

Patient Selection and Organ Allocation Policies Review and Approval (Organs)

This Policy replaces
POL233/1.1

Copy Number

Effective 24/08/16

Summary of Significant Changes
Change the reference to 'Statistics & Clinical Studies' to 'Statistical Lead'

1. Background

The development and implementation of policies for selection of patients for transplantation and for allocation of donor organs (from living and deceased donors) is a statutory responsibility of NHSBT.

These policies should be clear and, as far as possible, evidence based and based on the principles of equity, fairness, benefit and utility. All policies should be supported by clinicians and other relevant stakeholders. Criteria for assessment of these policies have been developed and agreed.

As clinical practice evolves and improves, and as both donor and recipient characteristics change, it is important that these policies are reviewed on a regular basis and revised as necessary.

Policies are developed and reviewed annually by the relevant Advisory Group and reviewed and approved by the Transplant Policy Review Committee on behalf of the Board of NHSBT before being implemented by NHSBT and partners.

2. Aim of policy

The selection and allocation policies are of relevance both for information and implementation by a large number of stakeholders, including patients and their families, clinicians who refer, assess and manage patients before and after transplant, those in organ donation, organ retrieval and other health care professionals, commissioners and regulators. These may work in different institutions other than NHSBT and in different countries of the UK. Furthermore, implementation of some of these changes may take weeks or months so agreement of changes in policies will not always immediately translate into action.

The purpose of this document is to define the stages not only when patient selection and organ allocation policies should be reviewed but how such changes are proposed, agreed and implemented.

The stages are:

- Proposal for change
- Consultation
- Approval of change
- Implementation of changes
- Dissemination of changes

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3. Clinical Policy Change process

A flow chart detailing the change process is detailed below:

