

QUality in Organ Donation (QUOD)

Information Leaflet for recipients of kidneys from donors participating in QUOD



You are being provided with this information leaflet because you may be offered a kidney that has been included in the Quality in Organ Donation (QUOD) research programme. If this is the case, relatives of the donor will have agreed for small samples of their loved one's organs to be removed and used for research.

The purpose of the QUOD programme is to provide a resource that can support research to improve outcomes of transplantation in the future. This research lets us look at what factors influence success and failure of organ transplantation, and how injury to donated organs can be prevented. For this work, we need to study biological material from the organ donor.

Despite efforts by many, we still face a persistent donor organ shortage in the UK. However, there may be things that we can do prior to organ transplantation that will improve the quality of organs and help us to better understand how we can improve the function of a transplant. To help doctors learn more about this requires research on samples from organs that will be transplanted.

Please take the time to read the following information carefully and discuss it with others if you wish. If anything is not clear or if you would like more information, please ask your clinical team.

What does taking part involve?

After agreement from the organ donor's relatives, the medical team has taken a very small tissue sample of the kidney, ureter, liver, heart and spleen as well as some blood, urine and fluid taken from the lungs. Some samples were taken in the intensive care unit (blood and urine) and the tissue samples were taken after the donor operation when the donor organs had been removed for transplantation. The tissue samples are approximately the size of a cooked grain of rice. We will allow research groups to use these samples in order to understand how organs undergo changes during the donation process and whether it is possible to prevent damage and improve organ function and survival after transplantation.

What are the additional risks or burdens from receiving a kidney from a donor taking part in QUOD?

There may be a small risk of bleeding in the recipient during or after the transplant operation is performed. In a small number of cases the bleeding may be significant and may require you to have treatment to stop the bleeding for example, further surgery or a blood transfusion (one in every 361 biopsies). This may result in a longer hospital stay.

Your surgical team takes similar biopsies on a routine basis and has been trained for this procedure. The site is stitched by the transplant surgeon which will reduce any risk of bleeding. The risks are minimised because the site where the biopsy is taken can be seen and if necessary, any required action can be taken straight away.

If you have any further question as regards the QUOD programme or want more details about the operation, please ask your clinical team.

Will my personal details be affected?

No. We do not require or use any personal details from you. We will however request anonymous clinical data relating to the outcome of the transplant to study the factors which influence the success and failure of organ transplantation.

How can I find out about the results of the research projects?

More information about QUOD is available at www.quod.org.uk
Results of the research projects which use QUOD samples will also be published there.
If you do not have access to the internet or if you would like to receive further information or provide feedback on your personal experience of the QUOD programme, please contact your clinical team.

Who is funding and organising the study?

The QUOD Programme is funded by NHS Blood and Transplant and the UK Medical Research Council and is a collaboration of the following institutions:

University of Cambridge
University of Edinburgh
Kings College London
Newcastle University
University of Oxford
Oxford University Hospitals
Royal Free London
University Hospitals Birmingham
Cardiff University Hospital
Leeds Teaching Hospital
Central Manchester University Hospital

Who has reviewed the study?

The study has been reviewed by the North West – GM Central Research Ethics Committee (ref 23/NW/0097) and the Scotland A Research Ethics Committee (ref 20/SS/0105).

Contact the Principal Investigator / QUOD Team

Oxford Transplant Centre
Churchill Hospital
Headington
Oxford
OX3 7LE

QUOD office telephone numbers:
01865 223573
01865 223574
Email: contact@quod.org.uk