TIMOTHY A. JOHNSON MEDICAL SCHOLAR LECTURE SERIES

Presented by the Fralin Biomedical Research Institute at VTC and the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine

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Could We Save This Patient? Cell-free DNA Exposes Gaps in Transplant Rejection Care

The timely diagnosis of acute rejection is important to guide early treatment decisions and reduce the risk of downstream allograft failure and early death. Biopsy, the invasive gold standard, blindly samples allograft tissue for histopathology. The latter shows low sensitivity and high interobserver variability. These limitations lead to delayed diagnosis and increased mortality, particularly in lung transplantation, where 50% of patients die within only 6-7 years of transplantation. Plasma cell-free DNA show increased sensitivity detecting and risk-stratifying rejection earlier than biopsy. The lessons learned are broadly applicable in COVID-19, MIS-C, and other non-transplant diseases.

TUESDAY, OCT. 22, at 5:30 p.m.

Room M203, 2 Riverside Circle.
Watch via Zoom at https://fralinbiomed.info/MedScholar-Join.