Abstract
Organ transplantation allows individuals with end-organ failure a second chance at life. In 2010, 28,664 organs were transplanted from 14,506 donors (United States Department of Health and Human Services, 2011b). Patients with transplants often undergo other surgeries and they present to anesthesia providers with unique challenges for which no protocol or transplantation specific reference guide currently exist. The purpose of this project was to develop an anesthesia quick reference guide for management of transplantation recipients undergoing non-transplantation surgery. The goal was to formulate a single reference source for anesthesia providers that contained pertinent anesthetic considerations for heart, intestine, kidney, liver, lung, pancreas, and stem cell recipients requiring non-transplantation surgery.

A literature review was completed using PubMed. Articles were weighted based on the degree in which they addressed anatomical and pathological changes secondary to organ transplantation, laboratory and diagnostic changes, organ rejection and immunosuppression, psychological sequelae of organ transplantation, and anesthetic considerations. An outline was constructed. Information from articles that met criteria was added to the outline until data saturation occurred. Each organ specific quick reference guide was revised several times for clarity, content, layout, and succinctness. Risk analysis, implementation plan, budget and timeline, marketing strategies, and project evaluation were also included in project methodology.

Project results, formulated quick reference guide, are found in Appendix C. The creation of patient specific organized and applicable reference information enhances anesthesia provider knowledge and transplantation recipient safety. Completion of this project represents a systematic and extensive multidisciplinary task which culminates in a terminal Doctorate in Nursing Practice degree.