

Histocompatibility & Immunogenetics (H&I)

Support for Transplantation in Scotland

1. Staffing

Glasgow H&I: All substantive posts filled or at interview stage

Edinburgh H&I: All substantive posts filled, new Band 6 BMS post to be advertised

2. On Call Rotas

The one in four Consultant/Principal Clinical Scientist rota supporting deceased donor kidney, simultaneous pancreas kidney (SPK) transplant, islet and cardiac transplantation in Scotland is maintained.

All senior and laboratory on call staff in both centres can access their own patient data remotely.

3. Quality in Organ Donation (QuOD) Project

Ongoing, funded until 2020.

4. Donor Typing

Details are still being finalised for the new process for sending deceased donor bloods to labs earlier to reduce reporting time to ODT.

Edinburgh: In period Jan-Mar 2019 only 8 donors were typed, with a mean turnaround from sample receipt to reporting to ODT of 3 hours 52 minutes.

Glasgow: In period Jan-Mar 2019 19 donors were typed, with a mean turnaround from sample receipt to reporting to ODT of 2 hours 50 minutes.

5. UK NHSBT Reviews of Allocation and Donor Characterisation

Awaiting implementation of changes to the offering scheme for deceased kidneys within the UK in 2019; this may lead to increased offers for highly sensitised patients and consequently an increased need for full prospective crossmatching. Both H&I labs are able to perform crossmatches on peripheral blood which should help maintain low cold ischaemia times.

Dave Turner

Consultant Clinical Scientist
Lead for H&I/Diagnostic Services
SNBTS

Ann-Margaret Little

Director of Histocompatibility &
Immunogenetics Laboratory
NHS GGC

Tissue Donation

1. Service Update

Work continues for SNBTS Tissue, Cells and Advanced Therapeutics (TCAT) to finalise validating deceased tissue processing at the Jack Copland Centre, with the anticipation that heart valve and tendon processing will be recommenced over the next few months.

SNBTS TCAT welcomes a new Senior Nurse for Tissue Donation, Mr Neil Healy, who will be joining the team in June 2019.

In the meantime SNBTS Tissue Donor Co-ordinators and the Consultant for TCAT continue to provide teaching and to raise awareness about the potential of tissue donation in the various donating hospitals.

2. Deceased Tissue Donation

Tissue donor numbers for this financial year are impacted by the fact that tendon/skin retrieval has been paused to allow transition of the service to the Jack Copland Centre and are as a result not a true reflection of the potential donor numbers.

In the first eleven months (up to February 2019) of this financial year 22 multi-organ donors and 14 tissue-only donors donated hearts for valves

3. Pancreatic Islet Programme

The pancreatic islet programme continues to provide a potentially life-saving service to Scottish patients. In this financial year (up to 27 March 2019), 23 pancreata were processed, of which 11 (48%) yielded a successful transplantable product, leading to a transplant on 6 occasions.

Dr Sharon Zahra

Clinical Lead, TCAT, SNBTS

NHS Blood and Transplant

1. Change in Board Membership

Betsy Bassis has started as the new Chief Executive of NHSBT with Sally Johnson retiring from NHSBT on 29 March 2019. The organisation and the wider Organ Donation and Transplant community owe Sally a huge amount of thanks and she has left a positive legacy. There were many opportunities for colleagues to say thank you and wish her all the best for her future.

Anthony Clarkson has been appointed as the new Director of Organ Donation and Transplantation. Helen Fridell and Piers White have been appointed as non-executive directors replacing Roy Griffins and Louise Fullwood.

2. Increase in National Organ Retrieval Service (NORS) team capacity

The Board approved the recommendations to increase the number of abdominal teams on call to eight, improving the monitoring of intensity of retrieval activity and changing deployment of the retrieval teams to alleviate pressure on the busier teams whilst increasing activity for the quieter teams. An implementation group has now recommended the preferred option, and this will be implemented over the next 6 months.

3. ODT Hub Programme

During 2018/19 the planned benefits have continued to be delivered which have included digital donor assessment (iPad/DonorPath based) and the digital HTA B form. In addition, the liver transplant list; an Interactive Matching Run tool for heart, lung, intestine and liver; and kidney and pancreas offering scheme developments are all in an advanced stage of testing and will be rolled out in 2019/20.

The Programme has been impacted by the closure of the Core Systems Modernisation programme and the urgent introduction of the work required to integrate the Organ Donor Register and the NHS app. As a consequence, there will be a postponement in the further development of digital donor data sharing (HTA A form) and the remaining Transplant List functions.

4. UK Organ Donation and Transplantation beyond 2020

The existing Taking Organ Transplantation to 2020 strategy will reach the end of its life in 2020 and a new UK wide strategy will be required. The Board discussed and approved a strategic discussion document as the basis for discussion with all stakeholders in the organ donation and transplantation pathway. This proposes five strategic aims:

1. We will miss no opportunity for donation and transplantation
2. We will make the most of new legislation, increasing support for donation
3. We will improve kidney transplant opportunities for our Black and Asian citizens
4. We will reduce the wait for a transplant
5. We will work to secure a sustainable donation and transplant service across the UK.

This document will provide the basis for widespread engagement with: people working in the fields of organ donation and transplantation, both those providing the service and those commissioning it; the voluntary sector; patients representatives; and the four UK Governments.

Keith Rigg

Non-Executive Director

NHSBT

Human Tissue Authority

Human Tissue Authority (HTA) Transplant Advisory Group

The HTA's Transplant Advisory Group meets twice yearly. The last meeting was on 4 October 2018 and will meet again on 8 May 2019.

Living Donation

- We are continuing with our project looking at the sustainability of the Independent Assessor (IA) framework across the UK. This is to try and strengthen some areas such as training and information we provide about the role. A new system for reaccreditation has been implemented as of 1 April 2019.
- Some work packages have already been completed; we continue to scope the remaining packages for completion this business year.
- Aims of the project are broadly to ensure the system is robust and future proofed as far as possible and to look at the retention of IAs with clear sight of accountability and governance.

Deceased Donation

Organ Donation (Deemed Consent) Act 2019

- The Act places a duty on the HTA to provide guidance about how deemed consent will work in practice, including the information a person in a qualifying relationship would need to provide as evidence that the deceased person would not have agreed to their organs being donated.
- We are in the process of amending our Codes of Practice A and F to reflect the new Organ Donation (Deemed Consent) Act 2019.
- We are also in the process of making minor amends to the Code of Practice in Wales to reflect changes in England and Scotland.
- A 12 week consultation aimed primarily at professionals that will be using the Code will be held this summer and we can let Colleagues know when dates have been agreed. It will then require Parliamentary approval with a view to publishing in Autumn 2019.

Living Donation Scotland Project



1. Timely Transplantation

Pilot data collection scheduled for June 2019 from all renal units – transplant decision and living donation education to be recorded. Oral presentation at British Transplantation Society Annual Congress 'Overcoming barriers to pre-emptive transplant education' describing link nurse initiative and transplant decision documentation.

2. Home Education

REACH (Renal Education and Choices @ Home) pilot project in NHS Lothian continues with nurse educator completing over 25 home visits

3. Living kidney donation guide for healthcare professionals in Scotland:

Circulating to all GP practices and renal units in Scotland. Link: [Living Kidney Donation and Transplantation Information Pack for Healthcare Professionals in Scotland](#). Print copies also available.

4. Publicity – Living Donor Awareness Week 11-17th March 2019

A week long living donation campaign to mark the 10th anniversary of the first altruistic donor in Scotland and incorporating World Kidney Day was planned. The other UK countries ran similar living donation awareness campaigns. The Scottish campaign was extremely successful – summary results below but full report available. Print, social media, radio and TV coverage was achieved. A You Gov Poll was facilitated the week before the campaign:

You Gov Poll – Who would you donate a kidney to?



Website (livingdonationscotland.org)

Comparison between 11 - 15 February and 11 - 15 March 2019

- **187 page views** between 11 – 15 Feb and **2603 page views** between 11-15 March.
- For that week in February, living kidney pages accounted for **8%** of traffic to the Organ Donation Scotland website, in March it was **44%** of the traffic.
- During 11 - 15 March, **86%** of the traffic to the pages were from new visitors and on average they spent around **3 minutes** on the site.

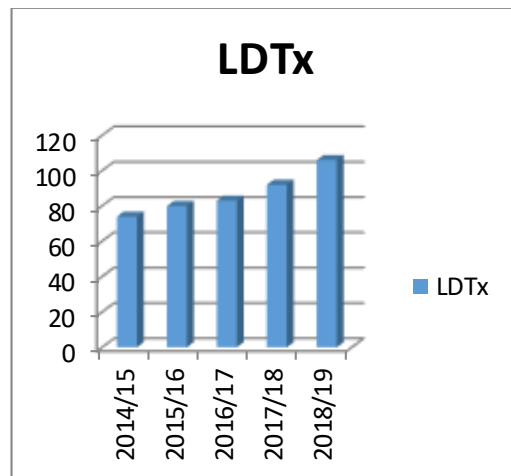
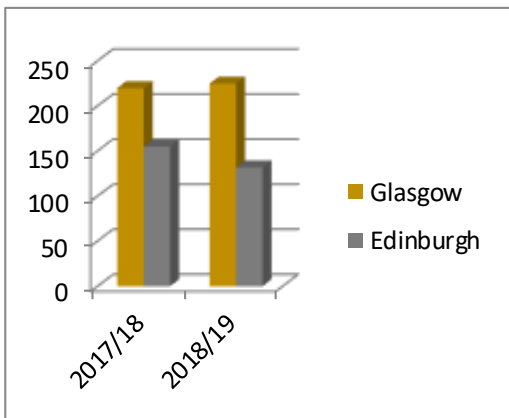
Response

Living Donor Teams in Scotland received over **100** enquiries (**66** altruistic and **41** directed = **107** total) and enquiries are still coming in.

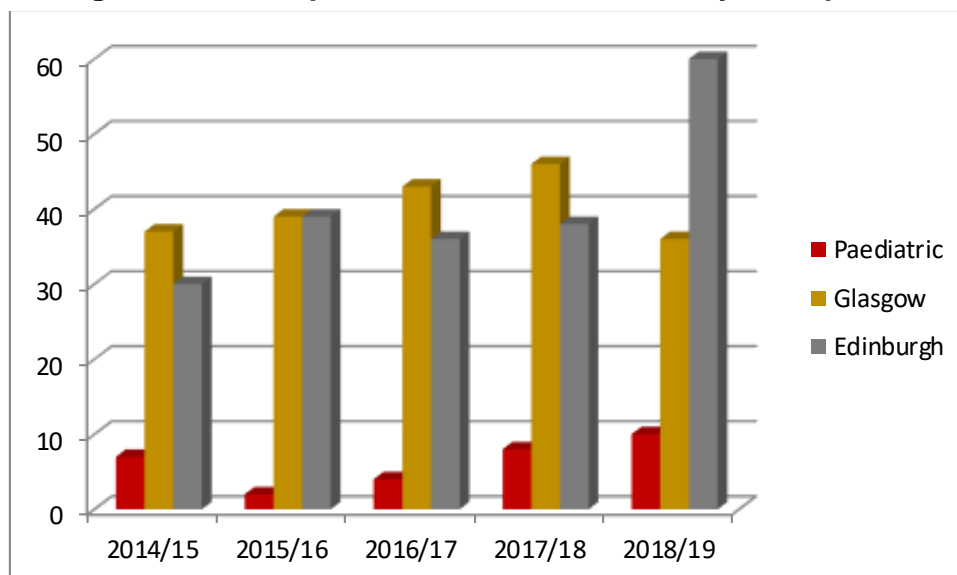
5. 2018/19 Living Donor Transplant Figures – Scotland

Potential Donors: Healthcheck

Questionnaire Returns – Transplant Units Total number living donor transplants



Living Donor Transplants 2014/15 to 2018/19 by transplant unit



2018/19 – Highest ever number of living donor transplants and donors in Scotland – 106 transplants and 111 living donors (8 altruistic)

Jen Lumsdaine
Living Donor Transplant Co-ordinator
Living Donation Scotland Project