

Ref: JF/LB/LAD

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Dear Colleagues

Further to correspondence earlier this week, we wanted to assure you that we are continuing to monitor the COVID-19 situation and are working with various stakeholders to react to the situation.

We thought it may be helpful to let you know what is currently under consideration.

### **Living Kidney Sharing Scheme**

It is our intention to withdraw the April matching run and we are liaising with Commissioners of the service in all four countries. Further information will be available early next week.

We understand that you may have immediate questions about exchanges identified in the last matching run that are scheduled to proceed in the next few weeks and we recognise that some transplant centres have already made a decision to limit or suspend living donation activity that will impact on these identified transplants.

We will provide advice and clarify the position early next week.

### **Living Kidney Donation more generally**

At present, centres are reacting to their own local resource issues and the wishes of donors and recipients. Many centres are reviewing the pairings that are scheduled for the next weeks and performing a risk analysis on a case by case basis. To us this seems appropriate for now, but the situation will continue to be monitored.

### **Solid Organ Donation and COVID-19**

We have provided advice and guidance to Clinical Leads Organ Donation (CLODs) and to Specialist Nurses Organ Donation (SNODs). The link for up to date guidance is <https://www.odt.nhs.uk/deceased-donation/covid-19-advice-for-clinicians/>

We are working hard to have the availability of PCR testing of all solid organ donors as quickly as possible. In this we have to acknowledge the pressure on that service, but we are pointing out the utility of our case. We will update further on this as early as we can next week.

In the coming days and weeks if you have any concerns or are aware of other local resource issues which could impact on the Organ Retrieval and/or Transplantation, then we would request that you alert us via the Clinical Governance link below;

<https://www.odt.nhs.uk/odt-structures-and-standards/governance-and-quality/tell-us-about-anincident/>

At this time there is no reason to issue a national restriction on transplant activity, but as the situation develops - there may need to be a phased restriction on certain organs being transplanted and certain categories of patients being prioritised.

We have suspended any follow up to declines for resource issues, for obvious reasons.

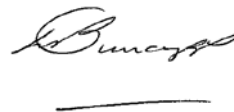
We have also instituted a daily meeting to assess this rapidly changing situation.

We will continue to update you on any further advice and guidance as the situation evolves.

Yours Sincerely



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