

**NHS BLOOD AND TRANSPLANT
CARDIOTHORACIC ADVISORY GROUP**

Heart decline rates by centre - Preliminary analysis

Introduction

This paper summarises analyses that have been performed to compare transplant centre organ decline rates with the national decline rate, for heart offers. This analysis was performed for all organs for a recent Advisory Group Chairs' meeting.

Data

Data were obtained from the UK Transplant Registry for hearts transplanted in the UK between 1 April 2010 and 31 March 2013. Offering data for these organs were analysed using certain criteria for each organ type. Within this analysis, declined offers were counted as those where the offer was declined straight away and also those where the organ was accepted and then not used. Decline rates were calculated for each centre and compared to the national average using a funnel plot analysis. Note that no risk-adjustment for patient case-mix has been made.

Results

No significant difference in decline rates was found across the transplant centres for heart offers.

Conclusion

For organs where significant centre differences in decline rates were observed, these will be further investigated and reviewed.

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Hearts

322 UK non-urgent offers of 119 hearts that were transplanted into adult, non-urgent patients for first, heart-only grafts were included in the analysis. 2 hearts that were transplanted into adults by Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH) were excluded, as were all GOSH offers. Fast-track offers were also excluded. Note that 61% of all adult transplants in the UK were urgent and therefore excluded from this analysis.

Results

Table 1 shows the centre decline rates for heart offers. The table is colour-coded to indicate any centres which have a decline rate significantly above the national rate, above the national rate, below the national rate and significantly below the national rate. The key to the colour coding is as follows:

Significantly below the national rate	Below the national rate	Consistent with the national rate	Above the national rate	Significantly above the national rate
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The funnel plot used for the analysis can be found in **Appendix I**.

Table 1 DBD donor heart offer decline rates by heart transplant centre		
Centre	No. offers	Decline rate
Birmingham	57	(47)
Glasgow	61	(77)
Harefield	52	(75)
Manchester	53	(64)
Newcastle	42	(62)
Papworth	57	(53)
UK	322	(63)

The DBD donor heart decline rates are shown in **Table 1**. No centre has a significantly high or low decline rate for heart offers, however there is evidence that the decline rate may be below the national average for Birmingham and above the national average for Glasgow and Harefield.

Summary

No significant difference in centre decline rates has been found for non-urgent heart offers. Hearts were the only organ type examined where no significant difference was found, and for all other organs this variation will be further investigated and reviewed.

Appendix I – funnel plots of transplant centre decline rates

Figure 1 Funnel plot of heart transplant centre decline rates

