

NHS BLOOD AND TRANSPLANT

KIDNEY ADVISORY GROUP

POSITIVE VIROLOGY AND HLA TYPING

INTRODUCTION

- 1 To reduce the length of the donation process the positive donor virology scheme was introduced in January 2018. The positive donor virology scheme is initiated when NHSBT is notified that a donor has an initial positive result for any of the markers listed below:
 - Hepatitis B surface antigen (not Hepatitis B core antibody positive alone, with negative HBsAG)
 - Hepatitis C antibody
 - HIV 1 and 2 antibody
 - HTLV 1 and 2 antibody
- 2 When a kidney from a deceased donor meets the positive donor virology criteria, the organ is offered simultaneously to each of the kidney centres that have opted-in to the scheme. The kidney is allocated to the accepting centre with the highest priority patient listed although that centre may transplant the kidney in to any locally listed patient. Upon inspection, if the accepting centre decides the kidney is unusable, it is offered to the accepting centre with the second highest priority patient listed and so on, until either the kidney has been transplanted or all accepting centres have declined the offer of the organ.

RESULTS

- 3 **Table 1** shows the number of deceased donors between 1 January 2018 and 31 October 2018 in the UK where at least one kidney was offered for transplantation. Of the 1,630 donors where the kidney(s) were offered, 27 (1.7%) were recorded with a positive virology and the kidney(s) were fast tracked through the positive donor virology scheme. 4 kidneys from 2 donors were accepted and used for transplant.

Of note, 27 positive virology cases 19 relate to Hepatitis C positive results.

Current focus within practice is to prioritise the processing of HLA type. Education and communication has been cascaded throughout the SNOD workforce to highlight the importance of this practice.

Of the 27 positive virology cases, 1 was offered without the HLA.

PROPOSAL

- 4 HLA processing should be prioritised as part of routine donor characterisation. This will ensure that the cases are small in number and infrequent when HLA is not available at point of offering.

In the exceptional cases where HLA is not available at point of offering propose fast track kidneys without HLA type, where there is a positive virology of the donor, and offer on a first come first served basis via the positive donor virology scheme to avoid delay.

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**Table 1 Donors where the kidney(s) were offered in the UK, by positive virology
1 January 2018 – 31 October 2018**

Month	Donors where kidney(s) offered	Donors with a positive virology recorded ¹	Donors with a positive virology where at least 1 kidney transplanted
January 18	223	4	0
February 18	165	2	0
March 18	191	2	0
April 18	179	4	0
May 18	175	3	0
June 18	143	4	0
July 18	136	4	1
August 18	144	2	1
September 18	132	2	0
October 18	142	0	0
TOTAL	1630	27	2

¹ Positive virology includes Hepatitis B surface antigen, Hepatitis C antibody, HIV 1 and 2 antibody, HTLV 1 and 2 antibody