



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

NHSBT BOARD - November 2020

UPDATE FROM THE WELSH GOVERNMENT

1. Organ donation and transplantation position – Wales

Summary Figures	2019/20	2020/21 Year to 30/09/20
Donors after brain death (DBD)	51	17
Donors after circulatory death (DCD)	24	8
Total deceased donors	75	25
Living donors	29	2
Total patients on active list (end of period)	264	170*
Deceased donor transplants	157	51
Living donor transplants	40	3
Total organ transplants	197	54
Number of people opted-in to the ODR	1,285,472	1,300,494
Percentage of population opted-in to the ODR	41	41
Number of people opted-out from the ODR	189,180	191,816
Percentage of population opted-out from ODR	6	6

*transplant waiting lists and transplants based on Welsh postcode of residence of patient. Excludes patients temporarily suspended from the transplant list in addition patients who were suspended while transplant units were closed have been reactivated on the waiting list.

2. Essential Services Update

A significant amount of guidance has been collated, verified and issued to ensure the maintenance of essential services in Wales during the pandemic, including on blood and blood components, bone marrow and stem cells and solid organ transplantation.

3. Legislation

EU Exit legislation for organs and tissues has been made and will come into effect on EU exit day. Officials have participated in a review of the draft Concordat and Framework Outline Agreement which will govern how future changes to the regulations will be handled across the four UK nations

Amendments to the Human Transplantation (Excluded Relevant Materials) (Wales) Regulations which were consulted upon earlier this year have been delayed because of the pandemic. A draft consultation summary report is currently with legal colleagues for checking.

4. Communications and awareness

Wales has started PR and social media activity on organ donation following a pause earlier in the year. Content on our social media channels is focused on reiterating how deemed consent works to maintain understanding of the law; and the role of the family. Our creative agency has discussed with SNODs how we can adapt content to explain their role and the additional challenges faced during a pandemic.

We have several new case studies and new video content on the way. On 1 December we will mark 5 years since the law change in Wales and there will be communications activity looking back at the achievements since 2015, including a video from Health and Social Services Minister Vaughan Gething.

In early 2021 we will be doing a burst of advertising, which will be the final phase of our current campaign. We refreshed the voiceover of the most recent advert ("Organ Donation Shouldn't Be a Guessing Game") to be clearer on people's choices and why it's important to be clear about their decision.

5. Wales Transplantation Advisory Group (WTAG)

WTAG continues to meet to focus on improvements in organ donation and transplantation in Wales. The last meeting was held on 23 September where the focus was on maintaining essential services and preparing for future waves of the pandemic. The meeting also considered the UK wide draft strategy.