Enable potential living donors to understand the donation process and the possible implications for them



#### **Overview**

This standard is about helping people who have agreed to be donors, and who are deemed suitable clinically and in other ways, to prepare themselves for the process they will undergo. As they learn more about what will happen, they may develop doubts about their commitment, they may fail to understand the implications for their family and work or the pressures of the work-up and they may require considerable support.

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 explain clearly to the potential donor your own role, responsibilities, accountability and scope of practice, including your role as their advocate and not that of the recipient
- P2 help the potential donor and their family understand the process that will follow, as it will apply to them
- P3 help the potential donor and their family understand the intended benefit for the recipient and what the possible effects and risks are for donor, family and recipient (e.g. survival rates for recipients, change to the recipient's everyday life, time to return to normal health for donors, risks, disruption of donor's work, social life)
- P4 bring into the learning process those members of the multidisciplinary team who have information or explanation to impart or who need themselves to understand the donor's and their family's perspective
- P5 encourage the team and the donor to discuss and take decisions in partnership (e.g. acting as equal decision makers)
- P6 bring into the learning process people who have donated a kidney if this would be effective in providing information and an alternative perspective, but not if it would increase pressure to donate on the donor
- P7 identify the potential donor's uncertainties and feelings
- P8 ensure that the content and style of delivery is balanced and fair, is based on evidence and covers what the potential donor wants to know plus all issues shown by the evidence to be important to people considering donation (e.g. survival rates for recipients, time to return to normal health for donors, small risk of technical failure in the transplant)
- P9 search for and address misunderstandings of fact
- P10 enable the potential donor to get to the point of relating their circumstances to the examples and evidence

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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 psychological care skills (e.g. counselling)
- K4 valid consent for assessment and continuing in the transplant programme
- K5 how to create a safe environment to allow a donor to withdraw from the programme, revoking consent
- K6 what renal patients can expect with and without transplantation
- K7 the assessment process and its requirements of donors and members of the multidisciplinary team
- K8 implications of test results for the donor and their family (e.g. people may not be related in the way they thought they were, medical conditions revealed)
- K9 current evidence of the effects of the donation programme on potential donors and how to minimise adverse reactions
- K10 resources available to the assessment process and how to access them (e.g. laboratory services, psychological assessment, specialist counselling)
- K11 how to present to audiences of donors, recipients and families to explain and to promote live donation
- K12 how to facilitate discussions among potential and past donors, recipients and families
- K13 legal requirements for transplantation (e.g. Human Organ Transplants Act 1989, The Human Organ Transplants [Unrelated Persons]Regulations, 1989)
- K14 best practice guidelines (e.g. British Transplantation Society)
- K15 boundaries that must be observed by members of the team in keeping the interests of donor and recipient separate
- K16 current evidence and evidence-based practice for the whole donation process
- K17 how to interpret a donor's physical and psychological health, using your own and others' observation, discussion and technical assessment methods
- K18 the assessment process and its requirements of donors and members of the multidisciplinary team
- K19 commissioning tests and interpreting results (e.g. histocompatibility, cross matching, blood group, screening for antibodies)
- K20 implications of test results for the donor and their family (e.g. people may not be related in the way they thought they were, medical conditions revealed)

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- K21 family relationships and ways of exploring them through observation, individual and group interviews and discussions
- K22 investigation and interpretation of donor motivation, its sustainability and risks associated with different types of motivation
- K23 types of coercion and reward applied to donors and how they may be revealed
- K24 how to assess the potential donor's motivation (e.g. free from inducement, coercion or threat)
- K25 how to act on behalf of the donor to convey difficult messages (e.g. withdrawing from donation, a revealed medical condition)
- K26 procedures, protocols and guidelines for the organisation and for links with receiving or referring units
- K27 statistics for renal transplantation locally
- K28 patient and living donor information, education and support opportunities
- K29 roles of other members of the multidisciplinary team
- K30 methods of communicating sensitive information to individuals
- K31 how information obtained from individuals should be recorded and stored
- K32 how to adapt communication styles in ways which are appropriate to different people (e.g. culture, language or special needs)
- K33 the importance of establishing rapport and how to do so
- K34 how to ask questions, listen carefully and summarise back
- K35 the importance of encouraging individuals to ask questions and how to do so
- K36 the religious beliefs of different cultures
- K37 the effects of different cultures and religions on care management and effects on family dynamics
- K38 the principle of confidentiality and what information may be given to whom
- K39 the importance of involving individuals in discussions, and how to do so
- K40 f how to negotiate effectively with individuals, families and other professionals
- K41 the principles of evidence-based practice, and how to apply them

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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: HWB4 Assessment and care planning to meet health and wellbeing needs

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