

**NHS BLOOD AND TRANSPLANT
LIVER ADVISORY GROUP**

DCD Donor Assessment and Organ Screening Pathway

Liver Screening Update – Andrew Broderick

A working group of LAG has been established to develop and implement a formal process for specialist nurses – organ donation to determine the suitability of potential DCD donors to be suitable DCD Liver donors.

Working Group membership

Andrew Broderick – Donor Assessment Lead – NHSBT

Laura Ellis-Morgan – Lead Operational Specialist – NHSBT

Nigel Heaton – Consultant Liver Transplant Surgeon - Kings

Wendy Littlejohn – Recipient Transplant Co-ordinator – Kings

Ann Turner – Recipient Transplant Co-ordinator – Birmingham

Paulo Muiesan – Consultant Liver Transplant Surgeon – Birmingham

Chris Callaghan – Clinical Lead for Organ Utilisation – NHSBT/Guys

Douglas Thorburn – Consultant Hepatologist – Royal Free

Jim Powell – Consultant Liver Transplant Surgeon – Edinburgh

Krish Menon – Consultant Liver Transplant Surgeon – Kings

Elisa Allen – Senior Statistician – NHSBT

The group held a face to face meeting to discuss the purpose and benefits of DCD Liver screening before agreeing an approach to delivering a Liver screening service.

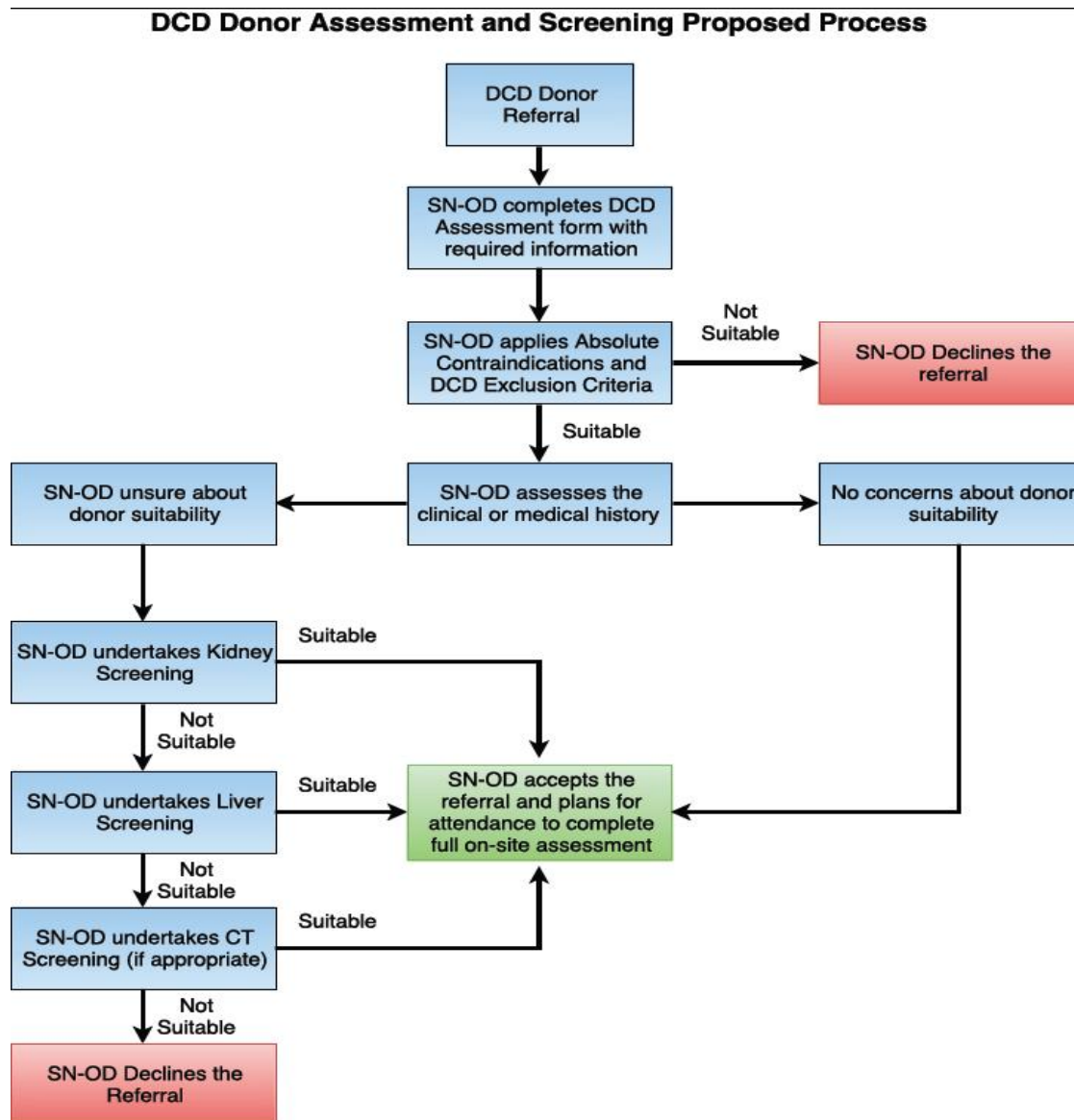
The group agreed that DCD Liver screening should be piloted with review after 3 months to determine whether the service was a success and whether it should continue.

To deliver the service it was agreed to mirror the process currently undertaken for Kidney screening. SN-ODs will be asked to make a maximum of two calls to establish suitability as a Liver donor. The first will be to the local designated centre and the second will be to either Birmingham or Kings who will act as national screening centres.

The SN-OD will be instructed that Liver screening should only be carried out when doubt remains over suitability after considering absolute contraindications, DCD exclusion criteria, reviewing medical history and test results, discussing with a team manager and undertaking kidney screening (as applicable).

When Liver screening is required the SN-OD will provide an overview of the potential donor, including medical history and test results. The SN-OD will then provide the reason why they are unsure about suitability before asking for the transplant centres opinion on suitability.

The DCD donor assessment process will be undertaken as per the following flow chart.



It is hoped that this structured approach to DCD donor suitability assessment will maximise the potential donor pool whilst reducing attendance and formal characterisation of patients with no potential to become organ donors.

It will be made clear throughout NHSBT that when a patient is regarded as suitable for further characterisation following screening that the normal process for organ offering will be undertaken. Therefore, even if an organ has been regarded as unsuitable during screening this organ will be formally offered if applicable should another organ have been regarded as suitable. This will reduce any risk of inappropriate organ loss and will be reviewed as part of the formal review process.