

NHS BLOOD AND TRANSPLANT

LAG PAEDIATRIC SUBGROUP

SPLIT LIVER CRITERIA UPDATE

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. The criteria used to determine whether livers should be offered for splitting was updated on 19th August 2025 to the following:

- Donors after brain death
- Aged less than 45 years at notification (ie 44 years and 364 days)
- Weigh less than 90kg **OR** BMI less than 30 kg/m²
- Latest ALT prior to offering of less than 200
- Latest bilirubin prior to offering less than 30.

1.2. This paper reviews the first eight months of the update.

2. RESULTS

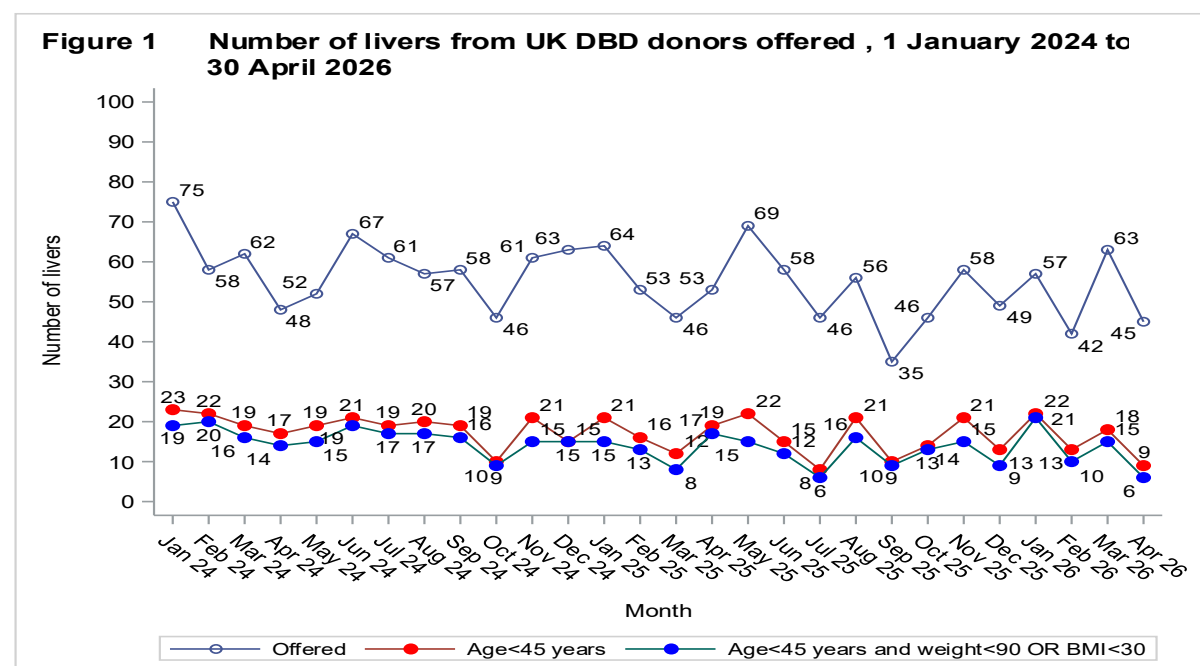
3. Livers from 424 UK DBD deceased donors were offered for transplantation between 20th August 2025 and 30 April 2026 as at 6th May 2026. 106 (25%) of the 424 donors were aged less than 45 years and either weighed less than 90kg or had a BMI less than 30 kg/m².

4. **Table 1** shows the donor and bilirubin values for the first matching run. 77 of the 106 donors had an ALT less than 200 and a bilirubin of less than 30 and met the updated split liver criteria. An additional 13 donors (highlighted below) would have been offered for split had the maximum ALT been 600 and maximum bilirubin been 70. **Table 2** shows the equivalent information for donors where the liver was ultimately transplanted.

Table 1	Donor ALT and bilirubin values for first matching run for UK DBD donors aged less than 45 years and either weigh less than 90kg or a BMI less than 30 kg/m ² , 20 August 2025 to 30 April 2026							
	Bilirubin							
ALT	0-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	≥ 70	Unknown	Total
0-99	70	2	1	1	0	1	2	77
100-199	7	0	0	0	1	0	0	8
200-299	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	5
300-399	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
400-499	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
500-599	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
600-999	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
1000-1999	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
2000-2999	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
Unknown	2	1	0	0	0	0	4	7
Total	90	4	1	2	1	1	7	106

Table 2	Donor ALT and bilirubin values for first matching run for UK DBD donors aged less than 45 years and either weigh less than 90kg or a BMI less than 30 kg/m². 20 August 2025 to 30 April 2026 and the liver was ultimately transplanted						
	Bilirubin						
ALT	0-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	Unknown	Total
0-99	66	1	1	1	0	2	71
100-199	7	0	0	0	1	0	8
200-299	4	0	0	0	0	0	4
300-399	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
400-499	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
500-599	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
600-999	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
1000-1999	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
2000-2999	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unknown	2	1	0	0	0	4	7
Total	85	3	1	1	1	6	97

- Nineteen (25%) of the 77 donors who met the split liver criteria were ultimately split resulting in two transplants. An additional five donors who met the split liver criteria were reduced.
- Livers from two donors who didn't meet the split liver criteria were ultimately split resulting in two transplants while livers from an additional three donors were reduced. The two livers ultimately split were aged 46 and 49 years.
- Figure 1** shows the number of DBD livers offered per month both overall and for donors aged less than 45 years.



ACTION

8. Members are asked to advise whether the ALT and bilirubin criteria should be changed to:
 - 8.1. Latest ALT prior to offering of less than 600
 - 8.2. Latest bilirubin prior to offering less than 80.

Rhiannon Taylor
Statistics and Clinical Research, NHSBT

May 2026