



NHSBT BOARD SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT UPDATE – MAY 2025

Transplant Patient Survey

In order to understand whether existing aftercare services are meeting the needs of solid organ transplant recipients across Scotland, a patient survey was undertaken to gain feedback and identify any areas for improvement.

The survey ran for a period of 14 weeks between 25 September and 29 December 2023 and was targeted at adults, aged 16 and over, who had received a solid organ transplant(s). A total of 569 transplant recipients completed the survey.

The survey covered the following areas:

- **Communication, education and advice**
- **Emotional/psychological support**
- **Transplant centres and Travel**
- **Transplant aftercare**
- **Remote monitoring**

In general, the patient feedback was overwhelmingly positive, indicating that transplant services in Scotland are highly valued by organ recipients. However, the survey results highlighted a number of areas where patients' needs are not met consistently, leading to a number of specific recommendations to ensure appropriate support is in place for all transplant recipients across Scotland.

The survey report is available at <https://www.gov.scot/publications/organ-transplant-aftercare-support-scotland-transplant-patient-survey-report/>.

Progress on implementing the actions will be reported annually to the Scottish Donation & Transplant Group.

Duty to Report Transplant-related Offences

The Scottish Regulations which will put a new duty on relevant clinicians to report both transplant related crimes and transplants that have taken place abroad to the Human Tissue Authority were laid in the Scottish Parliament on 2 May and will come into force on 1 July 2025. The Regulations mirror the arrangements already in place in the rest of the UK.

The Human Tissue (Supply of Information about Transplants) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 are available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2025/139/body/made>.

NHS Organ Donor Register figures

As of 8 April 2025, over half of the population of Scotland (57.5%) have recorded their donation decision on the NHS Organ Donor Register. Of this total, 54.1% have recorded a decision to be a donor, with 3.4% choosing to opt out.