



Pharmacy Grand Rounds

200 First Street SW
Rochester, Minnesota 55905
<https://ce.mayo.edu/pharmacy-grandrounds-2025>

Spooky Sensitization: Demystifying Desensitization in Heart Transplant

Session Date: 10/14/2025

Session Time: 11:00 – 11:45 AM (CST)

Target Audience

This continuing education (CE) session was planned to meet the needs of professional staff who deal with the selection and monitoring of medication(s) as part of their patient care duties, including pharmacists, RNs, APRNs, PAs, MDs.

Activity Overview

Highly sensitized patients remain a challenging population in heart transplantation. These patients may have pre-formed antibodies against much of the potential donor pool, making it difficult to find compatible donors. Historically, sensitization has been associated with higher rates of early antibody-mediated rejection and controversial effects on mortality. Desensitization can be performed pre-transplant utilizing medications and procedures to lower human leukocyte antigen (HLA) antibodies in highly sensitized transplant candidates but literature is limited to small studies and case reports. Recent guidelines from the International Society for Heart and Lung Transplantation help highlight general populations that may benefit from desensitization, but do little to ascertain what the most optimal desensitization strategy might be. This presentation will review existing literature on desensitization in heart transplant, including recent studies evaluating approaches to address current pitfalls with desensitization such as persistent or rebound HLA antibodies.

Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this knowledge-based CE session, participants should be able to:

1. Describe the immunological basis of sensitization and its impact on pre-transplant considerations.
2. Discuss conventional approaches to desensitization in heart transplant.
3. Assess recent literature evaluating innovative approaches to desensitization in heart transplant.

Faculty Information

Bethany Corry, PharmD
PGY2 Pharmacy Resident in Solid Organ Transplant
Mayo Clinic Hospital - Rochester, MN

Bethany received a Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy and is a current PGY2 solid organ transplant pharmacy resident at Mayo Clinic Hospital – Rochester. Her practice interests include thoracic and abdominal transplant, and infectious diseases.



Approved Provider Statement



In support of improving patient care, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

Credit Statements

AMA

Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science designates this live activity for a maximum of 0.75 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™*. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

ACPE



ACPE Universal Activity Number (UAN): JA0000238-0000-25-035-L01-P

Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science designates this educational activity for a maximum of 0.75 ACPE Knowledge-based contact hours. Participants should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity

ANCC

Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science designates this activity for a maximum of 0.75 ANCC contact hours. Nurses should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

AAPA



Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science has been authorized by the American Academy of PAs (AAPA) to award AAPA Category 1 CME credit for activities planned in accordance with AAPA CME Criteria. This activity is designated for 0.75 AAPA Category 1 CME credits. PAs should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation.

Educational Format and CE Requirements

This CE session is available as a live presentation, including live webcast.

Participants must complete the following to record attendance and obtain CE credit:

1. Attend the entire session.
2. Text the session code to 507-200-3010 within 48 hours of the live presentation to record attendance.
 - a. This number is only used for receiving text messages related to tracking attendance
 - b. Employees are encouraged to create a contact in their mobile phone, as the same number is used to record attendance for every session
3. Complete the online evaluation for the respective session within 2 weeks of live presentation.

Pharmacist CE credit is electronically transferred to the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy CPE Monitor. To track CE, please go to [NABP CPE Monitor](#).

Non-pharmacist attendees can print out a record of attendance at ce.mayo.edu after completing the evaluation and claiming credit.

[Live Webcast](#) – Register from the Education SharePoint site

Disclosure Summary

As a provider accredited by Joint Accreditation for Interprofessional Continuing Education, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science must ensure balance, independence, objectivity and scientific rigor in its educational activities. All who are in a position to control the content are required to disclose all financial relationships with any ineligible company. Faculty will also identify any off-label and/or investigational use of pharmaceuticals or instruments discussed in their content for FDA compliance.

Listed below are individuals with control of the content of this program who have disclosed:

The faculty report the following relationships:

- Bethany Corry, PharmD
 - Declares no financial relationship(s) pertinent to this session
 - Declares off-label use of the following medications will be discussed during this presentation:
 - Rituximab
 - Daratumumab
 - Belatacept

Course Director and Planning Committee Members declare the following relevant financial relationship(s) pertinent to this session.

- No relevant financial relationship(s) with ineligible companies:
 - Jennifer Elmer, DNP, APRN, CCNS
 - Andrew Herber, PA-C
 - Sarah Jane Kotval, BSW, RSS Coordinator
 - Scott Nei, PharmD, BCPS, BCCCP, FCCM, FMSHP
 - Sara Thompson, PharmD, MEd, BCACP
- Relevant financial relationship(s) with ineligible companies:
 - Wayne Nicholson, MD, PharmD, BCPS - Intellectual Property - Anivive Lifesciences, Inc.

All relevant financial relationships have been mitigated.

For additional disclosure information regarding Mayo Clinic School of Continuous Professional Development accreditation review committee members visit ce.mayo.edu, About Us, Disclosures - or - <https://ce.mayo.edu/content/disclosures>

System and Technical Requirements

For participants viewing the webcast, sessions are delivered via Mayo Clinic intranet web browser and Adobe® PDF. For participants viewing outside the Mayo Clinic firewall, a VPN connection is required for remote access. Recommended web browser includes Google Chrome. This session is planned and coordinated by **the Department of Pharmacy, Mayo Clinic.**