

# Key rates on the deceased organ donation pathway by Organ Donation Services Team

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## Background

In order to maximise the conversion of potential donors to actual donors in the UK, certain key events on the deceased organ donation pathway need to occur following identification of a potential donor:

- Brain-stem death testing (DBD pathway only)
- Referral of potential donors to a Specialist Nurse – Organ Donation (SN-OD)
- Approaching the family of eligible donors for consent/authorisation for donation
- Involving the SN-OD in the formal approach to the family
- Obtaining consent/authorisation for donation from the family.

Reporting the rates of these key events for each of the 12 Organ Donation Services Teams (ODST) allows teams to compare against each other. Although some regional variation is inevitable (for example due to varying ethnic mix), areas for improvement can be identified and practices amongst the highest performing teams can be investigated and potentially incorporated in areas where improvements are sought.

## Methods

For each ODST, the key rates for these events (number of events as a proportion of the number of opportunities for the event to occur) were calculated for the period 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2013. Data were obtained from the Potential Donor Audit (PDA) as at 6 June 2013.

Radar charts have been superimposed on a map of the UK (Figures 1 and 2) to succinctly summarise the performance of each team for ease of comparison. The radar charts contain a spoke for each key rate (see labels on the inset national radar charts) and the scale of the spokes ranges from 0% to 100%. The fuller the shaded area, the better.

The rates are also displayed in Table 1 along with the minimum, UK average and maximum rates achieved during the financial year.

Figure 1: Key rates on the DBD donation pathway, by ODST.

## DBD

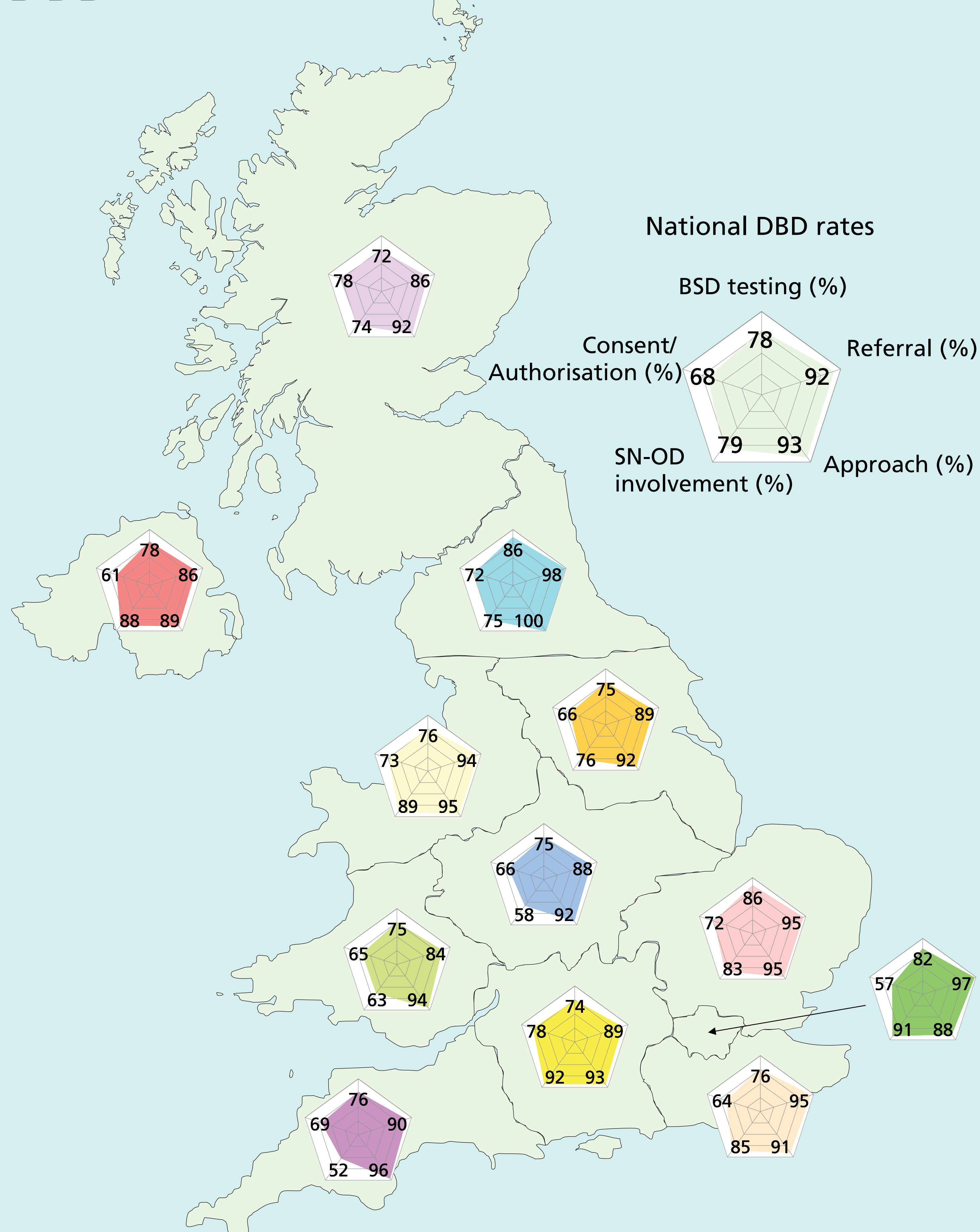


Figure 2: Key rates on the DCD donation pathway, by ODST.

## DCD

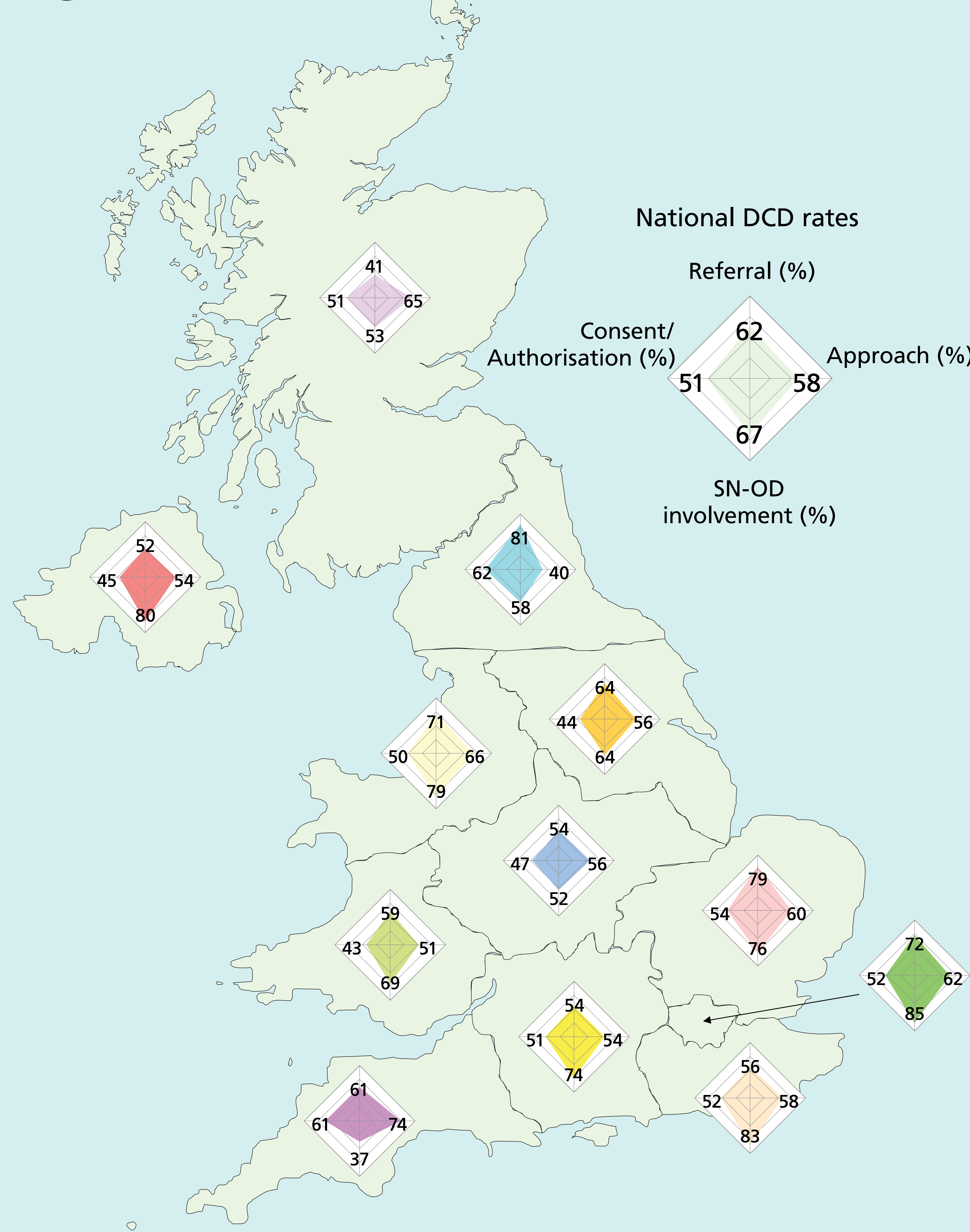


Table 1: Key rates on the DBD and DCD donation pathway, 2012-13.

Team	DBD					DCD			
	Testing (%)	Referral (%)	Approach (%)	SN-OD Inv. (%)	Consent/ auth. (%)	Referral (%)	Approach (%)	SN-OD Inv. (%)	Consent/ auth. (%)
Eastern	86	95	95	83	72	79	60	76	54
London	82	97	88	91	57	72	62	85	52
Midlands	75	88	92	58	66	54	56	52	47
North West	76	94	95	89	73	71	66	79	50
Northern	86	98	100	75	72	81	40	58	62
Northern Ireland	78	86	89	88	61	52	54	80	45
Scotland	72	86	92	74	78	41	65	53	51
South Central	74	89	93	92	78	54	54	74	51
South East	76	95	91	85	64	56	58	83	52
South Wales	75	84	94	63	65	59	51	69	43
South West	76	90	96	52	69	61	74	37	61
Yorkshire	75	89	92	76	66	64	56	64	44
Minimum	72	84	88	52	57	41	40	37	43
UK average	78	92	93	79	68	62	58	67	51
Maximum	86	98	100	92	78	81	74	85	62

## Summary

The data show that there are considerable regional variations in certain key rates across the deceased organ donation pathway. Understanding the reasons for these variations will drive further improvements in these key rates.