ORGAN DONATION AND TRANSPLANTATION IN SCOTLAND

HOW ARE WE DOING?

REPORT 2014/2015
REFERRALS

Donation after Circulatory Death (DCD)  Donation after Brainstem Death (DBD)

2011/12  2012/13  2013/14  2014/15
88  97  103  119
119  177  207  212

AUTHORISATION

Number of eligible DBD and DCD donors whose family were approached
Number of families authorising donation
DBD and DCD authorisation rate (%)

2011/12  2012/13  2013/14  2014/15
162  213
62.3%  60.1%
216  216
61.6%  53.7%

Note – due to the change in definition of a neurological death, the number of referrals from previous years have changed slightly from the 2013/2014 report.

• Since 2011/12 the number of referrals to the organ donation service rose by over 60%.
• The timing of some referrals has improved. Earlier referral to the Specialist Nurses for Organ Donation allows them to get to hospitals earlier so that relatives don’t have to wait longer than necessary at a difficult time for them.
• The NHS Organ Donor Register must always be checked prior to speaking to a family about donation.
• Acceptance criteria for organs for transplantation changes frequently and often depends on how sick someone is on the transplant waiting list.
• There are always two Specialist Nurses on call in Scotland at any time and they are always happy to provide donation advice to Healthcare Professionals. They can be contacted 24/7 on 07659 594979.

• Since 2011/12 the authorisation rate in Scotland has fallen from 62.3% to 53.7%.
• Authorisation for donation to proceed is higher when a Specialist Nurse for Organ Donation is in attendance to provide support to donor families. They have the time and the expert knowledge to provide answers to questions that donor families may have about the timing of donation, the organ recovery process and the care that will be taken of their loved one donating this special gift.
• Before organ donation takes place, the authorisation process can take several hours to complete as information is shared and families get time to ask any questions.
• For the first time since 2008/09, the number of people donating their organs after their death fell.

• Less than 1% of people die in circumstances where they can donate and this number fluctuates year on year.

• Over the last decade there have been significant improvements in the outcomes for patients suffering traumatic brain injury, stroke and brain haemorrhage. These improvements are welcomed because they too save and improve lives however they do reduce the potential for organ donation.

• One deceased donor can help save the lives of up to 7 people and save or enhance the lives of many more through tissue donation.

• In 2014-15 there were 13 altruistic kidney donors in Scotland. These people generously donated a kidney to a stranger.
### Kidney Transplant Breakdown

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organ</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kidney</td>
<td>418</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kidney/pancreas</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lung</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heart</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liver</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>543</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Source Details

The statistics provided are based on deceased donors from Scottish hospitals. For more detailed information, please visit the NHSBT statistics page for annual activity reports at [www.organdonation.nhs.uk/statistics](http://www.organdonation.nhs.uk/statistics).

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**ACTIVE TRANSPLANT WAITING LIST**

**31ST MARCH 2015**

- Based on Scottish postcode of residence of patient
- Excludes patients temporarily suspended from the transplant waiting list

For more detailed information, please visit the NHSBT statistics page for annual activity reports at [www.organdonation.nhs.uk/statistics](http://www.organdonation.nhs.uk/statistics).