

NHS BLOOD AND TRANSPLANT

CARDIOTHORACIC ADVISORY GROUP – LUNG

ANALYSIS OF LUNG OFFERS FROM OLDER DONORS

BACKGROUND

- 1 In January 2018, the lung donor offering criteria was extended up to 74 years (74 years and 364 days) for both DBD and DCD where the donor was a lifetime non-smoker or had not smoked for 10 years or longer. Before this the upper age limit was 64 for DCD donors and 69 for DBD donors.
- 2 This report presents a short summary of lung offers from DBD donors over 69 years of age and DCD donors over 64 years of age between January and September 2018. Utilisation rates (transplanted out of offered) across different age groups for both lungs and hearts are also presented for potential donors during the analysis period.

RESULTS

- 3 Between 8 January and 30 September 2018, lungs were offered from 22 potential DBD donors aged 70-74 and from 48 potential DCD donors aged 65-74. Three (14%) of the 22 pairs of DBD lungs were transplanted (two donors were aged 71 and one was 74, the transplanting centres were Harefield and Newcastle and the recipients were aged 50 or older), while none of the 48 pairs of DCD lungs were transplanted. Of the 67 pairs of lungs that were not used the most common overall reasons for decline recorded were poor function (28%), age (27%) and history (22%).
- 4 Of the 70 donors in the extended age range, 23 (33%) had been a smoker in their lifetime and 47 (67%) had not. Of those that had smoked, 21 stopped smoking more than 10 years before donation, one smoked within 5 years of donation and one had incomplete smoking history recorded.
- 5 **Table 1** and **Table 2** present a breakdown of the lung utilisation rates across age groups for DBD donor lungs and DCD donor lungs offered during the analysis period, respectively. For comparison, **Table 3** shows the number of donors whose heart was offered in the time period and the proportion transplanted. Note that the upper age limit for DBD heart donation is currently 64 years of age.

CONCLUSION

- 6 Since the age criteria for lung offering was extended there have been 70 donors offered for lung donation that were within the extended age range; a mean of 8 per month. Only three (4%) of these donors were utilised for lung donation and these were all DBD donors.

Table 1 Number of DBD donors offered and utilised for lung donation, 8 January – 30 September 2018

Donor age	Number of donors offered	Number of donors utilised ¹	%
<40 years	143	43	30.1
40-49	115	22	19.1
50-59	126	28	22.2
60-69	97	16	16.5
70-74	22	3	13.6
Total	503	112	22.3

¹ At least one lung accepted and transplanted

Table 2 Number of DCD donors offered and utilised for lung donation, 8 January – 30 September 2018

Donor age	Number of donors offered	Number of donors utilised ¹	%
<40 years	61	11	18.0
40-49	57	2	3.5
50-59	90	6	6.7
60-64	41	5	12.2
65-74	48 ²	0	0.0
Total	297	24	8.1

¹ At least one lung accepted and transplanted

² One had smoked within the last 10 years and one had incomplete smoking history

Table 3 Number of DBD donors offered and utilised for heart donation, 8 January – 30 September 2018

Donor age	Number of donors offered	Number of donors utilised ¹	%
<40 years	149	76	51.0
40-49	116	24	20.7
50-59	138	20	14.5
60-64	49	2	4.1
65-70	2 ²	0	0.0
Total	454	122	26.9

¹ At least one lung accepted and transplanted

² Offered outside of criteria