

NHS BLOOD AND TRANSPLANT
PANCREAS ADVISORY GROUP AND ISLET STEERING GROUP

AUDIT OF RESEARCH ORGANS

SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

- 1 INOAR (Increasing the Number of Organs Available for Research) has enabled pancreases to be retrieved from consented donors where transplantation is not an option. This paper provides information on all pancreases offered and accepted for research and whether the pancreas was initially offered for transplantation. The studies accepting the organs for research are also provided. These studies have a priority ranking and the highest ranked study expressing an interest in the research organ would receive it. If the pancreas has been isolated, then the laboratory performing the isolation gets priority to use the organ for research.

DATA

- 2 Data between 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025 were obtained from the UK Transplant Registry (UKTR). Information on the number of pancreases offered for research has been determined from note text and may not include all cases.

RESULTS

- 3 There were 184 pancreases identified as being offered for research. Of these 184 organs, 76 (41%) were taken for research. **Table 1** shows the study accepting the organ and whether it was initially offered for transplantation.

Study name	Taken solely for research	Taken for research after offer for transplant	Total
Pancreas function - Addenbrookes	4	9	13
Islet - Newcastle	4	6	10
Structure islets - Oxford	0	6	6
Kings Lab	0	5	5
Islet – Automated technologies - Edinburgh	0	13	13
QUOD Pancreas and islet ATLAS project - Oxford	10	14	24
Development of the Clinical Islet Isolation Process - Edinburgh	0	5	5
Total	18	58	76

- 4 Of the 76 pancreases taken for research, most of the organs were previously offered for transplantation 58 (76%), with 18 (24%) pancreases being taken solely for research. In this time period, the study which received the most organs for research was the QUOD ATLAS project, 24 (32%).

ACTION

- 5 Members are asked to review the information presented.

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