

NHS BLOOD AND TRANSPLANT

LIVER ADVISORY GROUP

SUMMARY FROM STATISTICS AND CLINICAL RESEARCH

INTRODUCTION

1. This paper provides an update from Statistics and Clinical Research and summarises recent presentations, publications, and current and future work in the area of liver transplantation.

UPDATE FROM STATISTICS AND CLINICAL RESEARCH

2. New and updated reports, all Advisory Group papers and conference presentations continue to be posted on the ODT Clinical Site www.odt.nhs.uk.
3. Please note our current arrangements in the following table for staff responsibilities in support of organs and tissues.

RISK COMMUNICATION TOOLS

4. 2021 saw the successful deployment of the NHSBT Risk Communication Tools. The NHSBT Risk Communication Tools are online personalised calculators, for each organ, that help clinicians communicate risks and benefits of transplantation to patients and aid understanding of statistics presented to them in clinic. They help visualise possible outcomes for patients from the point of listing or point of transplant for deceased donor transplantation.
5. The statistical models for all 5 Risk Communication Tools have been updated and the Risk Communication Tools now reflect these changes as of 3 March 2025. The tool can be accessed via <https://www.odt.nhs.uk/transplantation/tools-policies-and-guidance/risk-communication-tools/>.
6. The lung and kidney tools were also previously hosted by The Winton Centre for Risk and Evidence Communication, on their website. As the statistical models have now been updated and the NHSBT Risk Communication Tools will reflect these changes, please note that the Winton Centre Tools will no longer be accessible.
7. The NHSBT Statistics team are working on further improvements to the Risk Communication Tools for users this year and more updates will follow. We hope these tools continue to inform discussions in the difficult decisions that often arise for patients and clinicians during their journey in transplantation.

PRESENTATIONS

8. A presentation was given at the joint British Transplant Society and NHSBT Annual Congress summarising an analysis of livers accepted but later declined. The presentation slides can be found here: <https://www.odt.nhs.uk/statistics-and-reports/slides-and-presentations/>.

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PUBLICATIONS

- The Statistics Team contributed to the MELODY (Mass Evaluation of Lateral Flow Immunoassays for the Detection of SARS-CoV-2 Antibody in Immunosuppressed People) Study which was recently published in [The Lancet](#). The research reveals how a simple blood test can predict the severity of COVID-19 infection in immunocompromised patients, paving the way for personalised approaches to vaccination and better protection for those most at risk. The study is the largest of its kind, involving over 28,000 immunocompromised participants who had either received an organ transplant, had blood cancer or a rare autoimmune disease.

RECENT AND FUTURE WORK

- Monitoring of liver utilisation and transplantation is ongoing on a regular basis.
- Statistics and Clinical Research continue to support the National Liver Offering Scheme monitoring and review committees, LAG Core Group, ODT Hub team and transplant centres to evaluate and implement any required changes arising from the formal review of NLOS to make sure that no patients are disadvantaged.
- On-going support and analyses have been provided to the LAG Core Group, the Clinical Leads for Utilisation (CLUs) and the established fixed term working units.
- The baseline and monitoring periods used in the CUSUMs were updated in March 2025.
- A manuscript examining the impact of age mismatch on post-transplant survival is currently being produced.

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May 2025