

To: Clinical Directors, Kidney Transplant Centres

Sent via email

Ref: LB/st/2020/07/01

6 July 2020

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Dear Colleagues,

## Re: Restarting and expansion of living donor kidney transplantation

Please find enclosed a paper detailing recommendations from the Kidney Advisory Group, endorsed by the NHSBT Clinical Team and NHS Commissioners from across the UK, about options to restart or expand living donor kidney transplantation.

We recognise that it has been difficult for many centres to restore living donor kidney transplantation activity following the COVID-19 outbreak and pause to the programme. Our aim is to support you in your continued efforts to do this and to build some resilience into the UK wide programme in the event of a future outbreak or similar crisis.

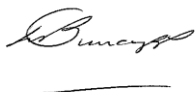
We have seen the benefit of collaboration between clinical teams and transplant centres in supporting transplant activity during the COVID-19 era and we hope that the range of options available to you will enable you to influence the prioritisation of living donor transplantation within your individual Trusts, however you choose to do that.

NHS Commissioners across the UK have worked with us to develop these recommendations and are supportive of them. You are asked to provide a Restoration Action Plan by 24<sup>th</sup> July, using one or more of the recommended options, to achieve pending living donor transplants for donors and recipients who are suitable and willing to proceed by 30<sup>th</sup> September. Particular consideration is to be given to outstanding exchanges identified in previous matching runs of the UK living kidney sharing scheme to avoid jeopardising the October matching run.

We realise that the timeframes are tight, given local and regional constraints on activity but, given the urgency of the situation, we hope that this will provide some impetus and support to your own endeavours.

Please do not hesitate to contact either of us if we can be of further help or support.

Yours sincerely,



**Lisa Burnapp**  
Lead Nurse Living Donation  
NHS Blood and Transplant



**Rommel Ravan**  
Chair – Kidney Advisory Group  
NHS Blood and Transplant