

NHSBT BOARD
SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT UPDATE
May 2020

Donation and Transplantation in Scotland

- A Covid-19 – Organ Transplantation Scottish Plan for Service Recovery has been developed following discussions with the transplant units and with National Services Division (NSD) as commissioners.
- This Recovery Plan aims to support Scottish transplant units in making decisions about reopening and increasing transplant services in Scotland in a sustainable way over the coming weeks and months. It sets out some key points for consideration, building on the NHS Blood and Transplant (NHSBT) policy paper 'Reopening of Transplant Programmes: Issues for Consideration'. However, it recognises that each transplant unit will need to consider what is appropriate separately, based on their local circumstances.
- The Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport issued the plan with a letter to NHS Board Chief Executives in NHS Lothian, Greater Glasgow and Clyde and the Golden Jubilee National Hospital on 18 May. A copy was also sent to colleagues in the transplant unit at the Freeman Hospital for information.
- This recovery plan will help the transplant units input to the wider local work on the development of local mobilisation plans, which will be informed by the clinical prioritisation of services.
- While deceased organ donation and transplantation has increased somewhat since mid-late April in Scotland, all live kidney donation is currently suspended for the time being.
- The retrieval team in Edinburgh relaunched its Normothermic Regional Perfusion (NRP) service on 15 May.

Donation and Transplantation Plan for Scotland 2020 – 2025

- It was agreed at the Scottish Donation and Transplant Group (SDTG) meeting on 9 April that, as the post-2020 Donation and Transplantation Plan for Scotland cross-refers to commitments in the UK Strategy, we should postpone publication until September 2020 in line with the revised planned publication timescales for the UK Strategy.
- National Services Division's post-2020 commissioning plan is also delayed. Their survey of transplant recipients has been completed, but the focus groups with transplant recipients unfortunately had to be postponed due to COVID-19.

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