

ODT Medical Director's Communication


Blood and Transplant



FEBRUARY 2018

Dear Colleagues,

An incredible workload

It will come as no surprise to you all that the month of January has seen an incredible workload for the Donation and Transplant team across the UK. It is by far the busiest month recorded.

At the time of writing there were 169 deceased donors recorded, 18% more than the previous monthly record figure achieved both in October 2015 and November 2017.

In particular we see a continued trend for an increase in Donation after Brain Death (DBD). The last monthly record for this was way back in July 1989 (99 donors – DBD). At the time of writing there were 105 DBD donors in January.

Overall, this now means that in the rolling 12 month period from February 2017 to January 2018 we have seen 1529 deceased donors. If we can continue this trend until the end of March, then the official figures for the year, for deceased donation, will surpass the expectations of many. I feel sure that this can be achieved.

Definitive Transplant numbers are not yet known but at the time of writing we are aware of at least 400 patients who received a transplant from a deceased donor in January. This figure made me stop and take note. It represents a huge amount of work for many in the Team of Organ Donation and Transplantation across the United Kingdom. The figure of over 400 people who received a transplant is a just reward for that work and is a proper response to the gift of the donation that it represents.

Resources to cope?

The subject of resources naturally follows the previous section in the present day NHS. You may remember that last year, Claire Williment and I spoke to the transplant units of the U.K. through their Clinical Directors. The results of 'resource scan' that we performed are now available and can be read [here](#). Please note the action that we are taking, in order to try to highlight the pressures noted in that resource scan.

There is interest, in all parts of the UK, to change organ donation legislation with the aim to increase transplant numbers further; it is important that we are able to have resource to match any such increase.

SaBTO Microbiological Safety Guidelines updated

I am delighted that the updated microbiological guidelines on the use of deceased organs have been released and can be found [here](#). This new edition has taken years of work and we are grateful to all those who were involved in bringing this to completion. I would urge you to have a quick look at the guidelines in order to see the setup and general tone that they strike.

Professor James Neuberger and I have noted that this new document is quite hefty and although it is necessarily comprehensive, it is not ideal for consulting in the small hours of the morning, when most of these decisions have to be made. We therefore set about constructing an '**Aide-Memoire**' which should support (but not replace) the guidelines and their interpretation.

We are therefore very grateful to Paddy Trotter, Liz Armstrong and Claire Williment who have helped in the production of the **Aide-Memoire**. We are also grateful to many of you who have taken part in the consultation as the concept develops. It is in the final stages of preparation and will be available via the website. I will, of course, highlight this launch when it occurs.

Best wishes,



Professor John Forsythe
Medical Director
Organ Donation & Transplantation Directorate

For Information:

Organ Donation and Transplantation Regional Manager On-Call Pager Switchover happened on 29th January 2018.

The new number for the ODT Regional Manager On-Call Pager is: **07623 512222**

Please ensure that you use this number for all contact with the ODT Regional Manager On-Call from this date.

We would welcome your support in undertaking this change by ensuring that all colleagues who may require contact with the ODT Regional Manager On-Call are made aware of this imminent change

If you require any further information please contact the ODT Regional Manager responsible for your particular region or andrew.broderick@nhsbt.nhs.uk or phone 07590 353016

1st Edition of the Quarterly Update UK Living Donor Network has been circulated to the UK Living Donation Network but if anyone else wishes to receive the quarterly newsletter, please email Ambreen Iqbal - Ambreen.iqbal@nhsbt.nhs.uk

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/>

Organ Transplants last year: Please click [here](#) to see figures for each centre.

Annual Report on Cardiothoracic Organ Transplantation for 2016/2017 was published in October and is available [here](#).

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/>

New Cautionary Tales: January 2018 please click [here](#) for all issues.

New 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 11.

FUTURE ODT MEETINGS/EVENTS: 2018

NODC (National Organ Donation Committee)

Tuesday 27th February 2018, CIARB, 12 Bloomsbury Square, London

CRF (Clinical Retrieval Forum)

Friday 2nd March 2018, First Floor Board Room, West End Donor Centre

PAGISG (Pancreas Islet Sub Group)

Thursday 8th March 2018, (~~was previously Wednesday 7th March~~) ODT, Stoke Gifford, Bristol

MCTAG (Multi-Visceral & Composite Tissue Advisory Group) (Formerly BAG)

Wednesday 21st March 2018, Medical Society of London

PAG (Pancreas Advisory Group)

Wednesday 11th April 2018, 12 Bloomsbury Square, London

NRG (National Retrieval Group – formerly Clinical Retrieval Group)

Wednesday 18th April, 2018, Medical Society of London

CTAG (Cardiothoracic Advisory Group)

Wednesday 25th April 2018, Coram Campus, 41 Brunswick Square, London

KAGPSG (Kidney Paediatric Sub Group)

Wednesday 25th April 2018, Medical Society of London

INFORMATION FROM OTHER BODIES:

Blood and Transplant Matters: Please click [here](#) for issue 52.

Organ Donation & Transplantation – Wales E Bulletin: Please click [here](#) for issue 51.

The Latest Donor Family Network's latest newsletter: Can be found here
<http://www.donorfamilynetwork.co.uk/i/2017/11/Autumn-2017.pdf>

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS and EVENTS:

British Transplantation Society 2018 Congress: 14th - 16th March 2018 in Brighton.
For more information and to register visit www.bts.org.uk

ESOT - <http://www.esot.org/events-education/events/>

Live Donor Nephrectomy: Wednesday 27th – Friday 29th June 2018

Primary Topics: Nephrectomy, Surgery, Urology

Country: Netherlands

Educational Objectives: To provide a podium for transplant surgeons and urologists who are specialising in live donor kidney transplantation. To learn the surgical techniques for minimally-invasive kidney donation under the guidance of established and internationally recognised leaders in the field.

Target Group: Transplant surgeons and Urologists coming mainly from Europe. Surgeons or urologists in a transplant fellowship or consultant position who want to start a live kidney donation programme. Surgeons who want to enrich their surgical skills for live donor nephrectomy.