

**NHS BLOOD AND TRANSPLANT
ORGAN AND TISSUE DONATION AND TRANSPLANTATION**

**THE MINUTES OF THE FORTY SIXTH MEETING OF
THE KIDNEY ADVISORY GROUP
ON 11th OCTOBER 2023 09:00AM
VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS**

ATTENDEES:

Rommel Ravanan	Chair, Kidney Group Advisory
John Asher	Glasgow Representative
Atul Bagul	Leicester Representative
Lydia Ball	Lead Renal Commissioner, NHS England
Victoria Banwell	Surgical Trainee Representative
Adam Barlow	Leeds Representative
Adam Barley	SNOD, NHSBT
Richard Battle	BHSI Representative and National H&I Manager
Kathryn Brady	Recipient Coordinator Representative
Lisa Burnapp	AMD - Living Donation and Transplantation, NHSBT
Joanna Chalker	Regional Manager & SNOD Representative
Andrew Connor	Plymouth Representative
Aisling Courtney	Northern Ireland Representative
Abbas Ghazanfar	St George's Representative
Giuseppe Giuffrida	Manchester Representative (deputy for D van Dellen)
Paul Harden	Oxford Representative
Nick Inston	National CLU & Birmingham Representative
Rebeka Jenkins	Clinical Research Fellow, NHSBT
Gareth Jones	London Collaborative Clinical Lead & BTS Representative
Katrin Jones	Newcastle Representative
Lazarus Karamadoukis	Dorchester Representative
Derek Manas	Medical Director – OTDT, NHSBT
Sanjay Mehra	Liverpool Representative
Pramod Nagaraja	Cardiff Representative
Laura Pairman	NHS Lothian/Recipient Coordinator Representative
Ravi Pararajasingam	Sheffield Representative
Gavin Pettigrew	RINTAG Representative
Paul Phelan	Edinburgh Representative
Vanessa Pritchard	National Professional Development Specialist, NHSBT
Tracey Rees	Chief Scientific Officer, OTDT
Matthew Robb	Statistics & Clinical Research, NHSBT
Debabrata Roy	Coventry Representative
Stephanie Russell	SNOD, NHSBT
Lisa Silas	Guys Representative (deputy for J Olsburgh)
Smeeta Sinha	National Clinical Director for Renal Services, NHS England
John Stoves	Bradford Representative
Dominic Summers	Cambridge University NHS Trust
Rupesh Sutaria	Portsmouth Representative
Nicholas Torpey	Cambridge Representative
Ines Ushiro-Lumb	Lead Clinical Microbiologist, OTDT
Julie Whitney	Head of Service Delivery - Hub Operations, NHSBT
Anthony Wrigley	Lay Member
James Yates	Nottingham Representative (deputy for A Knight)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Alicia Jakeman	Clinical Support Services, NHSBT
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APOLOGIES:

Ian Currie, Frank Dor, H Hendra, Dela Idowu, Amanda Knight, Jonathan Olsburgh, Cinzia Sammartino, Angie Scales, Shaminie Shanmugaranjan, Samuel Turner, David Van Dellen, Steve White, Alun Williams

ITEM		ACTION
1	<p>Declarations of interest in relation to agenda</p> <p><i>Please note that it is the policy of NHSBT to publish all papers on the website unless the papers include patient identifiable information, preliminary or unconfirmed data, confidential and commercial information or will preclude publication in a peer-reviewed professional journal. Authors of such papers should indicate whether their paper falls into these categories.</i></p>	
	There were no declarations of interest raised.	
2	Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd July 2023	
	<p>2.1 Accuracy Minutes approved without any changes</p>	
	2.2 Action points	
	<p>AP1 - Renal screening calls J Chalker provided an update on the task to operationalise the change to renal screening with a new SOP written as previously agreed at KAG. SNOD Training will start from the end of October 2023. The start date should be 1st January 2024. The SCORE program has a dedicated workstream looking at screening across all organs which may prompt a change in the future.</p> <p>AP3 - Allocation of left versus right kidney J Whitney confirmed that go-live will be w/c 16 October 2023, following a meeting with PAG members.</p> <p>AP4 - Live Donor Activity Report On Agenda.</p> <p>AP5 - Kidney sharing scheme with Europe update L Burnapp advised that she received one nomination for the working group and asked for volunteers to contact her.</p> <p>AP6 - Review of matchability point banding review M Robb advised members that existing process updates new recipients only and a workaround is being sought to enable updates for existing and new patients on list. The work to make update the score for all recipients is ongoing with the aim of being completed by the end of 2023.</p> <p>AP9 - Imlifidase national panel details L Ball confirmed that the commissioning statement has been finalised and is due to be published soon. The national MDT panel will then be stood down.</p> <p>AP10 - KAG representatives with tenure completion in 2023 On Agenda.</p>	
	2.3 Matters arising, not separately identified	
	There were no matters arising.	
3	Medical Director's Report	
	<p>D Manas informed members of new appointments with a new chair of LAG, Varuna Aluvihare. A new Co-Chair, Steven Masson has been appointed with Anya Adair is the new surgical lead.</p> <p>Tracey Rees is planning to retire and return as Chief Scientific Officer.</p> <p>L Burnapp advised that she will retire and return in March 2024 and then work three days per week. An 8a Living donation support post will be advertised to work alongside Lisa, to continue with operational aspects of the program.</p> <p>CLUs have funding until mid-2024. Histopathology has been funded for the interim.</p> <p>Sub-Groups have been set up to support implementation of the OUG recommendations: a stakeholder group, a Xenotransplantation group, a Genomics group, and a Trust engagement group led by Chris Callaghan.</p> <p>King's islet isolation Lab is closed and NHSBT are working with Commissioners to support Edinburgh and Oxford.</p> <p>The Birmingham paediatric program has been under workforce pressure. R Ravanan advised of an upcoming meeting with Birmingham Womens' and</p>	

	<p>Children's NHS Trust to understand the extent of the problem. L Ball asked for Commissioners to be included in this call.</p> <p>The NORS change process will be made more sustainable under the SCORE program.</p> <p>D Manas confirmed flights should not be used for transporting organs (unless in exceptional circumstance) when a terrestrial option is available.</p> <p>CUSUM process has been busy with good engagement from centres with four recent CUSUMs now closed.</p> <p>TransplantPath will replace EOS in early 2024.</p> <p>Sourcing UW solution remains a problem.</p> <p>Corneal donation will improve with new retrieval schemes set up.</p>	
3.1	ODT Hub update	
3.2	HTA B Forms	
	<p>J Whitney confirmed that HTA B form return rates have much improved but advised that accuracy of the forms needs more focus, especially damage related data is recorded correctly. Three-month follow-up form return rates have also been good. Both J Whitney and R Ramanan conveyed their thanks to centres for the improved form submission.</p>	
4	NHSE RSTP Presentation	
	<p>Prof S Sinha (National Clinical Director for Renal Services for NHS England) introduced and discussed Renal Service Transformation Programme (RSTP) derivation of which included collaboration between NHSE and NHSBT, UKKA and BTS. She provided details on the toolkit for pre-transplant, acute transplant and post-transplant care. The Renal dashboard can be viewed at regional and national level.</p> <p>L Ball confirmed that six current service specifications will be consolidated into one as the whole pathway approach, with renal transformation being identified by each NHS England region as a priority. She confirmed that, as part of that service specification development process, NHSE will go through a financial impact assessment. L Ball will forward the presentation to A Jakeman for dissemination to members, she provided the link to the RSTP website: Renal Service Transformation Programme - FutureNHS Collaboration Platform</p>	L Ball
5	Suspended patients review	
	<p>M Robb presented analyses of patients suspended during the pandemic and a wider review of suspended patients with historic comparisons. Patient groups had raised concerns on the large number of and fate of suspended patients. Following agreement at KAG in October 2022, an IT request has been logged to restrict the number of waiting time points that can be accumulated while suspended, for recipients who are activated on the kidney transplant list prior to starting dialysis.</p> <p>R Ramanan provided feedback that patient groups they were happy with the number at over 90% reactivated post pandemic but were concerned that some centres had >50% of list suspended and duration of suspension in some cases (one patient has been suspended for 18+ years).</p> <p>Detailed discussion on next steps including additional or different data being available, centres using data to review their suspended patients, what could be learnt from the high performing centres, continued self-policing vs mandated actions. D Manas and R Ramanan will chat to centre leads in the two centres with >50% suspensions and R Ramanan to bring a discussion paper for suggested next steps to next KAG meeting.</p> <p>Centres can contact M Robb/S Shanmugarajan and obtain centre-specific data.</p>	R Ramanan
6	Living Donor update	
	<p>L Burnapp provided an update on living donation with activity at -6%, although there is some late reporting. She thanked members for encouraging colleagues to report transplants in a timely manner. The 2023 Activity Report is now published on the NHSBT website. The Living Donor Kidney Policy is</p>	

	<p>also published.</p> <p>LB and MR continue to lead on UK efforts to achieve EU and international collaboration wrt kidney sharing options.</p> <p>Phase two of the UKLKSS digital platform has been delayed due to IT issues.</p> <p>LB discussed on-going travel for transplantation agenda, with stakeholder engagement events held on behalf of DHSC. These followed on from concerns raised by patient representatives regarding engagement with hard-to-reach communities. Ongoing work should come to fruition by the end of March 2024, information Webinars will be held.</p> <p>LB confirmed that half of the funding for the living donor liver proctor team has been received.</p>	
7	Governance update	
	R Baker was not present at the meeting, the report was circulated to members prior to the meeting. R Ravanan echoed D Manas's thanks to centres for providing comprehensive CUSUM reports and lessons learnt being implemented.	
8	KAG Paediatric Sub-Group update	
	A Williams not available for the meeting but had wanted KAG members to be aware of workforce resilience at Birmingham Womens' and Children's NHS Trust (as discussed by Derek Manas).	
9	Waiting time credit for non-UK dialysis start	
	<p>M Robb presented the paper on options to standardise dialysis start date definition for non-UK dialysis start. Current practise is to have different threshold for EU vs non-EU origin but not officially captured in POL186.</p> <p>R Ravanan will ask D Manas if a resource can be created and published for units to access to create standardised practice.</p> <p>Extensive discussion on pros/cons for the various options concluded (1) patients should be treated the same irrespective of country of origin i.e. same rules for all countries (2) It is not for clinicians or NHSBT to define whether a patient is eligible to be listed for transplantation (Group 1 vs Group 2) – centres should seek advice from their trust/health board legal team and follow such advice (3) It was not possible to achieve consensus on what start date for dialysis should be used for non-UK dialysis start. It was also noted current systems do not allow capture of scale or distribution of patients in this category. Agreement that as an interim any requests for patients in this situation should come to a national panel chaired by KAG chair to be considered on case-by-case basis, to enable consistent and auditable decision making. For the longer term, R Ravanan will seek legal advice from NHSBT and bring to next KAG meeting.</p>	<p>R Ravanan</p> <p>R Ravanan</p>
10	Patient Representative/Lay Member update	
	No updates were provided during the meeting.	
11	PAG update	
	S White was not present at the meeting.	
12	CLU update	
	N Inston was not present at the meeting.	
13	Feedback from non-transplanting reps	
	L Karamadoukis updated the group on the workforce survey for Non-transplanting units. Himself and J Stoves have so far had 14 replies out of 48 non-transplanting units in the UK, they will push over the next two months to try to get as many responses as possible. He advised that so far the survey for the non-surgical units shows quite a lot of variation.	

14	Recipient coordinator update	
	K Brady provided a recipient coordinator update having received feedback regarding the proposed change in the NORS activity and how it may affect the coordinator groups. J Whitney advised that no decisions have been made yet, with IT solutions to be explored. A working group has been established to look at proposals. J Whitney confirmed that she will provide a SCORE update at a future KAG meeting.	
15	Feedback from trainee reps	
	This was discussed under Agenda Item 19.	
16	Uncontrolled DCD feasibility project	
	D Summers presented his pilot study to members on uncontrolled DCD organ donation, including data from a study in Spain. The project is based at Cambridge and the Royal Free with the primary end point of five utilised donors. He asked members to contact him for further information or to be considered for the next phase of the study.	All centres
17	HHV8	
	I Ushiro-Lumb provided an update to members on HHV-8 testing of deceased organ donors and actions based on test results. She confirmed a detailed action protocol will be sent to centres in case of a positive donor test.	
18	KAG Membership Tenure	
	RR presented the relevant paper. Unanimous support KAG should continue with one rep/centre rather than revert to one rep/twinned centres. The tenure for centre reps is currently fixed at four years. R Pararajasingam advised that the new Sheffield Representative is Avneesh Kumar. A Barlow, Leeds Representative will be replaced by Madeleine Vernon. A Bagul will continue as Leicester Representative. S Mehra will continue as Liverpool Representative. V Banwell demits office as of this meeting. Herrick Society have nominated Benedict Phillips as Surgical Trainee Representative. H Hendra demits office in Jan 2024 and BTPTS will nominate a replacement.	
19	Workforce analysis final report	
	V Banwell provided the final version of workforce analyses after centres provided feedback correcting individual errors etc. L Burnapp will forward contact details to R Ravanan in order for the data to be used to input into updating BTS documentation.	L Burnapp
20	Any Other Business	
	There were no items for discussion.	
21	For information	
21.1	QUOD report - KAG(23)28	
21.2	Liver and kidney paper - KAG(23)29	
21.3	UKLKSS Quarterly Performance Figures - KAG(23)30	
21.4	Infant donors - KAG(23)31	
	Dates of next meetings: 18 th January 2024 09:00 - 13:00 MS Teams 16 th April 2024 09:00 - 13:00 MS Teams (Only if required) 3 rd July 2024 10:00 - 15:30 F2F Venue TBC 18 th October 2024 - 09:00 - 13:00 MS Teams	
Organ and Tissue Donation and Transplantation Directorate		October 2023