

NHSBT Board

September 28th 2017

Reports from the UK Health Departments

Reports from the Welsh Health Department attached.

Wales update report for NHSBT Board September 2017

Research

Bangor University findings on their “Family attitudes, actions, decisions and experiences following implementation of deemed consent and the Human Transplantation (Wales) Act 2013” were released September 5.

Data were collected on 211 approaches to relatives of potential organ donor patients between 01.01.15-31.05.17 (18 months) whose relative fitted the study inclusion criteria (deceased person voluntarily resident in Wales and died in Wales or England). 182/211 deceased patients came under the auspices of the Act, and represent all cases in Wales during the 18-month period.

In addition, 62 in-depth interviews with 78 family members of 58 patients who were potential/actual organ donors, and 2 focus groups or individual interviews with 23 NHS BT professionals (Specialist Nurses in Organ Donation (SNODs), Specialist Requesters, Team and Regional Managers, Practice Development Specialists) were carried out.

Summary of key findings:

1. The overall picture following initial implementation of the Act:

- Overall, the media campaign achieved its aims but had some limitations. Most notably the media campaign did not address the changing role of family members in the decision-making process.
- Overall consent rates (including family consent which falls outside of the Act) have increased from 48.5% in 2014/15 to 61% (01.12.15-31.05.17) in Wales.
- Consent rates for cases covered by the Act was 64% over the first 18 months. The target of 15 additional deemed consented donors in the first year was exceeded.
- Implementation of the Act has however resulted in 13 consent pathways* that SNODs/Specialist Requesters must establish and document. One of which is deemed consent.
- There have been initial challenges for SNODs and their managers in establishing and documenting what is, and who is on, a deemed consent pathway versus the other potential pathways.
- Some family members found the Act to be a helpful framework to honour their relative’s organ donation decision made in life.
- Some family members continued to believe that it was their decision and overrode the donation decision made by their relative in life.
- The role of the SNOD was critically important in the organ donation process.
- There have been additional implementation challenges for SNODs who have not consistently changed their practice to align with the Act.

- Not all aspects of the Act have been implemented as intended. Most notably the standard of evidence required to override the deceased person's organ donation decision.

Westfield Health British Transplant Games

Newport City has officially been announced as the host city for the Westfield Health British Transplant Games 2019. Newport Council, Newport Live, Welsh Government and the Games organisers will be working in partnership.

Towards 2020 Organ Donation and Transplantation Conference – Friday 1 December 2017:

Designed to inform on the impact of the Human Transplantation (Wales) Act. You can now register for places at: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/towards-2020-organ-donation-and-transplantation-in-wales-conference-tickets-34748734400>