

NHS BLOOD AND TRANSPLANT

LIVER ADVISORY GROUP

FOLLOW-UP FORM RETURN RATES REPORTED IN THE ANNUAL REPORT ON LIVER TRANSPLANTATION

BACKGROUND

- 1 NHSBT use the information returned on the post-transplant follow-up forms to estimate post-transplant survival for specific demographics (e.g. 5 year risk-adjusted patient survival estimates by transplant centre). Although the Annual Report on Liver Transplantation will not be produced until the Summer 2025, this paper provides an early examination of the form return rates for forms issued in 2024 for both adult and paediatric deceased donor liver only transplants performed in the UK.

METHODS

- 2 Data on transplant record forms for all deceased donor liver only transplants performed in the UK between 1 January 2024 and 31 December 2024 were extracted from the UK Transplant Registry on 8 May 2025 along with all follow-up forms issued during the same time period to transplant centres for deceased donor liver only transplants.

RESULTS

- 3 **Table 1** shows the form return rates for forms issued in 2024 by age group and transplant centre. For adult transplants, the overall form return rate for the one-year follow-up form was 98% and ranged between 94% and 100%. The overall form return rate for the lifetime follow-up forms (2 years or over) was 80% and ranged between 25% and 98%. Two transplant centres had a lifetime follow-up form return of less than 80%.
- 4 For paediatric transplants, the overall form return rate for the one-year form was 75% and ranged between 42% and 84% for the three paediatric centres. The overall form return rate for the lifetime follow-up forms was 79% and ranged between 35% and 89% for the three paediatric centres.

ACTION

5. Centres are asked to ensure follow-up is up-to-date to enable us to accurately monitor liver transplantation.

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Table 1 Form return rates for first deceased donor liver only transplants, issued between 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024 as at 8 May 2025								
Centre	Transplant record		3 month follow-up		1 year follow-up		Lifetime follow-up	
	N	Returned	N	Returned	N	Returned	N	Returned
1. Adult								
Newcastle	44	100	43	100	41	100	406	95
Leeds	90	99	93	100	99	96	1135	25
Cambridge	107	100	109	100	97	97	1001	89
Royal Free	121	100	119	100	96	99	1087	98
King's College	128	100	131	100	133	94	1908	94
Birmingham	155	100	154	100	141	100	2011	91
Edinburgh	66	98	63	100	60	100	883	56
Total	711	100	712	100	667	98	8431	80
2. Paediatric								
Leeds	15	100	14	100	12	42	205	35
King's College	29	100	28	100	22	82	591	89
Birmingham	19	100	23	100	19	84	468	86
Newcastle	0	-	0	-	1	100	1	100
Cambridge	1	100	1	100	0	-	32	84
Royal Free	0	-	0	-	0	-	1	100
Edinburgh	1	100	1	100	1	100	1	100
Total	65	100	67	100	55	75	1299	79