

SFHCHS77

Discuss transplantation as an option



Overview

This standard covers the discussion of possible organ transplantation and the search for a donor. It should be part of the conversations with practitioners when organ failure is diagnosed.

Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 introduce the topic of transplantation at the earliest opportunity
- P2 encourage the patient to say what they already know about transplantation and tailor the style of information given to the patient and others
- P3 identify and explore myths and misunderstandings and lead the patient and others to the correct information
- P4 inform the patient and others of the nature, benefits and risks of the transplantation procedure
- P5 ensure the patient and others have specific knowledge about the impact transplantation can have on the donor
- P6 describe how organs are obtained, matched to recipients and the statistics for cadaveric and living donation
- P7 explain the advantages of transplantation
- P8 check the patient's understanding throughout, give the patient time to think, the opportunity to ask questions and talk through their concerns
- P9 invite the patient to consider who might be asked to donate an organ
- P10 describe honestly, based on evidence, the survival, morbidity and quality of life prospects the patient can expect in the short, medium and long term from transplants
- P11 describe the realities of the transplantation programme
- P12 explain the acceptance criteria for the transplantation programme, that it may not be an option for the patient and what they can do to maximise their prospects
- P13 arrange an introduction, if the patient wishes this, to a person who has had a successful transplant or to someone who has donated an organ
- P14 make your professional judgment on the best way forward for the patient, based on presenting evidence
- P15 offer your professional judgment if requested or if the patient is seriously unable to use the information provided to make a decision
- P16 come to an agreement about the patient's intention when their knowledge, action and motivation are consistent
- P17 specify the next steps for the potential donor, where necessary, before involving other members of the team

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 anatomy and physiology of the human body
- K2 anatomy and physiology of the specific organ
- K3 the immune system
- K4 psychological care skills/loss counselling
- K5 what patients can expect with and without transplantation
- K6 the nature, risks and benefits of forms of organ replacement therapy for patients in different medical circumstances)
- K7 clinical, physiological and psychological characteristics of the patient pathway before and after transplantation – what happens, when, why and how (e.g. how a transplant operation is performed)
- K8 how organs are obtained (e.g. living donation, deceased heart beating and non heart beating donation)
- K9 how organs are selected and matched (living and deceased donors)
- K10 risks and benefits of transplantation (e.g. enhanced life prospects and lifestyle, side effects of immunosuppression, rejection, psychological issues)
- K11 objections to transplantation and how to probe underlying thinking and how to counter it
- K12 how lifestyle affects health specifically in relation to recipient patients
- K13 procedures associated with the National Transplant Register
- K14 the psychological pressures that recipient patients encounter
- K15 legal requirements for transplantation (e.g. Human Organ Transplants Act 1989, The Human organ Transplants [Unrelated Persons] Regulations, 1989)
- K16 best practice guidelines (e.g. British Transplantation Society)
- K17 evidence of beliefs about transplantation among informed and uninformed religious and cultural groups (e.g. typical mistaken beliefs that a religion opposes transplantation, religious pronouncements such as Muslim fatwa in favour of transplantation)
- K18 statistics for organ transplantation locally
- K19 patient and living donor information, education and support opportunities
- K20 roles of other members of the multidisciplinary team
- K21 procedures and protocols relating to transplantation for referring and transplant centres
- K22 the communication skills required in complicated and sensitive situations
- K23 how to ask questions, listen carefully and summarise back
- K24 the importance of encouraging patients to ask questions and how to do so
- K25 the effects of different cultures and religions on care management and effects on family dynamics
- K26 the principle of confidentiality and what information may be given to

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whom

K27 the importance of involving patients in discussions, and how to do so

K28 how to negotiate effectively with patients, families and other professionals

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Additional Information

External Links

This standard links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):

Dimension: Core 1 Communication

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