

Single centre early experience of the new UK deceased donor kidney allocation scheme

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Introduction

In July 2019 the Kidney Advisory Group on behalf of NHS Blood and Transplant published a new transplant offering scheme for deceased donor kidneys. The new scheme was introduced to address some of the inequities in the offering process. It aims to better match patients with graft life expectancy and facilitate greater priority for difficult to match patients. We present our unit's experience of the new scheme since its introduction in September 2019.

Methods

We retrospectively interrogated our local database over a 4 month period from the date of the new scheme (11 September 2019) to the present (9 February 2020).

Total number of cases	44
Median recipient age (years)	53.5 (IQR 40.25-59.25)
Male sex, n(%)	26 (59%)
Ethnicity non-Caucasian, n(%)	29 (66%)
Median time on waiting list (years)	3.32 (IQR 2.05-4.31)
No of Transplant	1st 32 (73%)
	2nd 11 (25%)
	3rd 1 (2%)
DBD/DCD, n(%)	29 (66%), 15 (34%)
Number of ECD donors	12 (27%)
Median cold ischaemic (hours)	10.7 (IQR 9-13.6)

Table 1.

Discussion

This preliminary study gives an indication of the age, matchability, and complexity of patients that have been transplanted as a result of the new national kidney offering scheme.

Longer follow up is required to further understand the long-term implications of the new allocation scheme, but the early data implies BAME recipients might achieve more equitable access to transplantation. This is of particular importance for our centre, where BAME patients account for over half of our centre's current waiting list.

Results

Since commencement of the new allocation scheme a total of 44 deceased donor kidney transplants were performed in our centre (Table 1). 66% of our recipient cohort came from a BAME background, compared to 51.7% in the preceding year.

Based on the new allocation system, the distribution of tier A and tier B recipients is shown in table 2.

Match points, median (IQR)		8 (IQR 7.75-9)
Total number of HLA mismatches, median (IQR)		8.5 (IQR 7-11)
Number of Tier A mismatches, n(%)		10 (23%)
Number of Tier B mismatches, n(%)		34 (77%)
Sensitisation status at transplantation n(%)	Not sensitised	23 (52%)
	Sensitised	14 (32%)
	Highly sensitised	7 (16%)

Table 2.

Of the tier A patients one had biopsy-proven mixed cellular and vascular rejection.

Of the tier B patients, who had a median of 8 HLA mismatches, 8.82% (3/44) developed either cellular (n=2) or antibody-mediated (n=1) rejection. See table 3.

	Median matchability score	Number of cadaveric transplants	Cases of biopsy-proven rejection
Tier A	10	10	1
Tier B	8	34	3
Total	-	44	4

Table 3.

There was one graft failure at 6 months. Mean eGFR for the cohort is shown in table 4.

Biopsy-proven rejection %	4/44 (9%)
3 month eGFR mean (+/- SD)	51.2 (SD 19)

Table 4.