

Transition to Adult Health Care: Current Discussions

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Transition has been defined as “the purposeful, planned movement of adolescents and young adults with chronic physical and medical conditions from child-centered to adult-oriented health care systems”. In pediatric nephrology, we learned from serious reports on graft losses after transfer (e.g. Watson 2000) that the planning and structuring of a successful transition process is a very demanding task for all parties included: the patient family, the multidisciplinary caregiving team, and the health care structures. The presentation will give an insight into current German and international discussions about the challenges of the transition process on the various levels and about practical approaches to improvement. This includes a report on clinical experiences collected at the renal unit in Heidelberg.