

SFHRenDD7

Explain the procedures and benefits of donation and transplantation



Overview

This standard ensures that the family of a potential donor is as fully informed as they wish in order to make a decision to agree to donation – offering no objection. It also prepares the family for the possibility of unexpected events as the process of donation proceeds.

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 be respectful of the patient and family and sensitive to the family's response to their crisis
- P2 explain the nature of the care for the patient and their organs before and after death and the necessity for invasive and other procedures (eg for heart beating donors: monitoring, infection control procedures, hygiene needs, cardiovascular support, endocrine support, respiratory support, renal support, haematological support, temperature support, blood samples with the family's agreement)
- P3 help the family to understand the impact on the patient of the donation surgery for various organs and tissues (e.g. there will be a large abdominal/thoracic wound that will be sutured and dressed after donation, the whole eye is taken for ocular tissue donation, the whole heart is taken for heart valve donation) and the steps taken to restore the body afterwards
- P4 check that the family understands the procedures and criteria involved in the determination of death (e.g. brain stem death testing, cardiopulmonary death, withdrawal of active treatment)
- P5 inform the family that the testing of organs and tissues to determine their suitability for transplantation may reveal unsuspected risks that directly affect family members' health currently, and that the relevant individuals would be contacted and offered advice
- P6 inform the family that organs that fail to be used in transplantation are, if they agree, used for research, teaching, validation or otherwise disposed of as per hospital policy and legal requirements (e.g. if the recipient is unwell at the last moment)
- P7 provide facts on the benefits and risks of donation for transplanted patients and the community with examples in a non-emotive and non-coercive manner (e.g. saving lives, enabling people to do what they otherwise couldn't, restoring normal family life, organ may not function, rejection)

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 anatomy and physiology of the human body
- K2 psychological care skills/loss counselling
- K3 how organs are obtained (e.g. living donation, deceased heart beating and non heart beating donation)
- K4 how organs are selected and matched (living and deceased donors)
- K5 risks and benefits of transplantation (e.g. enhanced life prospects and lifestyle, side effects of immunosuppression, rejection, psychological issues)
- K6 objections to transplantation and how to probe underlying thinking and how to counter it
- K7 legal requirements for transplantation (e.g. Human Organ Transplants Act 1989, The Human Organ Transplants [Unrelated Persons] Regulations, 1989)
- K8 best practice guidelines (e.g. British Transplantation Society)
- K9 the Microbiological Safety of Organ and Tissues for Transplantation (NHS Executive 2000)
- K10 human Tissue Act 2004 and its definition of consent
- K11 human Tissue Act 1961
- K12 the legal frameworks used to protect organ donors, their families and the recipients
- K13 legal, ethical and consent issues for organ and tissue donation for transplantation and research
- K14 issues of maintenance of patient confidentiality in the critical care and donation contexts
- K15 evidence of beliefs about donation and 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)
- K16 anatomy and physiology of brain stem death
- K17 guidelines for performing brain stem death tests (e.g. UK Code of Practice, Department of Health 1998)
- K18 recommendations of the ICS Working Group on Organ Donation regarding observation for apnoea
- K19 preconditions to testing for brain stem death
- K20 reversible causes of coma
- K21 clinical tests for brain stem death (inc. absence of brainstem reflexes confirmed by absence of papillary response to light, corneal reflex, vestibulo-ocular reflex, motor response to supraorbital pressure, gag reflex, cough reflex, respiratory movement when the patient is disconnected from the ventilator - consistent with the UK Code of Practice for the diagnosis of brain stem death and the recommendations

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- of the ICS Working Group on Organ Donation)
- K22 legal definitions of death
- K23 procedures for certification of death
- K24 procedures for determination of death by cardio respiratory arrest
- K25 clinical management of an intensive care patient
- K26 clinical management of a potential heart beating donor
- K27 clinical management of a potential non heart beating donor
- K28 how to support an organ donor (e.g. cardiovascular support, endocrine support, respiratory support, renal support, haematological support, temperature support)
- K29 intensive care and anaesthesia
- K30 guidelines for withdrawal of treatment
- K31 local protocols and guidelines for the administration of drugs and fluids in dying patients
- K32 UKT standards for interview
- K33 UKT family care protocol
- K34 psychology of altruistic action
- K35 beliefs about death and dying
- K36 availability of bereavement services both locally and nationally
- K37 procedures and protocols of the allocation and matching of organs in the UK
- K38 the donation pathway
- K39 knowledge of national potential donor audit and local performance
- K40 roles of other members of the multidisciplinary team
- K41 how to adapt communication styles in ways which are appropriate to different people (e.g. culture, language or special needs)
- K42 the importance of establishing rapport and how to do so
- K43 how to ask questions, listen carefully and summarise back
- K44 the importance of encouraging individuals to ask questions and how to do so
- K45 the religious beliefs of different cultures
- K46 the effects of different cultures and religions on care management and the effect on family dynamics
- K47 the importance of involving individuals in discussions, and how to do so
- K48 how to negotiate effectively with individuals, families and other professionals
- K49 the principles of evidence-based practice, and how to apply them
- K50 how to explain difficult subjects in an emotional context

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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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