

SNOD care box for DCD withdrawals in the anaesthetic room in the Level 1 Hospital

Joanne Hughes – Specialist Nurse Organ Donation, Royal Victoria Hospital, Northern Ireland

- **INTRODUCTION** : In November 2020 at the height of the Pandemic, the Regional Intensive Care Unit(RICU) moved to a new unit over 2 floors at a distance from theatres with an impact on the location of withdrawal of treatment(WLST) for our DCD Donors. A portable SNOD care box was introduced to aid a safe and effective experience for our donors and families and to support the Bedside Nurse in an unfamiliar environment.



- **BACKGROUND** : Due to the planned relocation of the RICU further away from the theatre location a change of practice was required, with a need for WLST to take place in the theatre anaesthetic room. **How could we make this as safe, streamlined and comfortable for families and staff involved whilst optimising organ donation potential?** A planning group involving all the key clinical stakeholders was formed to address the issue. This generated the idea of having a portable 'SNOD care box' to keep all items together in a safe place, portable, wipeable and easy to use. The pink SNOD care box allows the SNOD to carry all essential items needed for smooth WLST in a different location.



- **RESULTS**: The pink SNOD care box has been very well received by all SNOD and clinical colleagues. It is lightweight, wipeable, on wheels and secure with a lid. Allowing ease of transport with all Donor relevant materials, it has proved very helpful to families and staff alike. The box contains hankies, bottles of water, battery run tea lights and warm blankets for relatives attending. Relevant paperwork, role cards and a tub containing items required for WLST, i.e. pen torch, gauze, stethoscope, scissors etc. for the BSN and the certifying Medic attending.

- **CONCLUSION**: The SNOD care box is now an important aspect of all the DCD WLSTs in the theatre environment. This little touch is enough to help make this as positive an experience as possible for families and staff involved.

