Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics Services

1. Staffing

Glasgow H&I: No changes. All substantive posts filled.

Edinburgh H&I: Following changes to SNBTS staffing in Edinburgh Clinical laboratories slightly more wte at Band 6 and Band 7 are now working to support the H&I service. Following reduction to one person working out of hours in the Edinburgh lab, all HLA types of donors are checked by the Consultant Clinical Scientist on call before reporting.

2. Senior On Call Rota

There is now a one in four Consultant/Principal Clinical Scientist on call rota supporting deceased donor kidney, SPK, islet and cardiac transplantation in Scotland.

3. QuOD Project

Ongoing, funded until 2020.

4. Donor Typing

Both Edinburgh and Glasgow are now using real time PCR assays as part of their donor HLA typing strategies. As well as these assays being quicker and providing a higher resolution HLA type, it will also be possible in the future to report results to ODT without transcription of data in the lab.

5. UK Donor Characterisation Review (HLA typing of donors and micro testing)

NHSBT have set up three work groups to move this forward; Specification, commissioning and electronic transfer of results. DT is co-chair of the latter group. A report on the possible future arrangements for donor characterisation is expected in 2019.

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

SNBTS Tissue, Cells and Advanced Therapeutics (TCAT) has now successfully completed transitioning all services to The Jack Copland Centre (JCC). The islet processing service went live from the JCC as of 8th May 2018. The move of tissue products to JCC was completed by July 2018. Now that the service has been transitioned to JCC the procedure followed for heart valve and tendon processing needs to be re-validated. In view of this heart valve and tendon processing is temporarily paused, and will be recommenced once validation is completed. As a result tendon retrieval is also paused; however due to the UK-wide shortage of life-saving heart valves, heart valve retrieval continues with all hearts for valves retrieved in Scotland at the present point in time being sent to Liverpool for processing to ensure that no potential heart valve donation is missed.

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

Current tissue donor numbers are impacted by the fact that tendon retrieval is at the present time paused and are as a result not a true reflection of the potential donor numbers. In the first five months of this financial year 13 multi-organ donors and 3 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 the first 5 months of this financial year, 11 pancreata were processed, of which 5 (45%) yielded a successful transplantable product, leading to a transplant on 4 occasions.

Dr Sharon Zahra
Clinical Lead, TCAT
SNBTS
NHS Blood and Transplant Update

1. Change in Chief Executive

Ian Trenholm left NHSBT on 29 July 2018 to take up the role of Chief Executive at the Care Quality Commission. Sally Johnson has taken on the role of Interim Chief Executive, and Anthony Clarkson has stepped in as the interim Director of Organ Donation and Transplantation with Professor John Forsythe providing extra support. The recruitment process for the new Chief Executive is ongoing with interviews planned for October 2018.

2. Transplant Activity Report 2017/18

The Board received the 2017/18 Transplant Activity report which is available at https://www.odt.nhs.uk/statistics-and-reports/annual-activity-report/

Of particular note from the report was the 11% increase in deceased organ donors to 1574 donors which when coupled with the 1051 living donors meant that for the first time the UK performed over 5000 transplants (5090) in a year. Deceased organ donors have increased by 95% since the Organ Donation Taskforce report in 2008.

3. Clinical Audit, Risk & Effectiveness (ODT CARE)

ODT have yet to receive an update from the Department of Health and Social Care regarding the retrieval of organs from pregnant females. It was agreed by the National Donation Committee that ODT should commence pregnancy testing of all women of child bearing age, defined by the National Patient Safety Agency (NPSA) as aged 12-55 years; will be rolled out nationally.

4. Organ Utilisation Strategy

The Board received an update on the Organ Utilisation Strategy. They considered the progress made so far in:

- Meeting the aims such as contacting transplant units when they declined an ‘ideal donor’ organ;
- Producing a report on transplant capacity which had been shared with commissioners and transplant units;
- Developing tools to explain risk in consent; and
- Further planned developments in the ODT Hub.

Next steps were also discussed for all of the five outcomes and were supported by the Board, who also noted that effective implementation required heavy collaborative work between UK Commissioners, transplant centres and relevant professional bodies.

Keith Rigg
Non-Executive Director
NHSBT
Living Donation Scotland Project

1. Network meeting outcomes:

1.1 Timely Transplantation: A survey of all Scottish units collecting data on transplant decision and living donation discussion for patients approaching end stage renal failure has been completed. To be presented at Scottish Renal Association meeting to instigate discussion on national data collection.

1.2 Kidney Sharing Scheme: Compatible pairs now participating in sharing scheme, with positive individual outcomes.

1.3 Home Education pilot: Community renal team nurse to pilot living donation home education sessions has been appointed and will take up post in September 2018.

1.4 Living Donor Project Board: The next meeting of the project board will take place on 29 October 2018.

1.5 Link Nephrologists Meeting: The next meeting of the Link Nephrologists and Nurses will take place on 7 December at the Stirling Court Hotel, Stirling.

2. Publicity and Awareness

- Collaboration with BAME peer educators and information sessions.
- Posters and information leaflets distributed to all GP surgeries in Scotland.
- Blood donor centres in Edinburgh and Glasgow displaying living donor pull-up banner.
- Money Matters leaflet available for all renal units and included in recipient and donor information pack.
2.1 Living Donation Awareness Drive
- News release issued in May 2018
- Media coverage included:

3. Living Donation Stats - Scotland

- Increase to 94 living donor transplants: 17.4 pmp
- 93 living donors
- 10 of which were altruistic donors

**Glasgow/Edinburgh Transplant Unit Healthcheck - Questionnaire returns**

**HCQ returns - Tx Units**

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**Jen Lumsdaine**
Living Donor Transplant Co-ordinator
Living Donation Scotland Project
Policy Highlight Report

Report Card

Report card issued on 23 July 2018 and uploaded to OD Scotland website.
- 5000 copies printed and disseminated to OD Committee Chairs, CLODs and SNODs for local distribution.

Events

European Championships - Go Live at the Green: 4 & 5 Aug and 11 & 12 Aug 2018
- 1000 Gordon leaflets distributed
- 282 sign ups to the NHS Organ Donor Register during the course of the event

ela – Edinburgh: 1 & 2 Sept 2018
- 750 Gordon leaflets distributed
- 188 sign ups to the NHS Organ Donor Register during the course of the event

Email Newsletter

Two organ donation email newsletters were issued on 5 July and 5 September to stakeholders and to those on the ODR who agreed to receiving more information about organ donation at the point of sign-up.
The September 2018 issue was emailed to approximately 11,000 subscribers.

Lift Wraps

Lift wraps are now installed at the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh and the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, Glasgow.
Awaiting confirmation of installation at Ninewells Hospital.

Organ Donation Week 2018

Promotional Material

New organ donation promotional material was sourced for OD week 2018 and an online ordering system launched. Material includes:
- Wristbands
- Post-it Notes
- Pens
- Mobile phone screen wipes
- Car Stickers
- T-shirts
- Pride badges

Organ Donation Animation

A new animation was developed for OD week and shared widely with stakeholders for use across their social media platforms.
OD Campaign Toolkit

A campaign toolkit was distributed to key stakeholders in advance of OD Week. The aim of the toolkit was to provide a range of information, statistics and materials to help with the local promotion and consistent messaging in support of this year’s campaign.

Organ Donation Website

The OD website is currently being updated to improve navigation, make the news and events more prominent and to revamp and update the resources section.

Organ and Tissue Donation Memorial Book

In August 2018, a book containing the names of every organ and tissue donor between December 2013 to March 2018 was created. It was placed within a kist and laid next to the National Organ and Tissue Memorial in the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh.

Linda White
Policy Manager
Organ and Tissue Donation and Transplantation
Scottish Government