

**NHS BLOOD AND TRANSPLANT
ORGAN DONATION AND TRANSPLANTATION DIRECTORATE**

PANCREAS ADVISORY GROUP

PANCREAS FAST TRACK SCHEME

BACKGROUND

- 1 The Pancreas Fast Track Offering Scheme was first introduced on 1 December 2010 with the new Pancreas Allocation Scheme and was initiated once the pancreas had been removed from the donor in order to place the donated organ as a matter of urgency.
- 2 At the Advisory Group meeting in October 2015 it was agreed that a revised fast track offering scheme would be introduced from 14 December 2015. The revised fast track scheme was to be initiated either if the pancreas had been declined by 4 centres (3 centres for a donor after circulatory death) for donor or organ reasons or once the pancreas had been removed from the donor.

INTRODUCTION

- 3 This paper audits activity within the 21 months of the new scheme. Data were obtained from the UK Transplant Registry on both DBD and DCD pancreas donors aged 65 and under, from 14 December 2015 to 13 September 2017.

RESULTS

- 4 **Table 1** shows that over the 21 months, a total of 279 deceased pancreas donors (199 DBD and 80 DCD) have been offered through the revised fast track scheme, 34% of all deceased pancreas donors. Of those offered through the scheme, 62 (22%) pancreases were accepted for transplantation, of which 33 were accepted for islets. 19 (31%) of all the accepted pancreases were transplanted, 8 as islets.
- 5 Of those 279 organs offered through the fast track scheme, 176 (63%) were due to the organ already being retrieved when the accepting centre declined it, 29 (10%) were due to insufficient islet yield, viability or purity, 62 (22%) were due to centres declining the organ for donor or organ reasons and in 12 (4%) the reason was other. This group included some where it was not clear why fast track offers had been made. For the 176 organs fast tracked after the organ was retrieved, the main reasons given by the accepting centre for subsequently declining the organ were 'Fatty organ' (37%), 'Organ damaged' (16%) and 'Anatomical' (10%).
- 6 Of the 11 whole pancreas transplants, follow-up information was available for 8 (73%) and all except 1 were functioning at 3 months. Of the 8 islet pancreas transplants, 6 were routine islet grafts and 2 were priority grafts. Follow-up information has not been reported for any of the routine or priority grafts.

ACTION

- 7 The Pancreas Fast Track Scheme has resulted in 19 transplants that may not have happened otherwise, 7% of 279 donors offered through the scheme. The scheme will continue to be monitored and centres are able to opt out of the fast track scheme if they wish.

Donor type	Number of pancreas donors	Number offered through FTS (% of donors)	Number accepted for transplantation through FTS			Number transplanted through FTS		Total (% of offered)
			Whole	Islet	Total	Whole	Islet	
DBD	610	199 (33%)	19	30	49	8	7	15 (8%)
DCD	204	80 (39%)	10	3	13	3	1	4 (5%)
Total	814	279 (34%)	29	33	62	11	8	19 (7%)