

**NHS BLOOD AND TRANSPLANT  
ORGAN DONATION AND TRANSPLANTATION DIRECTORATE  
PANCREAS ADVISORY GROUP**

**CHANGES TO NATIONAL PANCREAS ALLOCATION SCHEME**

**BACKGROUND**

- 1 A requirement to move the National Pancreas Allocation Scheme to a new IT platform created an opportunity for changes within the scheme. It was felt that the current scheme was working well, but there were a couple of areas that needed review. The timescales for finalising proposals for change were short and a PAG allocation working group was set up and had meetings via teleconference.
- 2 The two main areas for consideration were higher priority for difficult to match and highly sensitised (percentage calculated reaction frequency (cRF)) patients and appropriate offering of donors to both whole pancreas and islet transplantation.
- 3 Summaries of computer simulations for various offering scheme changes have previously been circulated to members for comment between 15<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> June 2018 and agreement was reached on the proposed changes. This paper outlines the changes that will be made to the Pancreas Offering Scheme (POS) for all patients waiting for a pancreas or islets and changes to the Kidney Offering Scheme (KOS) which will affect some patients waiting for a simultaneous pancreas and kidney (SPK) or simultaneous islet and kidney (SIK) transplant. Changes to both schemes will be implemented next year.
- 4 The schemes are now being named “offering” schemes rather than “allocation” schemes to indicate that there is an element of human intervention as it is possible to decline an offer for a particular patient.

**CHANGES TO KIDNEY OFFERING SCHEME FOR PANCREAS PATIENTS**

- 5 As part of the changes to the KOS, any SPK or SIK patients who are either 100% cRF, have a matchability score of 10 or have a kidney waiting time (calculated from start of dialysis or first activation whichever is earliest) of 7 years or more, will be in the top tier of the KOS. All other patients requiring an SPK, SIK, pancreas alone or islet alone transplant will be in the POS.

**CHANGES TO PANCREAS OFFERING SCHEME**

- 6 The POS will have a new top tier which will include pancreas or islet alone patients who are either 100% cRF or have a matchability score of 10 and any patient waiting for a pancreas or islet transplant (including SPK and SIK) who has a pancreas or islet waiting time of 3 years or more.
- 7 There will be a change to the matching run exclusion criteria. Islet patients are currently excluded if the donor is aged <25 years and this will be changed

to exclude islet patients only if the donor is both aged <25 years and has a body mass index (BMI) under 25kg/m<sup>2</sup>. Additionally, if a donor has a BMI ≥31 then whole pancreas patients would be excluded.

- 8 The current overall maximum donor age criteria and BMI criteria will remain in place:
- Donor BMI >40 not offered to pancreas patients
  - DBD aged ≥66 not offered to pancreas patients
  - DBD aged ≥61 not offered to islet patients
  - DCD aged ≥56 not offered to whole pancreas patients
  - DCD aged ≥51 not offered to islet patients
- 9 There will be no change to the factors included in the offering scheme algorithm or the calculation of the total points score (TPS).
- 10 The current and new offering schemes for patients requiring a pancreas are shown in **Figure 1**.

**ACTION**

- 11 Members of the Pancreas Advisory Group are asked to give their final endorsement of the changes to the scheme.

Figure 1 Offering schemes for patients requiring a pancreas

