

Regional contribution to the 50% increase in UK organ donation

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Background

In 2008 the Organ Donor Taskforce, supported by all four UK health departments, published 14 recommendations with the intention of increasing organ donation by 50% over five years. On 31 March 2013 the five years concluded: 1,212 donors between 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2013, from a baseline 809 donors. This represented a 49.8% increase in organ donation and graciously this was rounded up to 50%.

However, considerable regional variation in achieving the 50% goal was believed to exist.

Methods

NHSBT statistics were investigated on an Organ Donation Services Team (ODST) region by region basis, to ascertain which regions achieved a 50% increase and what contribution to the overall 50% goal each region made.

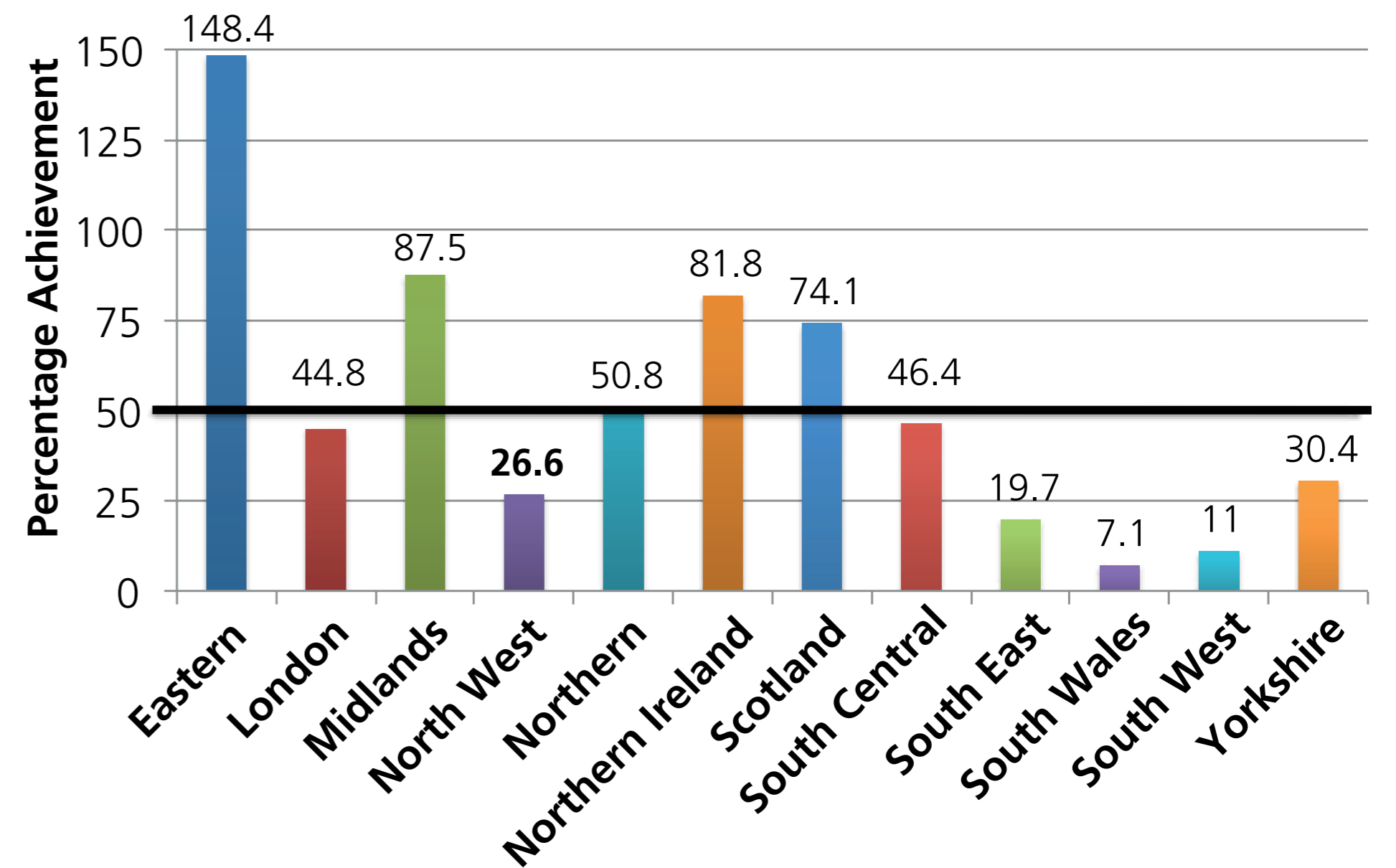
Results

Five of the UK 12 regions achieved a 50% increase in donation over five years: Eastern (148.4%), Midlands (87.5%), Northern Ireland (81.8%), Scotland (74.1%) and Northern (50.8%). Only one region (Eastern) achieved a 50% increase in Donation after Brainstem Death (DBD) while four regions saw negative growth. UK rise in DBD was 15.8%. All regions saw at least a 50% growth in Donation after Circulatory Death (DCD). UK rise in DCD was 153.5%, which contributed 76.2% of the rise which allowed the UK to achieve the 50% goal.

Discussion

Considerable regional variation persists and it seems likely that there still remains considerable potential to increase the donors per million population in the UK.

50% Target by Donor Team



Contribution to 50% by Donor Team

