 (62.7, 84.1)
DLco % predicted	34.2 (27.7, 43.2)	35.1 (26.3, 43.8)	46.3 (37.7, 55.4)
Oxygen use at rest	31.5	38.4	10.3
Oxygen use with activity	54.3	52.8	22.8
Distance to enrolling center, miles	35 (15, 113)	40 (14, 110)	30 (13, 85)
Lung transplant program at enrolling site	93.8	82.8	73.2
Median ZIP code income, \$1000	66.4 (53.3, 85.4)	55.8 (44.2, 73.0)	60.8 (47.9, 80.5)

Data are median (Q1, Q3) or % of patients without missing data.

Differential associations between covariates and lung transplant and death

- The covariates with the strongest differential associations with lung transplant and death were age, median ZIP code income, and enrollment at a center with a lung transplant program.
 - Lung transplant was less likely, and death was more likely, with older age among patients aged >70 years.
 - Higher median ZIP code income was associated with lung transplant, but not with death.
 - Enrollment at a site with a lung transplant program was associated with lung transplant, but not with death.
 - Oxygen use with activity was associated with both lung transplant and death, but more strongly with lung transplant.



Variables are shown in order of greatest to least differential association. ¹Time since first imaging evidence of pulmonary fibrosis. ²From which the patient was discharged alive without a lung transplant. ³Upper limit of 95% CI was 10.54. ⁴HR 7.95 (95% CI: 2.96, 21.34).

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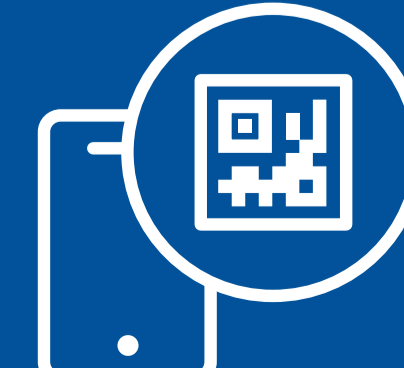
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND DISCLOSURES

The IPF-PRO/ILD-PRO Registry is funded by Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc (BIPI) and coordinated by the Duke Clinical Research Institute (DCRI). The authors meet criteria for authorship as recommended by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE). The authors did not receive payment for development of this poster. Editorial support and formatting assistance were provided by Julie Fleming and Wendy Morris of FleishmanHillard, London, UK, which was contracted and funded by BIPI. BI was given the opportunity to review the poster for medical and scientific accuracy as well as intellectual property considerations. Aparna Swaminathan is an employee of DCRI, which receives funding support from BIPI to coordinate the IPF-PRO/ILD-PRO Registry. Daniel F Dilling reports research support, speaker fees and participation in an advisory board from BI; research support and speaker fees from Genentech; research support from Bellerophon, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, FibroGen, Galapagos, Lung Bioengineering Inc, National Institutes of Health (5U01HL128954), Nitto Denko; he is on the Board of Directors (unpaid) of the International Society for Heart and Lung Transplantation.



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Poster developed for the American Thoracic Society International Conference, 2021.