

NHS BLOOD AND TRANSPLANT

CARDIOTHORACIC ADVISORY GROUP

Clinical Governance Report

General Statistics

An initial analysis of all Incidents reported to ODT over a 6 month period, July - December 2013, has been performed.

There were 211 incidents, but the database can only be interrogated by key words, so the figures below represent the numbers of times an organ is “mentioned”.

13 mentioned heart alone, 27 mentioned heart plus other organs. The lung was mentioned 8 times alone, and with other organs on another 21 occasions.

For comparison between all the organ groups:

	Kidney	Liver	Heart	Lung	Pancreas (All)*
Alone	55	21	13	8	11
+ Others	33	30	27	21	12
Total	88	51	40	29	23
Approx Tx In 6 Months	850	425	95	100	120

*Activity for Pancreas is taken as Pancreas alone, Kidney/Pancreas and Islets

In *very rough terms*, the number of incidents reported per transplant, where heart or lung is mentioned is above all the other organs.

One way of looking at this is that 1 kidney transplant in 10 is mentioned in an Incident, and 1 liver transplant in 8. For the lung this is 1 in 3, and 1 in 2.5 for the heart.

If we look at the frequencies where they are the only organs involved, only 1 in 7 heart transplants generates an incident, and only 1 in 12 for lung transplants.

All these comparisons are very seriously flawed by the unknown denominator – reporting for most incidents is voluntary, and enthusiasm for reporting varies widely.

Specific Concerns

The most important issue to have surfaced several times is that of delayed retrieval as a result of requirements of cardiothoracic implant teams. Between December 2011 and November 2013, there were 4 incidents reported (and numerous other anecdotes). Details will be tabled as a precursor to discussions to be led by Prof Yonan.