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Title: Metallic stent for airway complications after lung transplantation long term follow up

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Body: Background: Bronchial stenosis after Lung transplantation(causes are listed in Table 1) is the most common airway complication and mostly seen at the Surgical anastomosis, Although the improvement in surgical techniques and increasing experience has significantly reduced the incidence of such complications,stenosis pose a major therapeutic challenge, Flexible fiberoptic bronchoscopy(FFB) is the gold standard for diagnosis, Stent placement may treat this complication with varying success we investigated the role Self expandable Metal Stents (SEMS) in the treatment of airway stenosis after transplantation.

Transplantation etiology

COPD	14
IPF	11
CF	2
Bronchiectasis	2
LAM	2
PHTN	1
HPS	1
ARDS	1

LAM: Lymphangiomyomatosis, PHTN: Pulmonary hypertension,HPS: Hepato pulmonary Syndrome, ARDS: Acute respiratory distress syndrome

Objectives : Investigate the influence of SEMS insertion on the survival, mortality, the need for second SEMS, **Methods:** Data was collected from the database pool of our institution, retrospectively analyzes of the medical records of lung transplanted patients that suffered from Stenosis at the anastomoses areas and underwent self expandable metallic stent insertion **Results:** One, three, and five years survival in patients that required SEMS 77.7%, 66.6% and 55.5% respectively. The corresponding survival rates in patients

without stents were 69%, 64.9% and 61.1%. Conclusions: SEMs are safe and effective tool in the management of airway complications post-LTX an immediate improvement in symptoms and flows in the majority of cases. long term mortality is slightly higher in patients with stents compared with LTX patients without.