



UK LKD Network Newsletter

INTRODUCTION

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the May Network Newsletter.



This is our first as the new Co-Chairs. We would like to start with a big thank you to the outgoing chairs Caroline Wroe and Katie Vinen for all of their hard work in leading the UK LKD Network since its inception. The bar has been set very high!

In this edition our focus is on last month's annual UK LKD meeting in Birmingham. It was wonderful that so many of us were able to meet face-to-face and enjoy the experience of networking with each other once again.



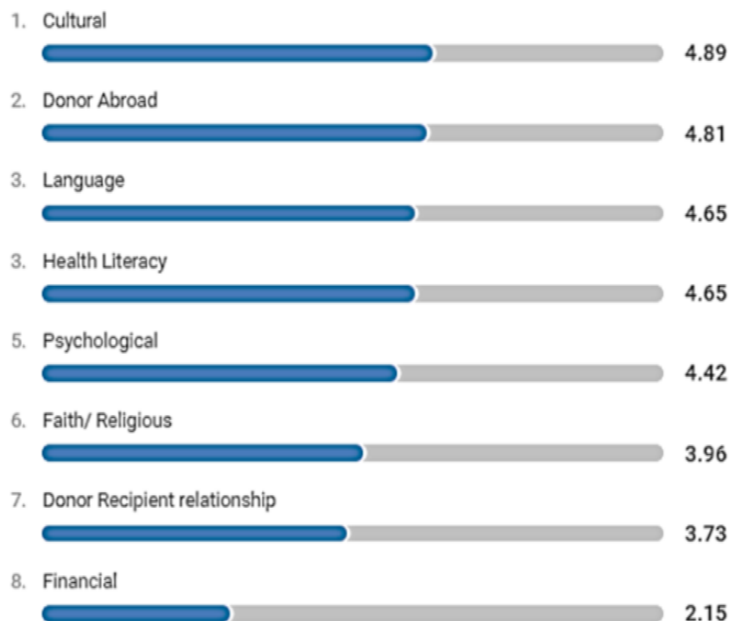
Thank you to everyone who was involved in the preparation and delivery of the meeting, and to all attendees for your contribution to a wide-ranging agenda. We placed an emphasis on linking the different elements of the advanced kidney care planning journey, for which the wide representation from the different clinical disciplines in both our transplanting and non-transplanting centres was very helpful.

The plenary sessions provided some important insights into current activities and future directions for living donation in the UK, including national commissioning of services in the context of the Renal Services Transformation Project and the Organ Donation and Transplantation 2030 Strategy. There was an invaluable review of the increasing relevance of genetic testing in the field of living donor transplantation, with some excellent cases that prompted lively discussion involving specialist nurses, transplant co-ordinators and medical, surgical and laboratory clinicians. It was also very interesting to learn about optimisation of diabetes care and how this may affect decision making in terms of pancreatic and islet cell transplantation for type 1 diabetes. The success of the REACH programme in Lothian and Borders, extending to all of Scotland with governmental support, was very encouraging - Orla Hobson shared her experiences of how to initiate and develop living donor discussions within the REACH framework. The key message was that these discussions should not be undertaken in isolation, and need to be tailored to the particular circumstances of a patient and their family. This requires a breadth of knowledge and expertise in the advanced kidney care planning team, which can be challenging.

The workshops provided an opportunity to review the workings of the UK Living Kidney Sharing Scheme, which we will develop further at the next forum; aspects of decision making and mental health support for potential living donors; and ways in which our practices can be modified to provide a model of sustainable kidney care.

The Supporting Living Donors workshop was run by Suzanne Whitehead, Lead Clinical Psychologist at North Bristol NHS Trust and Sunil Daga, Consultant Nephrologist at Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust. The findings of a recent national audit on patient information leaflet were presented. It was suggested that these leaflets should have a stated purpose, context and information tailored to local demographics, such that they are inclusive and address relevant barriers.

Rank the barriers to living kidney donation you find difficult to deal with current resources (1 most difficult to 8 not that difficult)



The group discussion identified different characteristics of underserved groups in different units and colleagues shared novel insights as to how these groups can be reached (such as GOLD program in London, REACH initiative in Scotland, Cultural Engagement Officer in Bradford, and a number of projects under Living Transplant Initiatives funded by NHSBT).

Access to psychological services remains limited. Psychological staff embedded in renal teams can provide training to up-skill the renal clinical team in advanced communication, peer support initiatives, screening and assessment of donors meeting criteria for further assessment and support. There are improved

psychosocial screening and assessment tools for donors including the EPAT tool: (<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/tri.13041>)

Reducing the carbon footprint of living donor kidney programmes to support the national Sustainable Kidney Care initiative is something we intend to revisit soon, as many good ideas were shared about how we might turn this from an aspiration to a reality.

We are already looking forward to next year's meeting and hope you are too. The feedback was very positive and included a desire to allow more time for informal networking and retain the case discussion format. Please do not hesitate to get in contact with us if you have other ideas to share about future meetings and strengthening of our LKD Network.

'Save the Dates':

UK Kidney Week, 7-9 June 2022: Hilton Birmingham Metropole

<https://ukkidney.org/health-professionals/uk-kidney-week>

BTS 50th Anniversary Congress, 5-7 September 2022: ICC, Waterfront, Belfast

<https://bts.org.uk/events-meetings/bts-annual-congress-2022/>

Hoffenberg Memorial Lecture: Xenotransplantation: State of the science, practice and ethics, 17 November, 5pm (Virtual) <https://bts.org.uk/hoffenberg-memorial-lecture-2022/>

Resources:

COVID-19: For latest information about the pandemic vaccination FAQs and winter pressures documents:

NHSBT: <https://www.odt.nhs.uk/deceased-donation/covid-19-advice-for-clinicians/>

BTS: <https://bts.org.uk/information-resources/covid-19-information/>

UK Kidney Association (UKKA): <https://renal.org/health-professionals/covid-19>

Other NHSBT Resources

Activity and centre specific reports <https://www.odt.nhs.uk/statistics-and-reports/>
COVID 19 advice for clinicians <https://www.odt.nhs.uk/covid-19-advice-for-clinicians/>

Living Donation

Professional resources <https://www.odt.nhs.uk/living-donation/>
Donor information <https://www.organdonation.nhs.uk/become-a-living-donor/>
Recipient information <https://www.odt.nhs.uk/information-for-patients/>
Promotional materials <https://www.nhsbt.nhs.uk/how-you-can-help/get-involved/living-organ-donation-materials/>
Community Investment Scheme -Living Donation <https://www.nhsbt.nhs.uk/livingscheme/>
Writing to living donors www.nhsbt.nhs.uk/writing-to-your-living-donor

Please refer to the separate update for the latest on the UK Living Kidney Sharing Scheme and NHSBT living donation news:

<https://www.odt.nhs.uk/living-donation/uk-living-kidney-donation-network/>

Donor-recipient information/organisations:

Kidney Care UK: <https://www.kidneycareuk.org/news-and-campaigns/coronavirus-advice/>

Please see the links below to the 'Kidney Matters' magazine for Autumn 2021, featuring the UK Living Kidney Sharing Scheme, and Winter 2021, featuring a celebration of black kidney donors throughout Black History Month:

<https://www.yumpu.com/en/document/read/65813601/kidney-matters-issue-14-2021>

<https://www.yumpu.com/en/document/read/65980591/kidney-matters-issue-15-winter-2021>

National Kidney Federation: <https://www.kidney.org.uk/news/coronavirus-latest-information-and-advice>

Give a Kidney: <https://www.giveakidney.org/>

GOLD: <http://giftoflivingdonation.co.uk/>

Please contact us if we can help or support you in anyway.

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