



Overview of Organ Donation and Transplantation

A summary of organ donation and transplantation activity in the UK during the financial year from 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016

2.1 Summary of activity

As the total number of deceased donors and transplants increased this year, the number of patients on the active transplant list at 31 March 2016 is 467 fewer than on the same date last year. This drop reflects an increasing number of transplants performed over the last ten years and a reasonably steady number of patients joining the transplant list each year. The increase in donor and transplant numbers (1 April 2006 to 31 March 2016) and the number of patients registered on the transplant lists at 31 March each year are shown in **Figure 2.1**. There were 187 more deceased donor transplants in 2015-2016 than in the previous year, representing a 6% increase. The corresponding increase in the number of deceased donors was 6%.

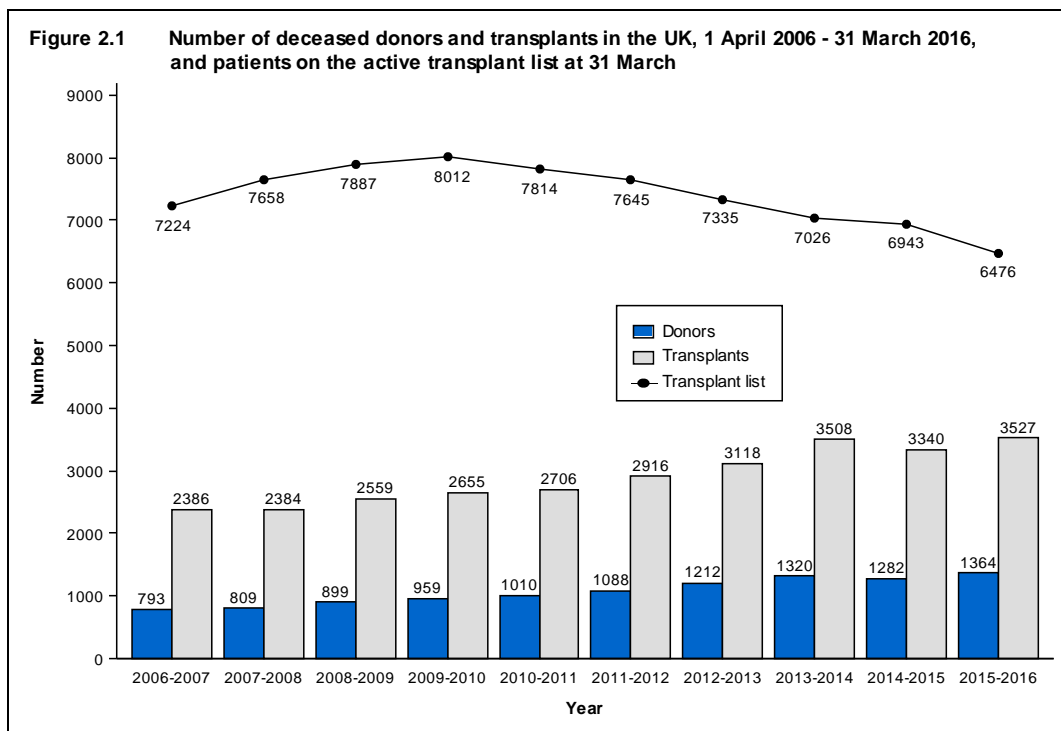


Figure 2.2 shows the number of deceased and living donors for 2006-2016. The number of deceased donors after brain death has increased in the last 3 to 4 years and reached the highest number ever in 2015-2016. The number of DCD donors has increased year on year, except in 2014/15, reaching the highest number of DCD donors ever in 2015-2016. In the last 7 years the number of living donors has ranged from 1,046 to 1,148 each year. Compared with last year there was a 2% fall to 1,075 living donors this year. One of the 1,075 living donors donated a liver that was not transplanted due to anatomical reasons

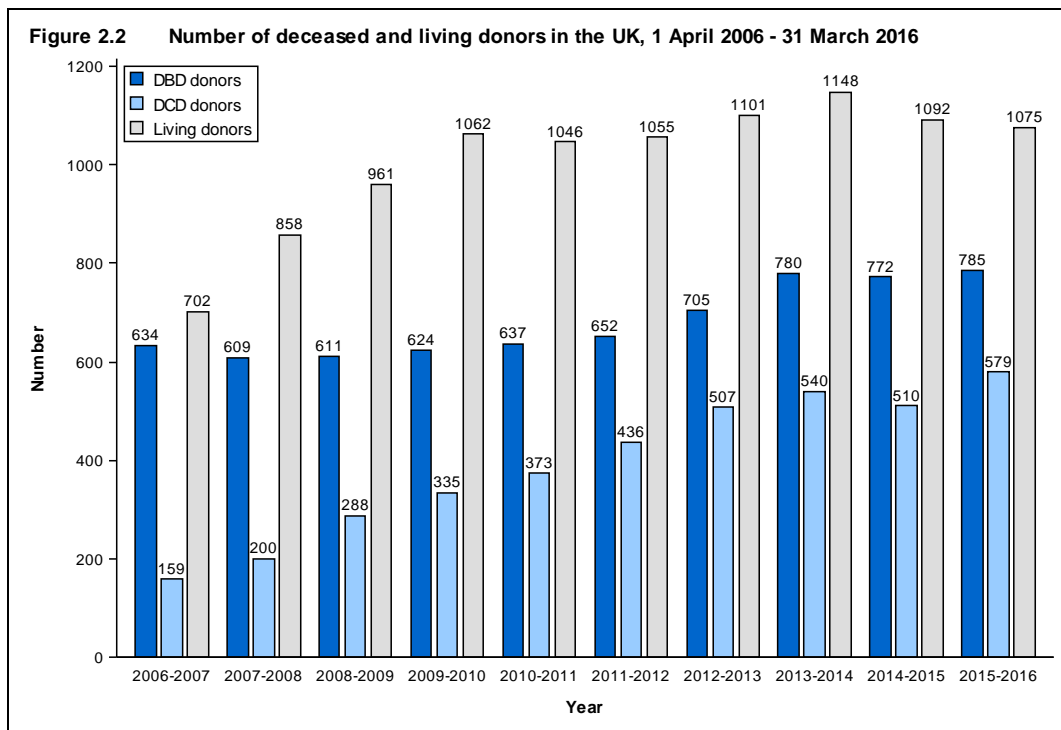
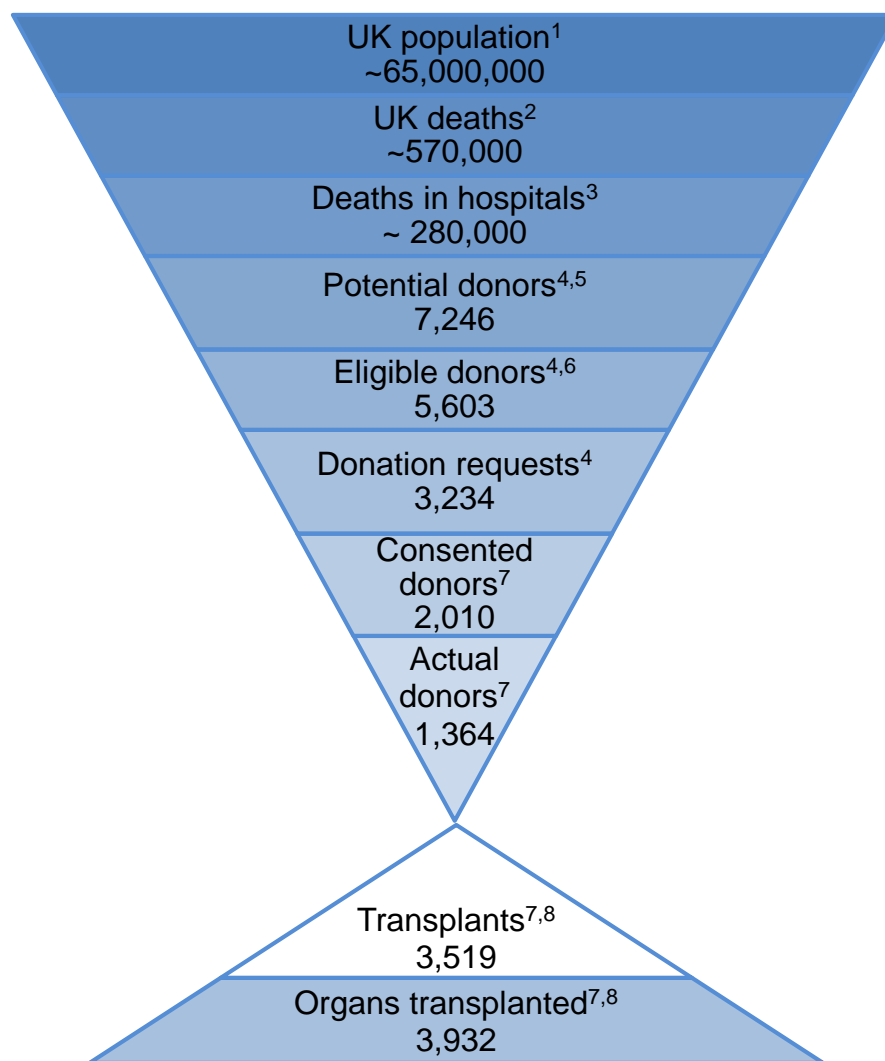


Figure 2.3 shows the potential deceased organ donor population in the UK. Not everyone can be a deceased organ donor and this figure highlights the small proportion of deaths in the UK that represent potential donors. *Please note that the information presented comes from several different sources. The NHSBT Potential Donor Audit, collects information on most but not all actual donors and the potential for donation could therefore be slightly underestimated. The quoted numbers of transplants and organs transplanted are those achieved using organs from deceased actual donors in the UK, some of which may have been performed overseas, and does not reflect the number of deceased donor transplants in the UK, which may have used organs from overseas donors.*

Figure 2.3 UK potential deceased organ donor population, 1 April 2015 – 31 March 2016



¹ Mid 2014 estimates: www.ons.gov.uk

² 2014 data: England & Wales www.ons.gov.uk; Scotland www.gro-scotland.gov.uk; Northern Ireland www.nisra.gov.uk

³ 2014 data: England & Wales www.ons.gov.uk; Scotland www.isdscotland.org; Northern Ireland www.nisra.gov.uk

⁴ 2015/2016 data: NHSBT, Potential Donor Audit

⁵ Potential donor - patients for whom death was confirmed following neurological tests or patients who had treatment withdrawn and death was anticipated within four hours

⁶ Eligible donor - Potential donor with no absolute medical contraindications to solid organ donation

⁷ 2015/2016 deceased donor data: NHSBT, UK Transplant Registry

⁸ Using organs from actual donors in the UK

Table 2.1 shows the number of deceased donors and transplants in 2015-2016 and patients on the transplant list at 31 March 2016 for each country in the UK.

Table 2.1 Deceased donors and transplants 1 April 2015 - 31 March 2016, and transplant lists as at 31 March 2016, by Country of residence

Organ	Country of residence ^{1,2}							
	England		Wales		Scotland		Northern Ireland	
	N	(pmp)	N	(pmp)	N	(pmp)	N	(pmp)
Kidney								
Deceased donors	1073	(19.8)	70	(22.7)	99	(18.5)	46	(25.0)
Transplants ³	1717	(31.6)	84	(27.2)	179	(33.5)	51	(27.7)
Transplant list	4561	(84.0)	144	(46.6)	426	(79.6)	120	(65.2)
Pancreas								
Deceased donors	388	(7.1)	22	(7.1)	41	(7.7)	16	(8.7)
Transplants	168	(3.1)	13	(4.2)	30	(5.6)	5	(2.7)
Transplant list	163	(3.0)	4	(1.3)	29	(5.4)	3	(1.6)
Heart								
Deceased donors	180	(3.3)	7	(2.3)	11	(2.1)	8	(4.3)
Transplants ⁴	166	(3.1)	11	(3.6)	9	(1.7)	7	(3.8)
Transplant list	217	(4.0)	10	(3.2)	24	(4.5)	5	(2.7)
Lung								
Deceased donors	159	(2.9)	12	(3.9)	18	(3.4)	13	(7.1)
Transplants	158	(2.9)	15	(4.9)	10	(1.9)	3	(1.6)
Transplant list	282	(5.2)	17	(5.5)	22	(4.1)	7	(3.8)
Liver								
Deceased donors	845	(15.6)	54	(17.5)	77	(14.4)	31	(16.8)
Transplants	682	(12.6)	44	(14.2)	102	(19.1)	33	(17.9)
Transplant list	466	(8.6)	21	(6.8)	60	(11.2)	21	(11.4)
Intestinal								
Deceased donors	11	(0.2)	0	(0.0)	4	(0.7)	1	(0.5)
Transplants	11	(0.2)	1	(0.3)	1	(0.2)	0	(0.0)
Transplant list	6	(0.1)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)
Total⁵								
Deceased donors	1134	(20.9)	75	(24.3)	103	(19.3)	47	(25.5)
Transplants	2901	(53.4)	168	(54.4)	331	(61.9)	99	(53.8)
Transplant list	5543	(102.0)	193	(62.5)	542	(101.3)	152	(82.6)

¹ Country of residence of donor given for deceased donor numbers, and residence of recipient given for transplant and waiting list numbers

² Excludes patients resident in Channel Islands, Isle of Man, overseas and in the Republic of Ireland

³ Kidney only transplants

⁴ Excludes heart/lung transplants

⁵ Organ numbers do not add up to total due to multi-organ donors and patients

2.2 Transplant list

At 31 March 2016, 6,476 patients were registered for an organ transplant in the UK on the active transplant list. A further 3,452 patients were temporarily suspended from the active national transplant list because they were unfit or otherwise unavailable for transplant. Details of numbers of patients on each of the organ transplant lists are given in **Table 2.2** for 31 March 2015 and 2016. Between these dates the total number fell by 467 patients (7%) due to decreases in the number of patients on the transplant lists for all organs.

Table 2.2 Active transplant lists in the UK at 31 March 2015 and 2016			
	2015	2016	% Change
Kidney & pancreas patients	5720	5308	-7
Kidney	5468	5081	-7
Kidney & pancreas	201	184	-8
Pancreas	15	15	0
Pancreas islets	36	28	-22
Cardiothoracic patients	599	574	-4
Heart	262	244	-7
Heart/lung	13	14	0
Lung(s)	324	316	-2
Liver patients	596	578	-3
Intestinal patients	9	6	-33
Other multi-organ patients¹	19	10	-47
ALL PATIENTS	6943	6476	-7

Percentages not reported when fewer than 10 in either year
¹ Includes patients waiting for kidney and liver transplants (13 in 2015, 6 in 2016), kidney and heart transplants (4 in 2015, 4 in 2016), liver and heart transplants (1 in 2015), liver and lung transplants (1 in 2015)

During 2015-2016, 479 patients died whilst active/suspended on the transplant list or within one year of removal from the list. This information is shown by organ and age group in **Table 2.3**.

Table 2.3 Number of patient deaths on transplant lists in the UK, 1 April 2015 - 31 March 2016

	Total	Adult	Paediatric
Kidney & pancreas patients	285	285	0
Kidney	259	259	0
Pancreas	3	3	0
Kidney & pancreas	23	23	0
Cardiothoracic patients	105	95	10
Heart	46	37	9
Heart/lung	4	3	1
Lung	55	55	0
Liver patients	87	82	5
Intestinal patients	2	2	0
ALL PATIENTS	479	464	15

2.3 Transplants

There was a 4% increase in the total number of organ transplants (from deceased and living donors) last year: 4,601 transplants were performed in 2015-2016 compared with 4,432 in 2014-2015 (**Table 2.4**). All multi-organ transplants are identified separately as are transplants from living donors.

The total number of kidney transplants increased by 5% in 2015-2016; kidney only transplants from donors after circulatory death increased by 19%, while the number of living donor kidney transplants fell by 2%. The total number of cardiothoracic organ transplants rose by 4%, the number of liver transplants rose by 3% and the number of pancreas transplants (including pancreas only, kidney/pancreas and pancreas islets) fell by 6%.

Table 2.4 Transplants performed in the UK, 1 April 2014 - 31 March 2016

Transplant	2014-2015	2015-2016	% Change
DBD kidney	1163	1181	+2
DCD kidney	717	855	+19
Living donor kidney	1052	1035	-2
DBD Kidney & pancreas	118	123	+4
DCD Kidney & pancreas	55	44	-20
DBD Pancreas	24	13	-46
DCD Pancreas	5	5	-
Pancreas islets	23	31	+35
DBD heart	179	175	-2
DCD heart	1	19	-
Heart/lung	1	6	-
DBD Single lung	17	14	-18
DCD Single lung	6	2	-
DBD Double lung	128	133	+4
DCD Double lung	34	33	-3
DBD liver	564	551	-2
DCD liver	176	206	+17
Domino liver	2	3	-
DBD liver lobe	87	95	+9
DCD liver lobe	1	0	-
Living donor liver lobe	38	36	-5
Bowel only	6	1	-
Liver, bowel & pancreas	3	1	-
Multivisceral ¹	11	7	-
Modified multivisceral ²	4	6	-
Kidney & heart	1	0	-
Kidney & liver	14	25	+79
Heart & liver	0	1	-
Liver & pancreas	1	0	-
Lung & kidney	1	0	-
TOTAL ORGAN TRANSPLANTS	4432	4601	+4
Total kidney transplants³	3122	3265	+5
Total pancreas transplants³	244	230	-6
Total cardiothoracic transplants	368	383	+4
Total liver transplants³	897	925	+3
Total intestinal transplants	24	15	-38

Percentage not reported when fewer than 10 in either year

¹ Including a kidney (1 in 2014-2015)

² Including a kidney (2 in 2015-2016)

³ Includes intestinal transplants

The total approximate number of patients with a functioning transplant on 31 March 2016 is 47,800 (**Table 2.5**). This reflects information held on the UK transplant registry database and excludes those patients who are known to be lost to follow-up.

Table 2.5 Number of transplants reported as functioning at 31 March 2016	
	Functioning transplants¹
Kidney	34400
Pancreas	2100
Cardiothoracic	3800
Liver	9200
Intestinal	100
ALL PATIENTS²	47800

¹ Approximate number being followed up
² Number of patients with a functioning transplant
Multi-organ transplants (excluding intestinal transplants) are counted in each organ
Excludes those patients known to be lost to follow-up