

APPENDIX 4 – PRIORITISATION MATRIX

Matrix

Studies will be scored and ranked according to the following classification, criteria and criteria.

Banding classification:

1. If successful will the research organ be transplanted?

Scoring criteria:

1. Feasibility – number of research organs required per year
2. Time-scale from start of study to increase number of organs available for transplantation
3. Peer-reviewed study
4. Beneficial impact on donation, retrieval and transplantation processes
5. Adverse impact on donation, retrieval and transplantation processes

Binary categories:

1. Does the study involve multiple transplant units and/or educational institutions working together?
2. Is the study aligned to Taking Transplantation to 2020?
3. Does the study aim to evaluate the use of novel technology in organ transplantation?

Scoring approach

Studies with the intention to transplant offered research organs are given the highest priority. Thereafter, ranking will be made in line with the following assessment criteria;

- Highest score and highest number of 'Yes' in the binary categories
- In the event of an equal score the number highest number of 'Yes' in the binary categories will determine the priority.
- In the event of an equal score and equal number of binary categories, priority will be given to the study with the highest scored categories. For example, Study 'X' and Study 'Y' have equal number of binary categories and both have a score of 18. Study X has 4 'A's and 1 'C'. Study Y has 3 'A's and 2 'B's. Therefore, Study X is ranked above Study Y.
- In the event that two scores are identical, the studies will be given equal ranking. In the event that both studies accept an offered organ, organs will be allocated on a geographical basis.

Ranking approach

The ranking will be undertaken per organ group. The RINTAG secretariat will undertake the ranking exercise. The outcome will then be forwarded on to RINTAG executive members¹ for approval.

The ranking exercise will be undertaken bi-monthly, to accommodate new studies. Once the ranking has been approved by RINTAG, all active studies will be notified of the revision and any implications this may have to their study.

Offering procedure

The Duty office will send a joint SMS message to all relevant researchers, providing them with the details of available organ (e.g. location, organ condition). Researchers will be required to respond within 45 minutes if they wish to accept the organ. The

¹ This group consists of clinical experts as well as NHSBT staff members. Please see RINTAG's ToR for more details

organ will be allocated to the highest ranking study that responded to the offer within the 45-minute deadline.

In the event of acceptances from two studies with exactly the same rank, research organs will be offered on a geographical basis. Any research organs that have not been accepted by NHSBT ODT approved studies would be offered to NHSBT ODT approved tissue banks.

HTA Code of Practice

In accordance with the Human Tissue Authority's Code of Practice on Research, donor families should be provided with information to support the consent process and given the option to withhold consent for research that involves one or more of the following:

- 1) the commercial sector including cost recovery (tissue banks) and/ or;
- 2) genetic testing/ DNA analysis and/ or;
- 3) animal studies

This has been built in to the current allocation pilot scheme as follows:

- The Duty Office will make offers to all studies in a given organ group, informing of any restrictions placed on the offer
- The additional filter will occur once the 45 min deadline has passed
- In cases when a family has opted-out from any of the above categories, offering responses from such studies will be omitted
- The organ will be offered to the next highest ranked study

For Research Tissue Banks and Islet Labs etc, the Duty Office will relay information about any restrictions during the offering procedure. In cases when a family has opted-out from the above categories, the relevant Research Tissue Banks and Islet Labs etc will be expected to ensure internal processes are in place to guarantee donor family wishes in accordance with the HTA code.