

SURGICAL TECHNIQUES

Preparation for transplant

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Once the organ has been inspected and is deemed suitable for transplant it needs to be prepared for implantation. This is a crucial step and meticulous attention to detail and a systematic approach are vital to minimise bleeding and complications after reperfusion. The pancreas is retrieved with the spleen attached, a length of duodenum and the cut ends of the SMA, SA and PV (Figure 90.2). The splenic vessels are ligated and the spleen removed; the duodenum is shortened, stapled and the staple lines buried with a suture. Excess fat and omentum are removed, and the cut end of the inferior mesenteric vein ligated. An arterial "Y-graft"™ is usually fashioned between the SMA and SA of the pancreas using donor iliac vessels, so that the end of the common iliac artery (CIA) can be used for a single arterial anastomosis (Figure 90.1).

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