Help the patient recognise when they should be suspended from the National Transplant Register



Overview

The maintenance of the Register depends on patients' self-reporting their unavailability and their ill-health. The job of the practitioner is to help patients recognise when they need to suspend themselves and to provide a straightforward means of doing so. A tricky decision has to be made when a patient is approaching a possible living donor transplant.

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 describe and list the physical and social conditions under which the patient should no longer be on call for transplantation (eg acute illness and during recovery phase, presence of infection, pregnancy, going abroad on holiday)
- P2 give the patient clear and unequivocal information of the same and check their understanding (e.g. leaflet, card, ask questions)
- P3 ensure the patient has information on how long they can expect to be suspended and how they become on call again
- P4 ensure the patient has a single contact name and details for effective management of the register
- P5 agree with the patient how soon after they become aware of the change in their condition or circumstances they will communicate with the named contact
- P6 encourage the patient to report promptly when they should be suspended (e.g. points stay the same across a holiday)
- P7 help the patient, when they have a living donor going through assessment, to weigh up the pros and cons of being on the Register (e.g. considering spousal donation and its impact on children, discussion with patient and family)
- P8 help the patient, when they have a living donor going through assessment, to decide the timing of coming off the Register

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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
- 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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