

# NHS BLOOD AND TRANSPLANT

## MULTI-VISCERAL AND COMPOSITE TISSUE ADVISORY GROUP

### ORGAN UTILISATION

#### BACKGROUND

- 1 Prior to 1 November 2021, potential donors after brain death (DBD) who were aged < 56 years and weighed < 80 kg were considered for bowel donation. From 1 November 2021, potential DBD donors aged < 60 years and weighing < 90 kg are considered for bowel donation.
- 2 This paper summarises the offering and utilisation of small bowels in the UK over the past six years.

#### METHODS

- 3 Data was extracted from the UK Transplant Registry on all UK donors after brain death where at least one solid organ was offered for transplantation between 1 April 2019 and 31 March 2025.

#### RESULTS

- 4 **Table 1** shows that over the past six years, 12% of the bowels offered were retrieved while 94% of those retrieved were ultimately transplanted. While the retrieval rates and transplant rates remain fairly consistent across financial years, the number of bowels offered in 2024/2025 compared to the previous financial year (2023/2024) has decreased by 34% from 205 to 135. Note there were three additional transplants from donors outside the UK between 1 April 2019 and 31 March 2025.

<b>Table 1                      Offering outcome for UK DBD donors whose small bowel was <u>offered</u> for transplantation between 1 April 2019 and 31 March 2025, by financial year</b>							
	<b>2019/2020</b>	<b>2020/2021</b>	<b>2021/2022</b>	<b>2022/2023</b>	<b>2023/2024</b>	<b>2024/2025</b>	<b>Total</b>
UK DBD donors where at least one solid organ was offered	1015	834	833	803	822	706	<b>5013</b>
Offered (% all donors offered)	175 (17%)	133 (16%)	204 (24%)	243 (30%)	205 (25%)	135 (19%)	<b>1095</b>
Retrieved (% offered)	21 (12%)	14 (11%)	28 (14%)	25 (10%)	24 (12%)	16 (12%)	<b>128 (12%)</b>
Transplanted (% retrieved)	20 (95%)	12 (86%)	27 (96%)	24 (96%)	22 (92%)	15 (94%)	<b>120 (94%)</b>
<b>Type of transplant (% transplanted)</b>							
Adult bowel only	5 (25%)	0 (0%)	6 (22%)	4 (17%)	3 (14%)	1 (7%)	<b>19 (16%)</b>
Adult liver, bowel and pancreas	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	<b>0 (0%)</b>
Adult multivisceral	6 (30%)	1 (8%)	9 (33%)	10 (42%)	3 (14%)	4 (27%)	<b>33 (28%)</b>
Adult modified multivisceral	6 (30%)	5 (52%)	5 (19%)	7 (29%)	11 (50%)	6 (40%)	<b>40 (33%)</b>
Paed bowel only	1 (5%)	2 (17%)	3 (11%)	0 (0%)	1 (5%)	0 (0%)	<b>7 (6%)</b>
Paed liver, bowel and pancreas	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (4%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	2 (13%)	<b>3 (3%)</b>
Paed multivisceral	2 (10%)	4 (33%)	1 (4%)	3 (13%)	3 (14%)	1 (7%)	<b>14 (12%)</b>
Paed modified multivisceral	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	2 (7%)	0 (0%)	1 (5%)	1 (7%)	<b>4 (3%)</b>
Transplant types defined as follows: Bowel only (may require stomach/colon/abdominal wall/spleen/kidney), Liver, bowel, pancreas only, Multivisceral (liver, bowel, pancreas plus stomach/colon/abdominal wall/spleen/kidney), Modified multivisceral (bowel, pancreas plus stomach/colon/abdominal wall/spleen/kidney)							