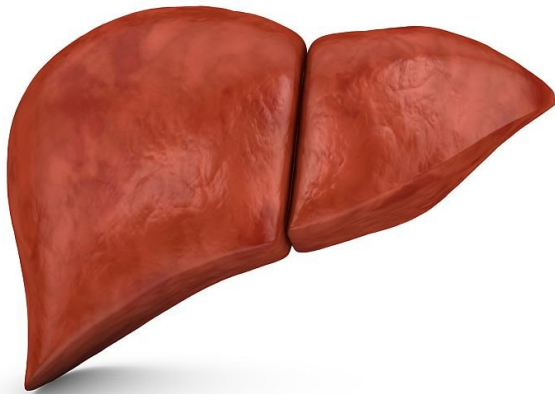


Alternatives to whole liver transplants feasible for children

28 February 2018



"Greater use of technical variant grafts might provide an opportunity to increase organ supply without compromising post-[transplant](#) outcomes," the authors write.

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(HealthDay)—Alternatives to whole liver transplants for children have become safer, according to a study published recently in *The Journal of Pediatrics*.

Douglas B. Mogul, M.D., M.P.H., from Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, and colleagues evaluated patient and graft survival among 5,715 pediatric liver-only transplant recipients who received an organ from March 1, 2002, to Dec. 31, 2015, to determine whether outcomes vary by graft type. The graft types were whole liver transplant, split liver transplant (SLT), and living donor liver transplant (LDLT).

The researchers found that 30-day survival for SLT improved (94 versus 98 percent; P liver transplant, but this risk disappeared in 2010 to 2015 ($P = 0.04$)). In both time periods, the risk of late death after SLT was similar. On the other hand, LDLT had similar risk of [early death](#) and late death for both time periods. Graft loss was similar for SLT, but lower for LDLT.

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