

Proctored Transplant Centre Perspective

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UK LDLT Network Meeting, September 2025



Caring Expert Quality

Scottish Liver Transplant Unit (SLTU) profile

Waiting list size: 62-75 (adults; no LDLT currently)

Annual activity: 66-77 liver transplants/year (DBD, DCD/NRP)

LDLT programme status:

- . 2007-2017
 - . 69 donors assessed
 - . 4 LDLT
 - . 1 LDLT abandoned intraoperatively (donor variant biliary anatomy)
- . 2017-present
 - . Established pathway for donor/recipient assessments – reached a total of 120 assessments
 - . Dedicated LDLT assessment team (2 coordinators, 3 surgeons, hepatologist, anaesthetist, radiologist, and independent donor advocacy team)
 - . No independent LDLT surgeries performed
 - . 2023-2025 – 7 donors assessed (2 pairs referred to Leeds, which did not proceed, 2 to the proctor team)

Referrals to Proctor Team (2024-2025):

- . 2 pairs referred
- . One was declined by the proctor team based on liver volume
- . One in the final stage before sign off – LDLT surgery is scheduled in Leeds

Engagement with the Proctor Programme

What worked well for team

- Strong setup in Edinburgh for LDLT assessment pathway.
- Effective MDT collaboration between Edinburgh and the national proctor team for the patients referred.
- Clear structure and reassurance for both donors and recipients with the national proctor team oversight.
- Adopted protocol improvements based on Leeds & proctor discussions, e.g.:
 - Inclusion of vitamin level testing in recipient assessments.
 - Routine Hepatitis B vaccination for recipients (not previously in protocol).

Areas for future improvement

- Broaden engagement of the whole Edinburgh team, ensuring they are motivated and supported to utilise the proctoring process as a pathway towards performing LDLT independently in Edinburgh.
- Strengthen discussions with recipients at their assessment stage so LDLT is consistently presented as a positive and viable option.
- Promote awareness within the clinical community to normalise LDLT as part of routine transplant options.

Donor and Recipient Insights

- Very positive about the process and felt well looked after by Leeds team.
- Support provided for travelling from Scotland to Leeds (expenses reimbursed).

Lessons learned from your centre experience

- Early engagement with the proctor team streamlines case progression.
- Clear, realistic timelines should be set with families at the outset.
- Dedicated point of contact essential for donor & recipient pathway coordination.

Thank you

Edinburgh LDLT Team

Ms Maureen Cunningham – Liver recipient coordinator

Ms Donna Hill – Liver recipient coordinator

Ms Anya Adair – Consultant transplant surgeon

Mr Ben Stutchfield – Consultant transplant surgeon

Dr Michael Williams – Consultant Hepatologist

Dr David Cameron – Consultant Anaesthetist