

NHS BLOOD & TRANSPLANT

RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND NOVEL TECHNOLOGIES ADVISORY GROUP

RESEARCH CONSENT/AUTHORISATION RATES

INTRODUCTION

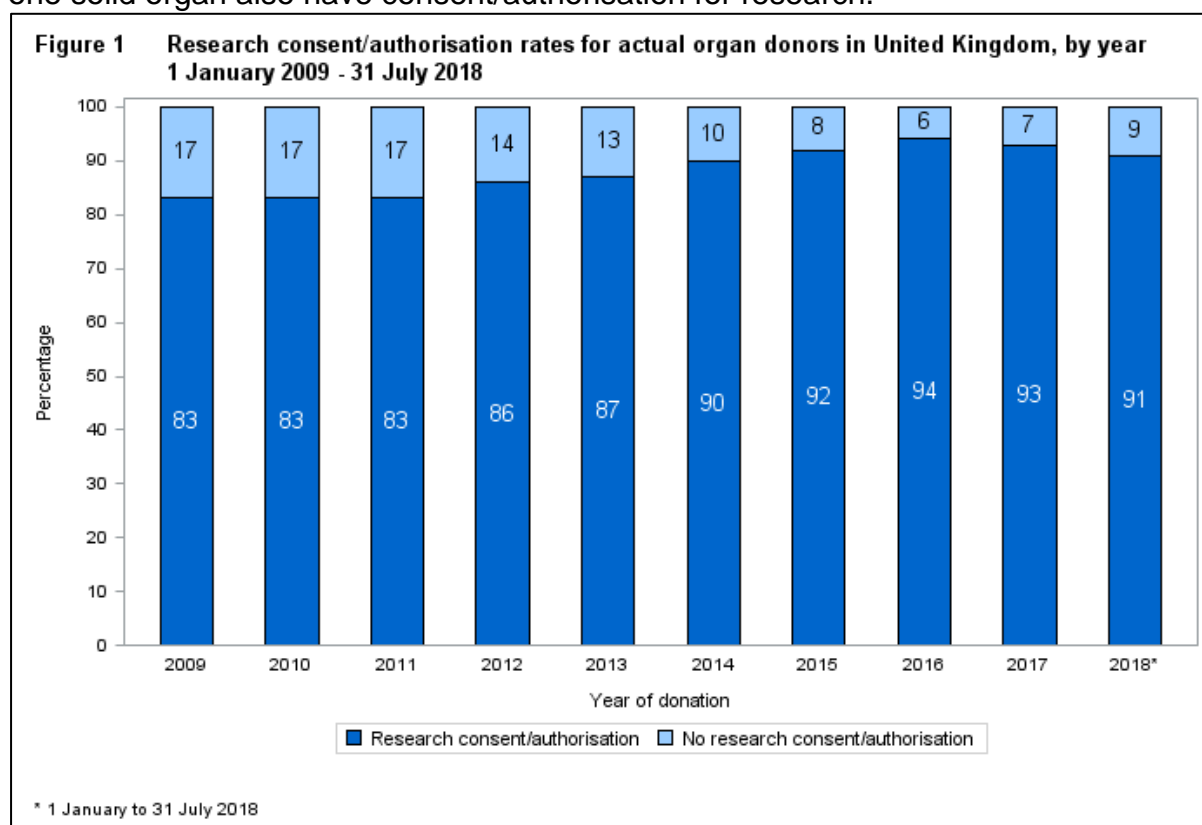
- 1 This paper summarises how research consent/authorisation rates have changed over the last ten years in the UK.
- 2 Families can give generic consent/authorisation for research use of any organs that are found to be unsuitable for transplantation. They are only asked this question if consent/authorisation for transplantation has been ascertained. No organ specific questions are asked regarding research consent/authorisation.

DATA AND METHODS

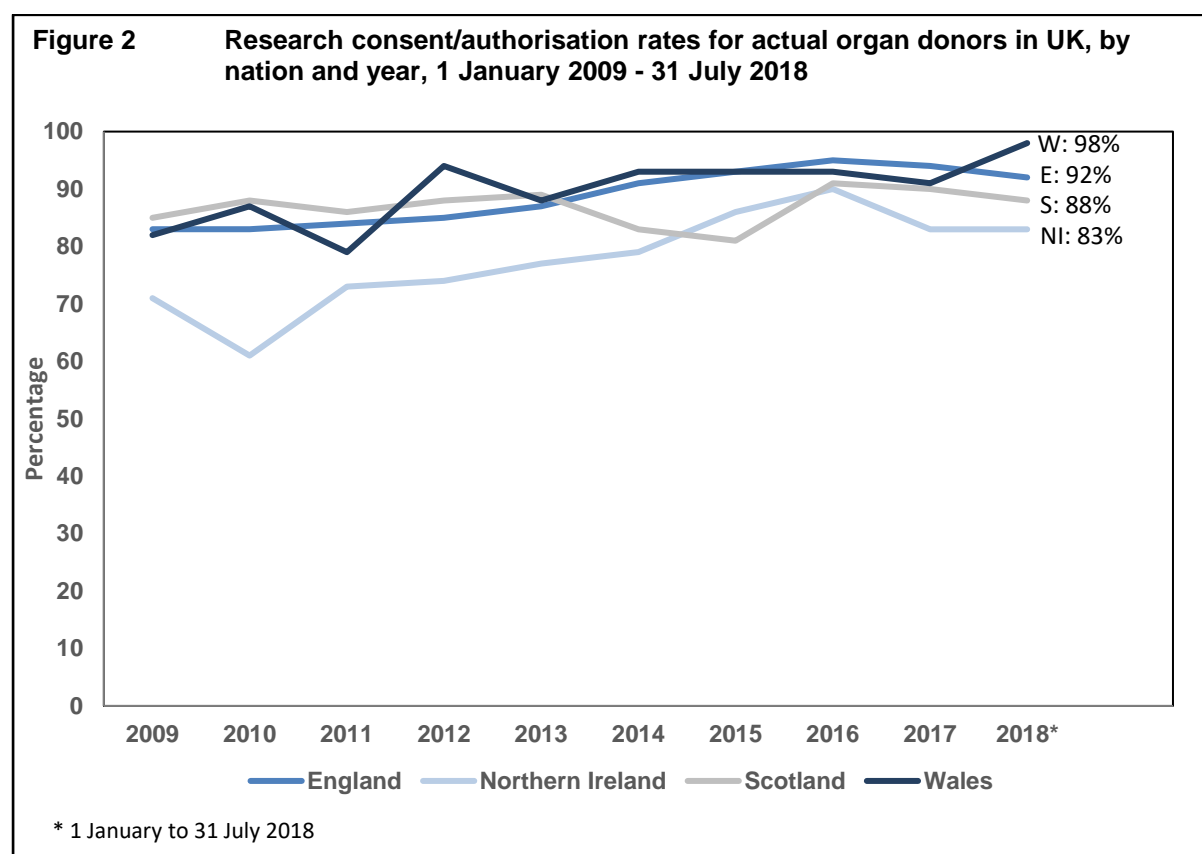
- 3 Research consent/authorisation rates were analysed for actual organ donors in the UK from 1 January 2009 to 31 July 2018.

RESULTS

- 4 **Figure 1** illustrates that overall UK research consent/authorisation rates for solid organ donors have generally increased from 83% in 2009 to 91% in the first 7 months of 2018. This shows that the large majority of donors that donate at least one solid organ also have consent/authorisation for research.

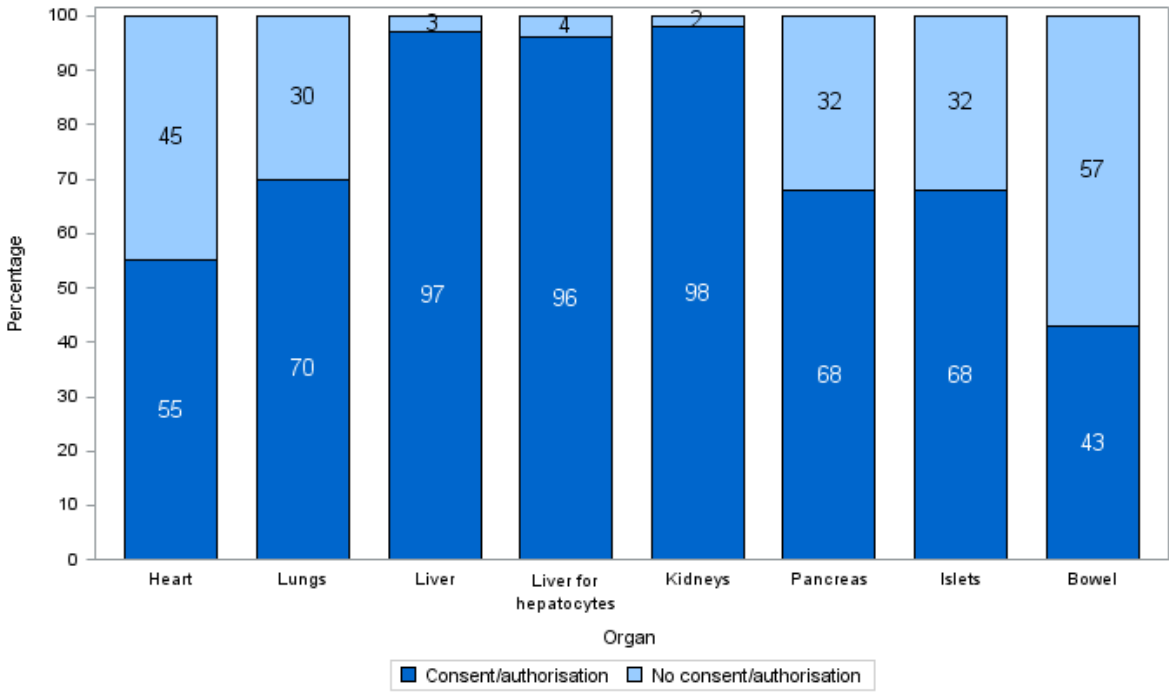


- 5 **Figure 2** breaks down research/authorisation rates for actual organ donors by nation and year. England and Wales have had the highest consent rates over the past 4 years ranging from 91% to 98%. Northern Ireland has seen an overall increase in research consent rate since 2009, although it remains lower than the rest of the UK at 83% in the first 7 months of 2018.
- 6 The research authorisation rate for Scotland rose from 81% to 90% between 2015 and 2017, and was 88% for the first 7 months of 2018. In the last couple of years, Scotland have instigated further training for SNODs and CLODS on gaining research authorisation which could account for such increase. Rates for Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales fluctuate more as there are fewer donors.



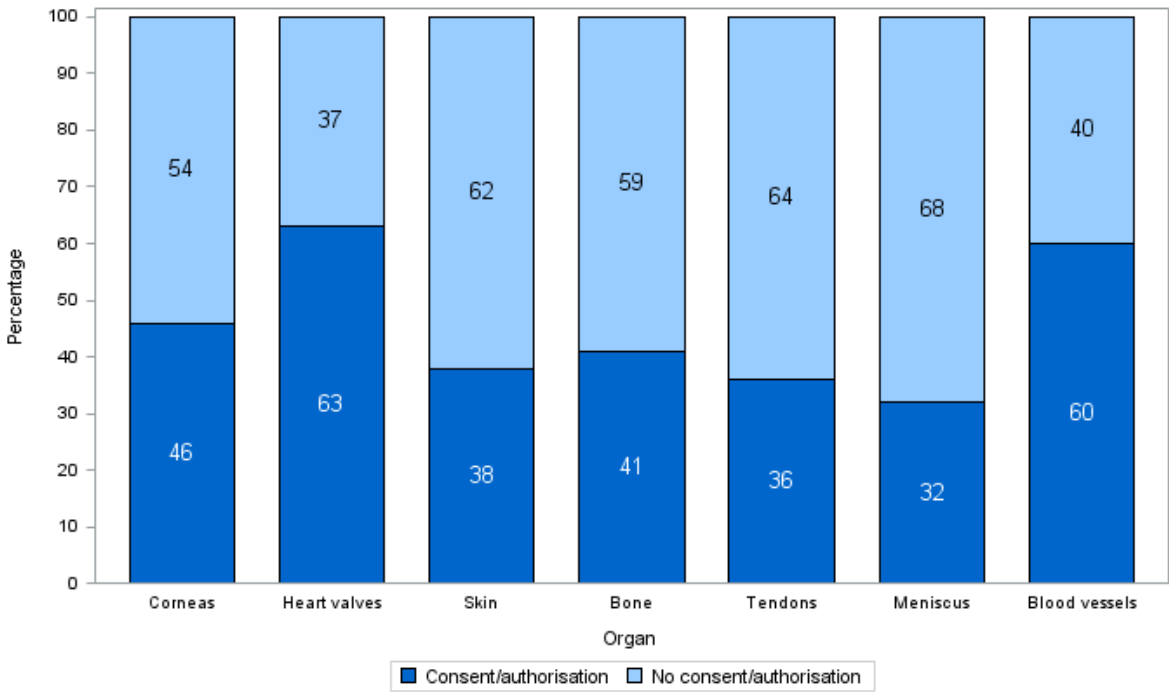
- 7 **Figures 3** and **4** show consent/authorisation rates for **transplantation** from actual solid organ donors in the first 7 months of 2018, broken down by organ and tissue, respectively. These organ specific consent/authorisation rates impact the number of research organs available.
- 8 **Figure 3** shows that kidneys (98%) and liver (97%) gained the highest rates of consent/authorisation.
- 9 **Figure 4** illustrates that tissues have lower consent/authorisation rates than solid organs. Please note that this cohort excludes tissue-only donors.

Figure 3 Consent/authorisation rates for transplantation from actual organ donors in United Kingdom in 2018*, by organ



* 1 January to 31 July 2018

Figure 4 Consent/authorisation rates for transplantation from actual organ donors in United Kingdom in 2018*, by tissue



* 1 January to 31 July 2018

CONCLUSION

10 The overall UK consent/authorisation rate for research was 83% in 2009 and has risen to 91% in 2018. England and Wales have had the highest consent rates for research over the past 4 years ranging from 91% to 98%. Scotland's research authorisation rate has increased from 81% in 2015 to 88% during the first 7 months of 2018. This may be due to an increase in research consent/authorisation training undertaken by SNODs and CLODs.

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