
Overview

Adding a patient to the Register is a significant step following an expressed intention to seek a transplant. It is an opportunity for the practitioner to reinforce the benefits to the patient of taking responsibility for their own health and to engage the patient in that process in a genuinely participative way.

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 review the patient's condition, stated intention of transplantation and date of start or likely start of dialysis
- P2 check that all relevant tests and regulations have been carried out according to UKT guidelines and are up-to-date according to protocols (e.g. bloods, tissue typing, hep B, HIV)
- P3 add the patient to the list if the multidisciplinary team agrees that they satisfy medical, physical and psychological criteria
- P4 suspend them from the list immediately if they are pre-dialysis or for current, temporary reasons
- P5 tell the patient unequivocally and multidisciplinary team members that they are being added and whether, initially, they are suspended or not (e.g. give the patient 'credit card' style notification)
- P6 ensure the patient understands their assignment with respect to the Register and the medical, physical and psychological criteria they need to continue to meet, and provide information and guidance where needed
- P7 encourage the patient in taking responsibility for their own health and lifestyle and refer them to other practitioners if they request help (e.g. dietician, exercise adviser)
- P8 add the patient to the list by a locally agreed stage in their progress (e.g. by the start of dialysis where this is pre-planned, within so many months where this was unanticipated)
- P9 ensure that the patient understands and has up-to-date information about what will happen and what they have to do routinely and when an organ becomes available (e.g. how to use the bleeper, who to call)
- P10 ensure that up-to-date information on the patient's status is readily available

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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 renal system
- K3 the immune system
- K4 psychological care skills/loss counselling
- K5 what patients can expect with and without transplantation
- K6 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)
- K7 how organs are obtained (e.g. living donation, deceased heart beating and non heart beating donation)
- K8 how organs are selected and matched (living and deceased donors)
- K9 risks and benefits of transplantation (e.g. enhanced life prospects and lifestyle, side effects of immunosuppression, rejection, psychological issues)
- K10 how lifestyle affects health specifically in relation to transplanted patients
- K11 procedures and criteria associated with the National Transplant Register
- K12 legal requirements for transplantation (e.g. Human Organ Transplants Act 1989, The Human Organ Transplants [Unrelated Persons] Regulations, 1989)
- K13 best practice guidelines (e.g. British Transplantation Society)
- K14 roles of other members of the multidisciplinary team in respect of the Register
- K15 procedures and protocols relating to the Register for referring and transplant centres
- K16 how to adapt communication styles in ways which are appropriate to different people (e.g. culture, language or special needs)
- K17 the importance of establishing rapport and how to do so
- K18 how to ask questions, listen carefully and summarise back
- K19 the importance of encouraging individuals to ask questions and how to do so
- K20 the religious beliefs of different cultures
- K21 the effects of different cultures and religions on care management and effects on family dynamics
- K22 the principle of confidentiality and what information may be given to whom
- K23 the importance of involving individuals in discussions, and how to do so
- K24 how to negotiate effectively with individuals, families and other professionals
- K25 the principles of evidence-based practice, and how to apply them
- K26 coaching skills

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Additional Information

External links

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

Dimension: Core 1 Communication

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