NHS BLOOD AND TRANSPLANT

KAG - Paediatric Steering Group - H&I UPDATE REPORT

6th November 2025

1. HLA DONOR CHARACTERISATION – DISCREPANCY MONITORING

There were no discrepancies reported from June 2024-June 2025 for Human Leucocyte Antigen (HLA) donor characterisation (i.e. deceased donor HLA typing) [**FIGURE 1**]. Six laboratories are currently live with the Donor Characterisation Electronic Results Transfer (DCERT) programme (Royal Free and Oxford now live), with Liverpool due to go live in November.

FIGURE 1 – HLA typing incidents reported between June 2024 – June 2025 data reported to NHSBT CARE on 03/08/25]

Jun 2024 - Jun 2025		
Centre	Donor HLA Types (N) Annual	Total Incidents (N)
BARNSLEY	116	0
BELFAST (DCERT)	63	0
BIRMINGHAM	170	0
BRISTOL (DCERT)	112	0
CAMBRIDGE	165	0
CARDIFF	79	0
DUBLIN	0	0
EDINBURGH	67	0
GLASGOW	61	0
GUY'S	129	0
HAMMERSMITH (DCERT)	57	0
LEEDS	87	0
LEICESTER	43	0
LIVERPOOL	68	0
MANCHESTER (DCERT)	109	0
NEWCASTLE	110	0
OXFORD CHURCHILL	71	0
PLYMOUTH	91	0
ROYAL FREE	31	0
TOOTING	200	0
ROYAL LONDON	100	0

2. NHSBT INCIDENTS RELATED TO H&I

A total of seven H&I/HLA related incidents with potential impact on kidney transplant have been reported between May and August 2025. These are summarised in **TABLE 1** below.

TABLE 1 – Summary of kidney offering related incidents in May-August 2025:

Incident Number	Event Date	Description
ODT-INC-9020	30/05/2025	HLA-DPB1* could not be reported due to multiple rare alleles.
ODT-INC-9043	05/06/2025	Unacceptable antigen listed as DPB402 in error instead of DPB0402 leading to an inappropriate offer.

Incident Number	Event Date	Description
ODT-INC-9123	26/06/2025	Patient HLA type incorrectly entered as DQB1*0301 (old nomenclature) rather than DQB1*03:01 – no impact on matching.
ODT-INC-9183 ODT-INC-9232 ODT-INC-9287	21/07/2025	Incorrect HLA report sent to the lab (Donors: 175160, 175371 and 175514)
ODT-INC-9298	21/08/2025	Collapsed chain on UKLKSS due to positive crossmatch (allelic antibodies)

Work in progress to address these:

- Reviewing HLA nomenclature stored in NTxD [to address incidents ODT-INC-9043 and ODT-INC-9123].
- Raised concerns with Hub about incorrect HLA types being sent to the laboratories. Have offered assistance for future training sessions in Hub.

3. RAPID TIER A OFFERS (MATCHABILITY SCORE 10, UNSENSITISED PATIENTS)

Following discussions at KAG in June 2025, at the PAG/PAG-islet joint meeting on 09/10/25 there were further anecdotal reports of unsensitised, low matchability score, blood group O recipients not receiving pancreas-kidney offers once they move to Tier A (>3 years waiting time). It was discussed whether this could be an unintended consequence of the allocation of kidneys to unsensitised Tier A recipients with a matchability score of 10. NHSBT Statistics are currently doing some modelling on this to try to find a viable solution.

4. cRF CALCULATOR UPDATE

The integration of HLA-DP unacceptable antigens into the cRF calculator tool has been discussed with Chloe Brown and is being worked on by the Statistics team. This will then align cRF prediction with the matching runs. It is hoped that this will be available by the end of 2025.

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