Strengthening the Effectiveness of Organ Donation Committees

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Scottish Organ Donation Committee Review

- Published March 2017
- Some issues were peculiar to Scottish arrangements, others more general
- 15 recommendations covering committee membership and chairing, defining committee roles, setting standards around meetings and reportings and establishing expectations over promotion of organ donation.
Imperial College Review of Organ Donation Committees

• Published December 2017

• Gathered data from surveys and in-depth interviews

• 10 findings including:
  - Discrepancy in perceived role of ODCs
  - Training needs of chairs
  - Information sharing between trusts/healthboards
  - ODCs having insufficient influence in their organisation
  - Poor attendance at meetings
  - Funding variations
  - Need for effectiveness measures
Reviewing the current ODC model, is it fit for now and the future?

Solutions

Is current ODC structure fit for purpose?

Issues - Some committees with little/no activity, meeting rarely if at all

Proposals

Low (L) x 3 + High (H) x Trusts

1. Discuss horizontal committees & replace with half yearly meetings between typical directors, chair, swaps, trust governance

2. Review with particular issues in trusts with low ongoing activity by establishing task & finish group (EG innovation)

Issue - Reporting mechanisms: Are all committees able to escalate issues to appropriate people/committees in their trust?

Proposals - 1st reporting arrangement for all committees - task force (regional teams) - 67 matching data

2. Where reporting mechanisms are not fit for purpose, need to follow up at board level

Issue - Donor recognition funding - need to ensure committees have control

Proposals

1. SDU with trusts to cover funding
   - No funding without committee agreement of funding
   - Committee chair to confirm they have control of funds
   - Funds returned to trust, etc.

2. Secretarial support & admin
   - Trusts responsible for provision of committee requirements i.e. room, minutes etc.
Recommendations

1. Supporting chairs
   • guidelines for recruitment of ODC Chairs.
   • improved education.
   • provide mentorship
   • create an on-line resource.

2. Improving committee performance
   • monitoring meeting attendance
   • introducing annual assessment of ODCs,

3. Raising profile of committee within trust/healthboard
   • promotion of the ODC

4. Improving access to funding
   • review ODC funding
Actions to achieve solutions

Non-functioning committees

• Develop a definition of a non-functioning Organ Donation Committee
• Identify trusts where Donation Committees are not functioning or meeting
• Develop Emergency Committee Structure

Improve internal reporting

• Identify Donation Committees’ current reporting structure. Confirm if ‘good news’ as well as ‘performance’ is reported.
• Where reporting structures are not robust, NHSBT to follow up and action with Trust Board
Actions to achieve solutions

Committee finances

• Aim – to improve ODC control over finances

• Define process for funding to be signed off by Chair or recognised structure before funding released by NHSBT to Trusts (right person to access money)

• Write to Donation Committees when money is paid to trusts

Administrative support

• Include in the MOU the requirement for Donation Committee admin support, room provision for meeting
Actions to achieve solutions

Clarifying role of ODC chair

• Devise role profile for Donation Committee Chairs, including values and behaviours

• Clear definitions of expectations, establish common appointment process, length of term for Chairs

Introduction of Regional Chair

• Develop a Regional Chair role profile mirroring Chair role profile

• Regional Chair model: roles, responsibilities and length of term
What have we achieved so far?

• Role profiles for ODC Chairs (approved by NODC)
• Role profile for Regional ODC Chair (approved by NODC)
• Definition of Non Functioning ODC (approved by NODC)
• Emergency structures for ODC (approved by NODC)
• Updated Chair Handbook (approved by NODC)
• New webpage for the Organ donation microsite ready for launch mid March 2019
Regional Chair

- Will reflect the CLOD/SNOD/Chair ‘triumvirate’ at regional level
- Successfully trialed in two regions already
- Aims to improve connections between and support for chairs and to raise their profile in the region
Regional Chair – key responsibilities

• Establish and lead a regional chairs’ network

• Support chairs’ induction days

• Support & mentor new chairs

• Assist in planning and attend regional collaboratives

• Other regional meetings eg Order of St John awards

• Support RM and RCLOD where emergency committee structures invoked

• Review ODC performance with RCLOD & RM
Regional Chair – experience & qualities

• Experience as chair of successful & influential ODC
• Ability to lead
• Ability to work positively with NHS staff
• Ability to inspire & energise colleagues
• Commitment to NHSBT strategy and to minimising lost opportunities in donation
• Effective communicator
Chair handbook

• Now fully updated and in near final form
• Comments still welcome
• Supplemented by other information on chairs’ microsite
• Source of support for newly appointed chairs and aide memoire for established ones
Microsite

- Access to all information on the site with a dedicated section of key resources for ODC Chairs
- Book induction training for Chairs
- Drop down section with information on donor memorials
- Link to E-learning packages
- Electronic version of Chair Handbook
- Role descriptions for ODC Chair and Regional Chair
- Marketing resources
- Link to activity reports
Key resources for organ donation committee chairs

This page collects together some key resources and educational opportunities for organ donation committee chairs.

Organ donation committee chair handbook

Information for organ donation committee chairs including an introduction to the role and the roles of key collaborators, and first steps for new committee chairs.

Download the handbook

Useful links

- Local organ donation committees - key objectives
- Taking Organ Transplantation to 2020 strategy
- Organ Donation and Transplantation Annual Activity Report
- Get involved - The NHSBT campaign resource centre
What is still to do?

- Templates for ODC minutes
- System for uploading all minutes to the regional office
- Consider whether a committee logo would be useful – to reflect the CLOD/SNOD/Chair triangle