



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

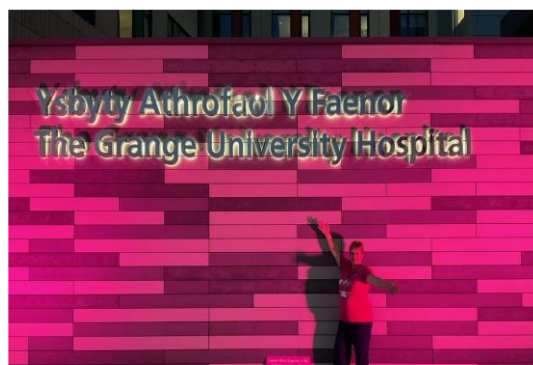
NHSBT BOARD 28TH NOVEMBER 2023: REPORT FROM WALES

Donation activity and key priorities – South Wales Team update

1. There have been 28 donors in the year to date with referral rates between 98-100%. Consent rates remain a priority with work underway to review the data and identify specific actions. A Welsh language consent form is in development. Whilst staffing remains a challenge, the team is very engaged and a specialist requestor role, shared with the Southwest England Team, has been established.
2. Specialist Nurses are building positive relationships with the new Medical Examiner and Coronial Services and have been invited to attend meetings to present on organ donation. The South Wales Team were delighted to host NHSBT's Director of Nursing Denise Thiruchelvam on a site visit and had the opportunity to share with Chief Executive Officer Jo Farrar their experiences as an OD service. The team have also hosted and supported a 10-day international placement for two Transplant Coordinators, Stella and Joyce, who visited from NOTU Singapore.
3. The Clinical Lead Organ Donation network has been strengthened with the addition of a new neonatal and two paediatric CLODs. They are also looking to establish a tissue CLOD and are working with a health board on a potential eye retrieval service.

Organ Donation Week and Other Events

4. The North and South Wales Teams supported a number of promotional opportunities during Organ Donation Week, including
 - Lighting up buildings pink!



- Taking part in the Race for Recipients.



- Walking up Yr Wyddfa (Snowdon)



- Holding a North Wales Donor Memorial Event



5. Specialist Nurses also recently presented at events such as BTS and national paediatric conferences. The Annual Order of St John event was held to recognise the gift of organ donation and saw 30+ families attend to collect awards and this year marked the 10-year anniversary of the events and collaboration with OSJ. A celebratory event was held in Chapter Hall London and had Welsh representation.
6. The team recently attended a Black Police Association event to promote organ donation and a multifaith webinar in conjunction with charity Kidney Wales to dispel myths. A memorial event for past and present donor families held at the National Botanical Gardens for Wales was well attended and supported by the 2Wish choir.

Transplant Symposium – 6th October 2023 in Cardiff

7. The Transplant Symposium organised by the Cardiff Transplant Unit Team and held on 6th October was a great success. There were over 150 attendees from around the UK and the event covered several topical subjects with speakers from around the world. There was an update on Organ Donation and Transplantation in Wales, Organ Recovery, NRP, the ethics of future advances in transplantation, and social media and transplantation.
8. Emanuel Cozzi from Padua joined the event to give an update on xenotransplantation and also Nizam Mamode who described his experience of setting up a new transplant programme in Mauritius. The main sessions in the afternoon were themed around robotic transplant surgery, with Ioannis Loukopoulos, Makis Laftsidis and Ivo Tzvetanov (from Chicago) giving presentations on their experiences, which prompted lots of discussions.
9. The parallel session in the afternoon covered physical and emotional well-being, NRP practicalities for SNODs, how to follow up transplant patients, and pregnancy in transplant recipients. The feedback was exceptionally good and the team has taken plenty of ideas away to consider.

Cardiff Transplant Unit update

10. The Hep C positive donor programme continues with excellent outcomes and the live donor programme is going from strength to strength. Over the last couple of years the unit has delivered 20% above baseline numbers in terms of transplant activity, and increasingly complex patients.

Blood related issues

11. On 6 November, Jo Farrar met colleagues from the Welsh Blood Service and the blood policy team at Welsh Government for an introductory meeting.
12. On the plasma for medicines project, officials are working with colleagues at Welsh Blood Service to produce a business case which will go to the Minister in the New Year.
13. The Hep B lookback project is ongoing and we await further discussions at four nations to agree further categorisation.