

**NHSBT Board**

May 25 2016

**Reports from the UK Health Departments**

Reports from Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland are attached.

## **SCOTLAND - UPDATE**

The Scottish Government has committed to consulting this year on ways of increasing organ donation, including a soft opt out system. Proposals are therefore being developed, although the timing of the consultation is still to be confirmed. Subject to the outcomes of the consultation, legislation is likely to be introduced in the Scottish Parliament in 2017.

The Scottish Government's new organ donation marketing campaign will be launched in early July. This is based around the message 'we need every body' and will feature TV adverts as well as a social media campaign.

We are in the process of recruiting a new Lead Clinician for Organ Donation and Transplantation in Scotland to replace Professor Forsythe. We hope to be able to appoint someone by the end of June.

In relation to infected blood, subsequent to the Penrose Inquiry, a working group chaired by Professor David Goldberg of Health Protection Scotland is currently finalising its recommendations for actions to implement the Inquiry's single recommendation that the Scottish Government should take all reasonable steps to offer a Hepatitis C test to everyone in Scotland who had a blood transfusion before September 1991 and had not been tested for the virus. Once the group's report has been finalised, it will be considered by Scottish Government Ministers.

**Scottish Government  
May 2016**

## **WALES UPDATE REPORT FOR NHSBT BOARD MEETING – 25th May 2016**

The Welsh Government looks forward to working closely with Jeremy Monroe in his role as NHSBT non executive director representing Welsh interest.

### **Organ Donation and Transplantation**

#### **Human Transplantation (Wales) Act 2013**

Highlights of the latest public attitudes survey results which shows 74% of people are now aware of the changes to the organ donation system in Wales. Welsh Government has also issued a press release on the number of deemed consent cases since the introduction of the new system of consent. Copies of which can be found at:

- Waves 10 - <http://gov.wales/statistics-and-research/public-attitudes-organ-donation/?lang=en>
- Press release - <http://gov.wales/newsroom/healthandsocialcare/?lang=en>

Further public attitude surveys will continue to be undertaken in 2016 and Wave 11 is expected to be published in September.

#### **NHSBT and WG communications strategy from April 2016**

Our new communication strategy has been approved and shared with NHSBT, the Welsh Transplantation Advisory Group and its Communications sub-group. We are expecting the health boards to deliver their local communication plans in line with Welsh Governments strategy. We are proposing to run our campaign 'bursts' at the same time as NHSBT.

#### **Taking Organ Transplantation to 2020 – Wales Action Plan**

Work continues to progress implementing the Wales Action Plan, the next meeting of the Wales Transplantation Advisory Group (WTAG) is scheduled for September 2016. Responsibility for transition and monitoring of the HT(W)A 2013 has now been passed to this group.

#### **All Wales Blood Service (AWBS)**

The AWBS became a single, unified service in which every blood and blood product donation in Wales will directly support Welsh patients on May 2<sup>nd</sup> 2016.

The service is running well with orders to AWBS from North Wales being filled promptly.

Blood collections are close to target with donor experience and satisfaction good. There have no identified issues raised by members of the public, media or any other interested party.

Reciprocal arrangements are in place between NHSBT and AWBS for blood and blood products which are unusual or stocks are significantly depleted

**Welsh Government**  
**May 2016**

## **UPDATE FROM THE NORTHERN IRELAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

### **New Northern Ireland Executive**

At the time of writing (17 May 2016) the parties have not yet agreed a draft Programme for Government, which will set out the priorities and action for the new Northern Ireland Executive. Departmental Ministers will not be appointed until after this is agreed.

### **The Health (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill**

The Bill received Royal Assent on 12 May 2016. It includes two clauses which require the Department of Health to promote and provide information on transplantation; and to produce an annual report on transplantation.

During the Final Stage debate on 15 March 2016, Minister Simon Hamilton gave a commitment to establishing a Clinical Advisory Group to develop a Communications Policy Statement to implement the organ donation promotional activity required under Clause 15.

### **Clinical Advisory Group**

The terms of reference for the Clinical Advisory Group are:

1. To benchmark communication with the public and potential donor families on organ donation awareness and consent in Northern Ireland against national and international best practice;
2. To carry out a gap analysis identifying action that needs to be taken by Health and Social Care in Northern Ireland to improve our communications policy on organ donation awareness and consent to the level of international best practice in this field;
3. To advise the Department on the communication priority areas to be targeted in order to increase the level of consent for organ donation;
4. To advise the Department on continuing professional development to ensure that HSC staff are fully equipped with the necessary skills and knowledge to improve the level of consent for organ donation;
5. To develop key principles and a framework to implement the communication priority areas and staff development in relation to increasing consent for organ donation;
6. To develop a code of practice aimed at ensuring that Health and Social Care Trusts work in partnership with local government and the voluntary sector to

develop local communication plans to promote organ donation and transplantation practice at a local population level; and,

7. To bring forward proposals for a dedicated communications plan targeted at the education sector to increase young people's awareness of organ donation and transplantation practice.

**Northern Irish Government**  
**May 2016**