



**RINTAG**  
2<sup>nd</sup> October 2018

## **Allocation of Livers for Research offered from a Liver Transplant Centre**

- 1. Status – Public**
- 2. Executive Summary**

Organs removed for the purposes of transplantation, subsequently deemed unsuitable for transplant can be offered for research, providing the appropriate consent is in place.

Organs are offered to researchers on these occasions via the ODT research allocation policy.

On occasions a liver can be offered for research from a liver transplant centre, whereby there is a live liver research study, however should a higher ranking liver research study wish to accept the organ for research, the liver will be transported from the liver transplant centre to the accepting research study.

It has been suggested that RINTAG consider on occasions when a liver becomes available for research and is located at a liver transplant centre and there is a live research study, these livers may be allocated to the liver research study at the liver transplant centre and supersede the ODT research allocation policy.

- 3. Action Requested**

RINTAG is asked to consider the proposal that the research allocation policy is amended so that on occasions whereby a liver is offered for research from a transplant centre, if the liver research study based at the liver transplant centre wishes to accept the liver for transplant, they are allocated the liver regardless of their scoring/ ranking position.

- 4. Background**

Organs removed for the purposes of transplantation, subsequently deemed unsuitable for transplant can be offered for research, providing the appropriate consent is in place.

Organs are offered to researchers on these occasions via the ODT research allocation policy. Each research study is scored and ranked, studies with the intention to transplant offered research organs are given the highest priority. Thereafter, scoring and ranking will be made in line with the agreed assessment criteria (POL263).

In the event that 2 research studies have identical scores, the studies will be given equal ranking. In the event that both research studies wishing to accept an offered research, organs will be allocated on a geographical basis.

Currently there are 8 research studies live as the 31<sup>st</sup> August 2018 who are offered livers for research via the ODT research allocation policy.

7/8 of these liver research studies are based at liver transplant centres, (Appendix 1.)

On occasions a liver can be offered for research from a liver transplant centre, whereby there is a live liver research study, however should a higher ranking liver research study wish to accept the organ for research, the liver will be transported from the liver transplant centre to the accepting research study.

Retrospective review of livers offered via the ODT research allocation policy over the months of July and August have identified:

28 livers were offered and 24 accepted for research.

Of the 28 livers offered for research, 20 were offered from a transplant centre.

Of the 20 livers that were offered from a transplant centre. 16 livers were accepted for research. 3 were allocated to the liver research study based at the liver transplant centre.

Of the 20 livers that were offered from a transplant centre, 13 were allocated to a research study based at another liver transplant centre.

Appendix 2. details the allocation of livers offered for research from a transplant centre, July and August 2018.

Appendix 3. details the hypothetical allocation of livers offered for research from a transplant centre, July and August 2018, if livers available for research at liver transplant centres with a live liver research programme are allocated the liver regardless of their scoring/ ranking position.

## **6. Proposal**

It is proposed that RINTAG consider if the research allocation policy should be amended so that on occasions whereby a liver is offered for research from a transplant centre, if the liver research study based at the liver transplant centre wishes to accept the liver for transplant, they are allocated the liver regardless of their scoring/ ranking position.

RINTAG are asked to note that study number 68 is a Hepatocyte Transplantation Project.

If the proposal is agreed, studies with the intention to transplant offered research organs will on occasions be superseded.

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Appendix 1.

Live liver research studies and location

Study Number	Location	Rank
21	Addenbrookes	1
35	Birmingham	2
60	Oxford	2
56	Edinburgh	3
33	Birmingham	4
52	Newcastle	5
50	Royal Free	5
68	Kings	6

Appendix 2.

Allocation of livers offered for research from a transplant centre, July and August 2018.

Research offer	Transplant centre where Liver offered for research	Accepting research centre
1	Addenbrookes	Birmingham
2	Kings	Addenbrookes
3	Kings	Newcastle
4	Birmingham	Birmingham
5	Kings	Birmingham
6	Addenbrookes	Birmingham
7	Birmingham	Birmingham
8	Kings	Birmingham
9	Kings	Birmingham
10	Kings	Newcastle
11	Kings	Addenbrookes
12	Kings	Birmingham
13	Birmingham	Birmingham
14	Newcastle	Birmingham

15	Newcastle	Birmingham
16	Addenbrookes	Royal Free

Livers offered for research from a transplant centre, July and August 2018, number allocated per research study July & August 2018

Study Number	Location	Rank	Research Livers
21	Addenbrookes	1	2
35	Birmingham	2	1
60	Oxford	2	0
56	Edinburgh	3	0
33	Birmingham	4	10
52	Newcastle	5	2
50	Royal Free	5	1
68	Kings	6	0

### Appendix 3.

Hypothetical allocation of Livers offered for research from a transplant centre, July and August 2018, if Livers available for research at liver transplant centres with a live liver research programme are allocated the liver regardless of their scoring/ ranking position.

Study Number	Location	Rank	Research Livers
21	Addenbrookes	1	3
35 & 33	Birmingham	2 & 4	3
60	Oxford	2	0
56	Edinburgh	3	0
52	Newcastle	5	2
50	Royal Free	5	0
68	Kings	6	8