
Overview

This standard covers the actions involved in transplanting organs and tissues, and ensuring that these are available, and in a suitable state for transplantation. It includes determining and applying the appropriate technique for transplanting the organ/tissue. The chosen technique must take account of the organ/tissue being transplanted, the health status and medical history of the individual receiving the transplant, and the potential for complications during or following the transplant, including transplant failure or rejection. This will be undertaken in an operating area.

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

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 confirm the individuals' identity and ensure that they have given their informed consent for the transplant of organ(s)/tissue(s) to be performed
- P2 apply standard precautions for infection control and other relevant health and safety measures, and wear personal protective clothing and additional protective equipment as appropriate
- P3 ensure that the relevant transplants are available, in a suitable state for transplantation and readily accessible
- P4 ensure that the appropriate pharmaceutical intervention of the required dilution and dose is given and maintained, in line with national legislation and local protocols and guidelines
- P5 ensure that the individual is positioned appropriately for the intervention, in a manner that minimises complications, in line with relevant protocols and guidelines
- P6 gain access to the intervention site in a timely, safe and appropriate manner for the organ or tissue being transplanted
- P7 determine the appropriate choice and sequencing of actions to take to successfully complete the intervention, taking into account:
 - P7.1 the organ or tissue being transplanted
 - P7.2 the complexity of the intervention
 - P7.3 the potential for healing
 - P7.4 other injuries
 - P7.5 age and activity level of the individual
- P8 ensure that appropriate debridement and aspiration is undertaken to maximise visibility around the intervention site, in preparation for the transplant of the organ or tissues
- P9 ensure that the viability of organs and tissues exposed during the transplantation is maintained, in line with good medical practice
- P10 use the appropriate method to position and attach the transplanted organ or tissue in a manner that:
 - P10.1 will minimise any post intervention discomfort, pain or trauma for the individual
 - P10.2 minimises damage and disruption to surrounding organs and tissues
 - P10.3 recognises and responds to the potential for complications to occur
 - P10.4 minimises the risk of infection
- P11 deal appropriately with any complications that may occur during the intervention process
- P12 complete the intervention to the point where the site can be safely prepared for closure ensuring that:
 - P12.1 connections between organs, vessels and connective tissues in

SFHEUSC43

Transplant organs/tissues

- or surrounding the site are appropriately restored or connected
- P12.2 the site is correctly prepared for closure in line with good medical practice, and local protocols, in a way that will minimise any post intervention discomfort, pain and trauma to the individual
- P12.3 sterile post intervention materials can be correctly applied and attached
- P13 respect the privacy, dignity and confidentiality of the individual throughout the intervention
- P14 maintain timely, accurate, complete and legible records in accordance with local policies and procedures and work at all times within appropriate patient and information confidentiality legislation, protocols and guidelines
- P15 work within your scope of responsibility and accountability, referring to others where appropriate and/or necessary

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 the current European, national and local legislation, policies, guidelines and protocols which affect your work practice
- K2 your responsibilities under the current European, national and local legislation, policies, guidelines and protocols with regard to the transplantation of organs/tissues
- K3 why it is necessary to obtain informed consent prior to working with an individual and the methods used to achieve this where the individual is not able to give their consent directly (e.g. because they are comatose or have communication differences)
- K4 the legislation, policies and guidance which clarify your scope of practice and the relationship between yourself and other members of staff in terms of delegation and supervision
- K5 legislation, policies and guidance relating to the moving and positioning of individuals and the impact they have upon your work
- K6 why it is important to get positive confirmation of the individual's identity before starting the preparation for organ/tissue transplant, and effective methods of obtaining positive identification
- K7 the principles of asepsis, maintenance of the sterile field, and the potential consequence of poor practice
- K8 the importance of following standard precautions and wearing protective clothing to ensure the protection of yourself and the individual during the transplant of organs/tissues
- K9 the potential consequences of poor practice in relation to the application of standard precautions
- K10 your role and the importance of working within your own scope of practice
- K11 the roles and responsibilities of other team members
- K12 the importance of considering the individual's level of understanding in answering questions about the transplant of organs/tissues
- K13 the different methods of communication you may have to use in relation to individuals with communication difficulties or differences
- K14 the importance of checking that the individual has complied with any pre-transplant instructions and possible implications if instructions are not followed
- K15 the procedures and processes involved in receiving, confirming, and preparing organs and tissues for transplantation.
- K16 the procedures and techniques involved in making incisions and dissections, site closure, site management
- K17 the processes you would go through in establishing the appropriate course of action for the intervention to be undertaken
- K18 the appropriate procedures and techniques for the type of organ or tissue

- transplantation being undertaken
- K19 the resources necessary for the type of transplantation being undertaken, and how to use them
- K20 how to practise in such a way as to minimise complications and risk to the individual
- K21 the types of complications that might arise during the course of the intervention and the responses that should be made to deal with them
- K22 fundamental principles for positioning an individual for an intervention in relation to the particular needs of the recipient of the intervention which take account of the requirements for:
 - K22.1 adequate protective devices
 - K22.2 anaesthesia access
 - K22.3 body alignment
 - K22.4 circulation
 - K22.5 general safety considerations
 - K22.6 invasive line access
 - K22.7 neurological considerations
 - K22.8 skin integrity
 - K22.9 surgical access
 - K22.10 ventilation
- K23 the principles of local, general and regional anaesthesia and their relevance to transplantation interventions
- K24 applied anatomy, general and system specific physiology and pathology and its application to the particular type of transplantation being undertaken, in line with current guidance in your field of practice
- K25 the organ and related systems for transplantation, the risks and implications of rejection and how to minimise or counter these risks
- K26 the importance of recording information clearly, accurately and in a systematic manner
- K27 the types of information that must be recorded in relation to the transplantation of organs/tissues
- K28 the importance of timely recording of information regarding the transplantation of organs/tissues

SFHEUSC43

Transplant organs/tissues

Additional Information

External Links

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

Dimension: HWB7 Interventions and treatments

SFHEUSC43

Transplant organs/tissues

Developed by	Skills for Health
Version number	1
Date approved	June 2010
Indicative review date	June 2012
Validity	Current
Status	Original
Originating organisation	Skills for Health
Original URN	EUSC43
Relevant occupations	Health, Public Services and Care; Nursing and Subjects and Vocations Allied; Healthcare and Related Personal Services
Suite	Emergency, Urgent and Scheduled Care
Key words	emergency care, scheduled care, urgent care