

# ODT Associate Medical Director's Communication



*Blood and Transplant*



## April 2017

Dear Colleagues,

This month we return to an important subject: The length of the donation and retrieval process. We have received the output from the excellent meeting (attended by representatives across all the teams) to discuss this subject and we have also taken on board feedback heard at the BTS in Harrogate. Olive McGowan, Assistant Director Education and Governance, sets out what we plan to do - these actions are a mixture of ideas from the clinical and management communities, with an eye to things that are likely to work quite quickly.

I am grateful to Olive for taking this forward as it is seen as a priority by me and the vast majority of those performing this important task every day, across the UK.

And also an important 'thank you'! (Read on please)

With best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Forsythe'.

Professor John Forsythe  
Medical Director  
Organ Donation & Transplantation Directorate

## **The Length of the Donation and Retrieval process:**

We have put together a detailed action plan following the meeting in January. Many of the actions identified by those in attendance were related to 3 key areas. Below is a flavour of the areas that were highlighted as priority in reducing the length of the donation pathway.

### **Donor Hospitals**

- Encourage early referrals/ early BSD testing
- Send bloods for microbiology and HLA as soon as possible
- Preparatory work ahead of the arrival of the SNOD
- Contact GPs as early as possible

### **Organ Allocation and Offering**

- Improve and standardise communications channels (e.g. DO-SNODs, DO-transplant centres)
- Update organ specific contraindications
- Consider upper donor age limits for paediatric recipients
- Consider screening programmes for other organs- Heart/ Lungs
- Adhere to 45 mins offering times
- Review CT offering
- EOS- Consider improvements to EOS enabling uploading of documents/ results that would be visible to the Transplant Centres

### **NORS**

- Mobilise (local?) team before organ acceptance if donor unstable
- One opportunity to delay retrieval
- Mobilise cardio team earlier than abdominal team to reflect longer travel times
- Review retrieval start times- avoiding handover times for NORS teams

## **A superb achievement, thank you!**

**ODT SMT Performance Report:** Thank you to everyone for making 2016/17 another record year for deceased donors and transplants. 3712 patients received a deceased donor transplant (5% more than last year) thanks to the generosity of 1413 deceased donors and their families, and the dedication of everyone in the donation and transplantation communities. For the latest ODT performance report, see [here](#).

**Key messages for the Organ Donation and Transplantation Hub Programme:** The Business Case for the coming year of the ODT Hub Programme (2017/18) was presented at the March Board meeting. The Board approved the request for £3.2 million funding, which will see the programme deliver more benefits both to NHSBT and the wider organ donation and transplantation community.

Over the last 15 months – to time and to budget – we have: safely implemented new Heart and Lung Allocation Schemes on new IT platforms; designed, built and tested a referral and assessment pilot across several regions; built a demonstration digital Transplant List and a multi Solid organ Offering prototype and made preparations for deploying Liver Allocation Schemes.

This is all in pursuit of developing the systems and processes capable of supporting the levels of organ donation projected in our TOT2020 strategy, so that we can save and improve more lives.

One of the ways of meeting the 2020 challenge is by creating an ODT Hub, which will act as an operational support service to facilitate and organise activities that support people working across ODT. The ODT Hub will efficiently and safely support increasing numbers of potential referrals, donations and transplants.

In 2017/18 the Programme will undertake more extensive change both within NHSBT and for our hospital partners. This will include:

- Formally opening the ODT Hub in summer 2017 to coincide with central management of heart, lung and liver offering.
- Provide Liver Transplant Centres with the ability to register and maintain their waiting lists directly on the Hub platform.
- Delivering the existing Liver Allocation schemes (Adult, Paediatric, DBD and DCD) and the new Adult DBD Liver Allocation scheme on the new platform for live use. Under the new offering scheme, the liver will be offered to a named patient most in need of the transplant and with the greatest chance of long term survival, rather than on a regional basis, as is currently the case.
- Planning how the Hub can support the Referral and Assessment of potential donors.

Our plans for this financial year will touch a range of areas within the organ donation and transplantation community. We will be engaging with stakeholders at each step of the process to ensure we are developing services that are modernised in a safe way while responding to their needs.

Our vision is to create a simpler, safer, responsive service that supports clinicians in delivering world class performance in organ donation and transplantation, with a clinically led 24/7 support centre at its core and renewed technology as its foundation.

The changes will give the ODT community better access to data and a complete view of the journey from potential donor to post-transplant care. They will also give SN-ODs more time to care for donor families.

**NHSBT data on Organ Donation and Transplantation:** Follow this link <http://www.odt.nhs.uk/uk-transplant-registry/> to access a wealth of data on Organ Donation and Transplantation activity in the UK, including the Annual Activity Report, Organ Specific Annual and Interim Reports and other reports. New Interim Cardiothoracic and Pancreas Reports are available at the bottom of this webpage: <http://www.odt.nhs.uk/uk-transplant-registry/organ-specific-reports/>. We have recently asked for your feedback on the contents of the Organ Specific Annual Reports. Thank

you to those who responded. We are currently reviewing the responses and will be incorporating changes into this year's reports, due to be published in the summer. Please note that access to data on the UK Transplant Registry can be requested through the Statistics and Clinical Studies Department. More information can be found here: <http://www.odt.nhs.uk/uk-transplant-registry/data/>.

**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:** Please click [here](#) for the April 2017 issue.

**Statistics and Clinical Studies:** Please click [here](#) for the up-to-date April 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 8.

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

- **CTAG (Cardiothoracic Advisory Group)**  
Wednesday 26th April 2017 - Association of Anaesthetists, Portland Place, London
- **KAGPSG (Kidney Paediatric Sub Group)**  
Wednesday 26th April 2017 - West End Donor Centre, London
- **NODC PSG (National Organ Donation Committee Paediatric sub-group)**  
Tuesday 9th May 2017 - Royal College of Anaesthetists, London
- **LAG (Liver Advisory Group)**  
Wednesday 10th May 2017 - 12 Bloomsbury Square, London
- **RINTAG (Research, Innovation & Novel Technologies Advisory Group)**  
Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2017 - The Royal College of Anaesthetists, London
- **CTAG Patient Group Meeting**  
Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2017 – West End Donor Centre, London
- **NODC (National Organ Donation Committee)**  
Tuesday 6th June 2017 - 12 Bloomsbury Square, London
- **KAG (Kidney Advisory Group)**  
Thursday 8th June 2017 - 12 Bloomsbury Square, London
- **ODT Care (Organ Donation and Transplantation Care)**  
Tuesday 13th June 2017 - The Principal York Hotel, York
- **Kidney Patient Group Meeting**  
Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2017 - Citadines Holborn, Covent Garden, High Holborn, London
- **Liver Patient Group meeting**  
Tuesday 11th July 2017 - West End Donor Centre, London

## INFORMATION FROM OTHER BODIES:

**Blood and Transplant Matters:** Please click [here](#) for issue 50.

**Organ Donation and Transplantation – Wales E Bulletin:** Please click [here](#) for Issue 49

## FORTHCOMING MEETINGS:

**The Hesperis Course:** Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> – Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2017, Rome. Hesperis attempts to provide advanced knowledge in transplantation for professionals who are entering the field.

The main objective is to provide advanced overviews and inspiring discussions of the most relevant aspects of transplantation for physicians, surgeons and scientists entering the field of transplantation in a European transplant centre. Please click on the following link for further information <http://www.esot.org/events-education/events>

**International Hands-on Course - Live Donor Course Nephrectomy (LiDo course)** 28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017. Erasmus MC Rotterdam, The Netherlands.

Educational Objectives: To provide a podium for transplant surgeons and urologists who are specialising in live donor kidney transplantation and 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. Please follow this link for further information. <http://www.esot.org/events-education/events>

**BigBangBarcelona Conference:** 24<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> 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>