

Northern Health and Social Care Trust

Organ Donation and Transplantation 2030: Meeting the Need

In 2024/25, from 6 consented donors the Trust facilitated 5 actual solid organ donors resulting in 14 patients receiving a life-saving or life-changing transplant. Data obtained from the UK Transplant Registry.

In addition to the 5 proceeding donors there was one consented donor that did not proceed.

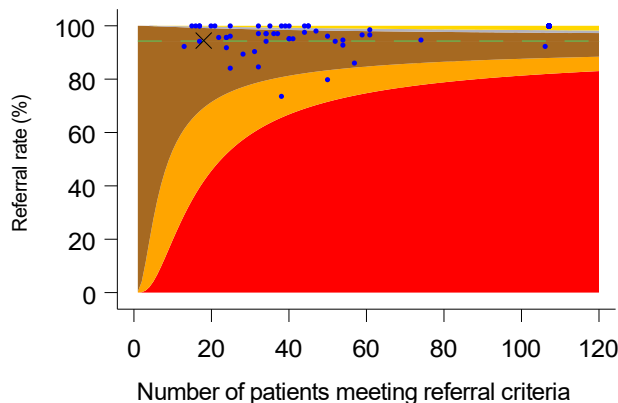
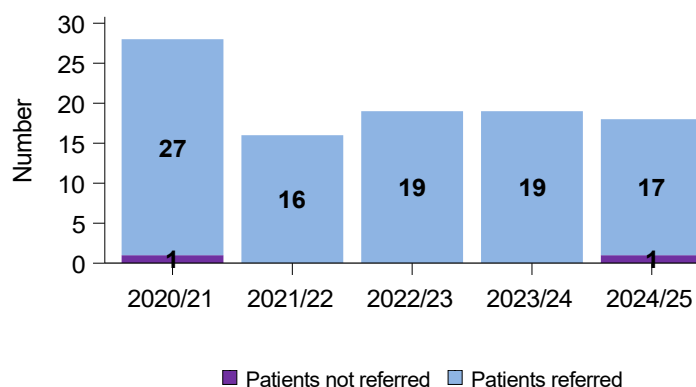
Best quality of care in organ donation

Referral of potential deceased organ donors

Goal: Every patient who meets the referral criteria should be identified and referred to NHS Blood and Transplant's Organ Donation Service

Aim: There should be no purple on the chart

Aim: The Trust (marked with a cross) should fall within Bronze, Silver, or Gold



X Trust • Other level 2 Trusts --- UK rate

Gold Silver Bronze Amber Red

The Trust referred 17 potential organ donors during 2024/25. There was 1 occasion where a potential organ donor was not referred.

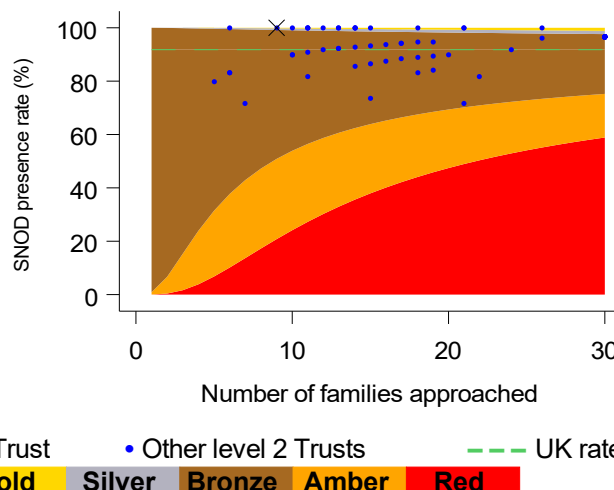
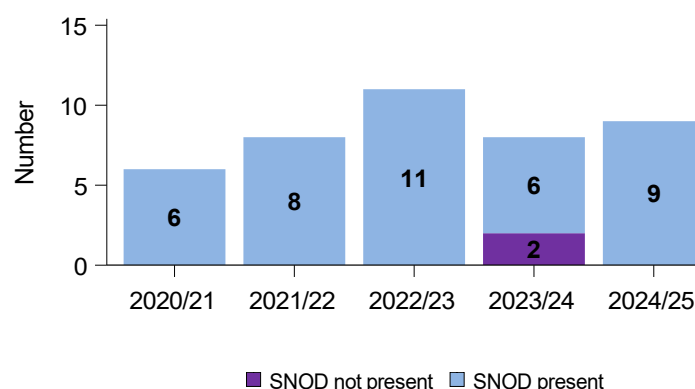
When compared with UK performance, the Trust was average (bronze) for referral of potential organ donors to NHS Blood and Transplant.

Presence of Specialist Nurse for Organ Donation

Goal: A Specialist Nurse for Organ Donation (SNOD) should be present during every organ donation discussion with families

Aim: There should be no purple on the chart

Aim: The Trust (marked with a cross) should fall within Bronze, Silver, or Gold



A SNOD was present for 9 organ donation discussions with families during 2024/25. There were no occasions where a SNOD was not present.

When compared with UK performance, the Trust was exceptional (gold) for SNOD presence when approaching families to discuss organ donation.

Why it matters

- If suitable patients are not referred, the patient's decision to be an organ donor is not honoured or the family does not get the chance to support organ donation.
- The consent rate in the UK is much higher when a SNOD is present.
- The number of patients receiving a life-saving or life-changing solid organ transplant in the UK is increasing but patients are still dying while waiting.

Regional donors, transplants, waiting list, and NHS Organ Donor Register (ODR) data

	Northern Ireland*	UK
1 April 2024 - 31 March 2025		
Deceased donors	44	1,403
Transplants from deceased donors	60	3,596
Deaths on the transplant list	8	463
As at 31 March 2025		
Active transplant list	163	8,096
Number of NHS ODR opt-in registrations (% registered)	1,082,190 (57%)**	28,383,991 (42%)
Number of NHS ODR opt-out registrations (% registered)	25,916 (1%)**	2,693,829 (4%)

*Regions are defined using the NHS region definitions

** % registered based on population of 1.9 million, based on ONS 2021 census data

Further information

Further information on potential donors after brain death (DBD) and potential donors after circulatory death (DCD) at the Trust are shown below, including a UK comparison. Data obtained from the Potential Donor Audit (PDA).

Key numbers, rates and comparison with UK data, 1 April 2024 - 31 March 2025

	DBD		DCD		Deceased donors	
	Trust	UK	Trust	UK	Trust	UK
Patients meeting organ donation referral criteria ¹	6	1883	12	5503	18	6880
Referred to Organ Donation Service	6	1859	11	5118	17	6486
Referral rate %	G 100%	99%	B 92%	93%	B 94%	94%
Neurological death tested	5	1356				
Testing rate %	B 83%	72%				
Eligible donors ²	5	1247	8	3735	13	4982
Medically suitable eligible donors ³	5	1247	6	2077	11	3324
Family approached	4	1084	5	1827	9	2911
Family approached of medically suitable eligible donor	4	1084	5	1799	9	2883
% approached of medically suitable eligible	B 80%	87%	B 83%	87%	B 82%	87%
Family approached and SNOD present	4	1050	5	1622	9	2672
% of approaches where SNOD present	G 100%	97%	G 100%	89%	G 100%	92%
Consent ascertained	4	743	2	970	6	1713
Consent rate %	G 100%	69%	B 40%	53%	B 67%	59%
- Expressed opt in	4	473	2	644	6	1117
- Expressed opt in %	100%	94%	100%	82%	100%	86%
- Deemed Consent	0	216	0	267	0	483
- Deemed Consent %	N/A	57%	N/A	43%	N/A	48%
- Other*	0	54	0	59	0	113
- Other* %	N/A	55%	N/A	29%	N/A	38%
Actual donors (PDA data)	4	694	1	703	5	1398
% of consented donors that became actual donors	100%	93%	50%	72%	83%	82%

¹ DBD - A patient with suspected neurological death

DCD - A patient in whom imminent death is anticipated, ie a patient receiving assisted ventilation, a clinical decision to withdraw treatment has been made and death is anticipated within 4 hours

² DBD - Death confirmed by neurological tests and no absolute contraindications to solid organ donation

DCD - Imminent death anticipated and treatment withdrawn with no absolute contraindications to solid organ donation

³ Medically suitable eligible donor - An eligible donor with no DCD exclusions and not deemed unsuitable by the DCD screening process

* Includes patients where nation specific deemed criteria are not met and the patient has not expressed a donation decision in accordance with relevant legislation

Note that a patient that meets both the referral criteria for DBD and DCD organ donation is featured in both the DBD and DCD data but will only be counted once in the deceased donors total

Gold **Silver** **Bronze** **Amber** **Red**

For further information, including definitions, see the latest Potential Donor Audit report and up to date metrics via our Power BI reports at:

<https://www.odt.nhs.uk/statistics-and-reports/potential-donor-audit-report/>.