



Blood and Transplant

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FAO: All External Colleagues

Distributed by Email:

23rd February 2024
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Dear Colleague,

Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics (H&I) support and advice in Organ and Tissue Donation and Transplantation (OTDT)

We are writing to update you with regards to how H&I support and advice in Organ and Tissue Donation and Transplantation will be provided from 1st March 2024.

The OTDT Chief Scientific Officer (CSO) role has been performed by Consultant Clinical Scientists external to NHSBT for several years. The post holders have provided expert advice on matters relating to H&I and the use of that information in allocation and transplantation.

Following the retirement of the OTDT CSO last year, discussions have taken place at H&I and OTDT Senior Management Team meetings re. how the support can be continued. An opportunity to provide H&I assistance to OTDT from NHSBT Clinical Services H&I under the leadership of the Consultant Clinical Scientist & National Head of H&I, supported by NHSBT Consultant Clinical Scientists, has been proposed and endorsed, and will be piloted for 6 months.

To ensure a consistent communication channel, from 1st March 2024, all requests for H&I support and advice can be made via a dedicated email address:

OTDTHandlsupportrequests@nhsbt.nhs.uk.

All requests will be reviewed and acted on appropriately.

Please ensure that you use the dedicated email address from 1st March 2024. We will of course share with you the outcome of the pilot and next steps in due course.

Yours sincerely

Professor Derek Manas
Medical Director – OTDT
NHS Blood and Transplant

Dr Katy Latham
Consultant Clinical Scientist & National Head of H&I
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