

# ODT Associate Medical Director's Communication

**NHS**  
*Blood and Transplant*



# SEPTEMBER 2017

Dear Colleagues,

I hope you like the new website (<http://www.odt.nhs.uk/>). It is being used widely and I'm grateful to those of you who have given feedback regarding any improvements and also if you have spotted any problems. Please continue to do so while these sites are in Beta stage. This will allow us to get the best website function over the next few years.

I think I have mentioned that it has been agreed to have a password protected section of the website available for those clinicians (I use this word in its widest sense) from the transplant community. I would wish to stress that our aim would still be to place as much data and as many publications and presentations on the public website as possible. We want a transparent approach to sharing information.

However, the password protected section might serve as a site for a number of different things:

1. A means of sharing learning regarding incidents as quickly as possible.
2. Contact details for those involved in night-time working can be noted here to facilitate direct communication between those involved in the donor and recipient side.
3. A section on 'tips and tricks' for clinicians to pass on solutions they have found to clinical problems.

In addition to all of this, you may have other ideas about how we could use the password protected site. If so, I would be grateful if you could get in contact.

### **Clinical fellow**

I'm delighted to say that we have been granted funding to employ a Clinical Fellow in the field of organ utilisation. This follows from the successful work carried out by a number of Fellows in the last few years, most recently Paddy Trotter whose work you may have seen presented at the British Transplantation Society Congress earlier this year. The position will be advertised shortly but if you wish to know any more about the post then please contact Mr Chris Callaghan - [christopher.callaghan@gstt.nhs.uk](mailto:christopher.callaghan@gstt.nhs.uk)

### **ESOT**

The ESOT meeting in Barcelona is approaching rapidly and I know that the United Kingdom is one of the countries with the highest delegate attendance. I hope that many of you have a chance to go to Barcelona and I look forward to seeing you there.

**BigBangBarcelona Conference:** 24th – 27th September 2017 be inspired, educated, connected and entertained. Come and experience a new level of medical meetings in transplantation. At ESOT we have put a focus on the quality of the science but also the formats in which the content is delivered and the opportunity to network with your colleagues. Get engaged in this interactive meeting and take an active role in shaping the future of transplantation research and medicine. The ESOT 2017 Second Announcement is now available for download, with more information on the Congress' ground breaking sessions and speciality symposia.

<http://esot2017.esot.org/news/second-announcement-now-available>

With best wishes



Professor John Forsythe  
Medical Director  
Organ Donation & Transplantation Directorate

**The NORS Workforce Transformation Project Board:** The NORS Workforce Transformation Project Board is delighted to announce the completion of the NORS Perioperative Practitioners E Learning Programme. This is an important aspect of the national standardised training framework for retrieval practitioners (for more information contact: [cecelia.mcintyre@nhsbt.nhs.uk](mailto:cecelia.mcintyre@nhsbt.nhs.uk) or [john.stirling@nhsbt.nhs.uk](mailto:john.stirling@nhsbt.nhs.uk) ) so please do encourage all perioperative members of the NORS team to access the Programme here: <http://nors.learnprouk.com>

**ODT SMT Performance Report:** There were 123 deceased donors in August, bringing the year-to-date total to 604. August was the second month this year where there were more than 80 deceased donors after brain death (84) but the number of deceased donors after circulatory death was the lowest monthly number for over two years (39).

1578 patients have received a lifesaving or life changing solid organ transplant year-to-date (including 335 in August). 114 more patients have received a transplant year-to-date than the same period last year. This represents an 8% increase, but we still have a long way to go to achieve the goal of c.400 more deceased donor transplants this year (i.e. an 11% increase on the 3715 patients transplanted in 2016/17).

Please see the latest published ODT Performance Report (July) [here](#).

**NHSBT data on Organ Donation and Transplantation:** The Organ Donation and Transplantation Annual Activity Report for 2016/17 is now available on the ODT website. You can access it through the following link <http://www.odt.nhs.uk/statistics-and-reports/annual-activity-report/>

In 2016/17 the number of deceased organ donors in the UK increased to 1413, a 4% increase on last year. In addition to this record number of deceased donors, there were also 1043 living donors. This means we have been able to perform 4,753 life-saving and life-transforming transplants this year – another UK record.

The report is accompanied by a slide set, that you can download for your own use. A supplementary report *Organ Donation and Transplantation data for Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) communities* is being published alongside the report. It provides additional information on trends in organ donation and transplantation for BAME communities.

*The Organ Specific Annual Reports* will be published soon and will incorporate feedback from the Organ Specific Annual Reports Survey.

**NHSBT Board:** Board papers are published after each meeting and are available at: <http://www.nhsbt.nhs.uk/who-we-are/introducing-the-board/board-papers/>

**Cautionary Tales:** Please click [here](#) for the June 2017 issue.

**Statistics and Clinical Studies:** Please click [here](#) for the up-to-date July 2017 NHSBT Structure.

**Organ Donation Marketing and Campaigns Bulletin:** Shared with internal clinical staff for Organ Donation and Transplantation plus the wider community attached [here](#) is Issue No 9.

## **FUTURE ODT MEETINGS/EVENTS: 2017**

### **CTAG (Cardiothoracic Advisory Group)**

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2017, Association of Anaesthetists, Portland Place, London

### **NODC PSG (Paediatric sub-group)**

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2017, Medical Society of London, 11 Chandos Street, London

### **PAGISG (Pancreas Islet Sub Group)**

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2017, WEDC 1st Floor Board Room

### **RINTAG (Research, Innovation & Novel Technologies Advisory Group)**

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2017, Association of Anaesthetists, 21 Portland Place, London

### **ODT Care (Organ Donation and Transplantation Care)**

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2017, Royal York Hotel, York

### **MCTAG (Multivisceral and Composite Tissue Advisory Group) formerly known as BAG (Bowel Advisory Group)**

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2017, WEDC 1st Floor Board Room

### **Cardiothoracic Patient Group meeting**

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2017, London venue to be confirmed

### **KAGPSG (Kidney Paediatric Sub Group)**

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2017, by teleconference

### **PAG (Pancreas Advisory Group)**

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2017, CS2, ODT, Stoke Gifford, Bristol

### **NRG (National Retrieval Group – formerly Clinical Retrieval Group)**

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2017, Park Crescent Conference Centre, Great Portland Street, London

### **NODC (National Organ Donation Committee)**

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2017, 11:00-16:00, Radisson Blu Edwardian, 130 Tottenham Court Road, London

### **LAG (Liver Advisory Group)**

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2017, RCOA, Red Lion Square, London

### **KAG (Kidney Advisory Group)**

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2017, CS2, ODT, Stoke Gifford, Bristol

### **AGChC (Advisory Group Chairs Committee)**

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2017, 10:30 – 13:30, London Venue to be confirmed

### **TPRC (Transplant Policy Review Committee)**

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2017, 14:00 – 16:00, London Venue to be confirmed

## **UK Living Kidney Sharing Schemes (UKLKSS)**

### **Making More of What We Do,**

**Friday 6th October 2017, 10:00 – 16:00, Cowdray Hall, Royal College of Nursing,  
20 Cavendish Square, London, W1G 0RN**

This all day NHSBT hosted workshop will focus on continuous improvement within the UK Living Kidney Sharing Schemes. As with previous workshops, agreed outcomes and actions will be taken forward by the LDKT 2020 Strategy implementation group.

This is an opportunity to contribute your ideas and to be involved in discussions about the schemes, how they work and what we can do together to increase the transplant opportunities for all patients.

#### ***Guide for initial registration:***

- ***Each transplant centre nominates 2 clinical representatives, preferably from different professional groups***
- ***Each nephrology unit nominates 1 clinical representative***
- ***Each H&I laboratory nominates 1 representative***

**Registration is free but** places are limited but we hope that every transplant and referring centre and H&I lab will be represented. The deadline for registration is **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2017.**

We will hold a reserve list for anyone else who wishes to attend and contact you as soon as possible after the 18<sup>th</sup> September if there are extra places available.

To register or for further details please contact [Ambreen.iqbal@nhsbt.nhs.uk](mailto:Ambreen.iqbal@nhsbt.nhs.uk)

### **NHSBT Multi - Organ Retrieval Masterclass**

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2017, De Vere Tortworth Court Hotel and Vesalius Clinical Training Unit, Centre for Applied Anatomy, Bristol University.

This is a two-day annual workshop designed to optimise the quality of organs offered for transplantation by improving retrieval practice. The course is aimed at surgical trainees with an interest in abdominal (liver, pancreas, kidney) and cardio-thoracic (heart, lung) organ donation and transplantation. It includes lectures and workshops together with practical demonstrations of relevant techniques involving all participants. For those who seek competency to participate in a National Organ Retrieval Service team in the UK this Masterclass is a mandatory part of the required competency accreditation as a retrieval surgeon in the UK.

To register your interest, please send your details to:

[Caroline.wills@nhsbt.nhs.uk](mailto:Caroline.wills@nhsbt.nhs.uk)



## INFORMATION FROM OTHER BODIES:

PITHIA



### **PITHIA (*Pre-Implantation Trial of Histopathology in Renal Allografts*) inaugural meeting – all welcome!**

Most of you will have heard of the proposed plan to trial implementation of a National Digital Histopathology Service – the PITHIA trial. This service will enable a kidney centre to request urgent pre-implantation biopsy analysis of deceased-donor kidneys that they have accepted. The biopsy will be assessed remotely by one of a team of UK Consultant renal histopathologists that have been assembled for the trial. The results of that assessment will be made available to the transplanting centre within a few hours of retrieval of the kidney from the donor. Over the course of the trial, all UK kidney transplant centres will receive access to the Service, but will do so at different, randomly-determined time points; a 'stepped-wedge cluster randomised trial'. It is estimated that the National Pathology Service may increase UK kidney transplant numbers by 150 annually.

This trial is the result of an NHSBT initiative and is led by Mr Gavin Pettigrew (Consultant Transplant Surgeon, Cambridge University Hospitals). Funding has been approved by National Institute for Health Research (NIHR), and NHS Blood and Transplant Clinical Trials Unit will be managing the trial ([www.nhsbt.nhs.uk/clinicaltrialsunit](http://www.nhsbt.nhs.uk/clinicaltrialsunit)).

The trial team have organised an inaugural trial meeting at the Royal College of Surgeons in London on the 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2017. The main reason for this meeting is to discuss the proposed trial with representatives from all UK kidney transplant centres, and the trial team would be very grateful if at least one person from every centre could attend (travel costs will be covered). A formal agenda will be circulated closer to the day.

Please register your interest in attending by contacting the trial team at [PITHIA@nhsbt.nhs.uk](mailto:PITHIA@nhsbt.nhs.uk). Twitter: @PITHIA\_trial Website: [www.pithia.org.uk](http://www.pithia.org.uk)

**Blood and Transplant Matters:** Please click [here](#) for issue 51.

**Organ Donation & Transplantation – Wales E Bulletin:** Please click [here](#) for issue 50.

**Donor Family Network's latest newsletter:** Can be found here <http://www.donorfamilynetwork.co.uk/i/2017/02/Spring-2017.pdf>

## FORTHCOMING MEETINGS and EVENTS:

**European Cornea & Cell Transplant Registry Course for Clinical Improvement – Lisbon Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2017:** This course will inform about the importance of quality improvement work. The ECCTR system will be presented as a tool to improve quality in corneal transplant surgery. Legal aspects of an international registry including ownership of data and ethical aspects will be discussed. Detailed instructions of how to enter data into the system and take out reports will be given. Please click [here](#) for further information.

**British Transplantation Society Events - Thursday 9th November 2017, London**  
**Chapter of Surgeons' Meeting:** Triumph and disaster in transplantation: Patients' and surgeons' perspectives of outcomes.

This meeting is aimed at surgeons wishing for the best outcomes in their patients by fundamentally understanding what is important to them during the transplant process.

We have a series of talks from patients with powerful stories to engage with the audience and to challenge the unusual processes that we as transplant professionals subject them to.

**Thursday 23rd November, London - Winter Ethics Symposium:** This year's focus is paediatric organ donation and transplantation in the UK.

Complex clinical cases, professional expertise, personal experience and public policy create an ambitious programme to address a range of challenging ethical issues.

- Representatives from NHSBT and BTS will highlight obstacles to implementing paediatric donation and organ allocation prioritisation in the UK.
- Clinicians working in neonatal and paediatric intensive care units and those involved in the care and possible transplantation of children will set out how a range of potential paediatric donors and transplant recipients are identified and managed and provide insight into factors affecting the development of strategies to expand the paediatric donor pool.
- Paediatric donor and recipient families will share their personal stories, and ways to identify and address the psychological impact of bereavement in paediatric donation will be discussed.
- Management of the adolescent living donor and strategies to optimise adherence and transition among adolescent recipients will be addressed.

**Friday 24th November 2017, London - Living Donor Forum:** This year's theme is Living Donor risk and, in particular, where the clinician perspective may be at odds with that of the prospective donor. Is this Caring Concern or Pompous Paternalism? How difficult is it for Living Donors to donate?

The day will take the form of an interactive discussion and debate between physicians and surgeons, coordinators, patients and carers. Come with an open mind or prepare to have your assumptions challenged!

Also save the date for the **British Transplantation Society 2018 Congress: 14th - 16th March 2018 in Brighton.**

For more information and to register visit [www.bts.org.uk](http://www.bts.org.uk)