National Kidney Transplant Service

Annual Report

2020



National Kidney Transplant Service



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Editorial Team

Dilly Little, Colm Magee, Patrick O'Kelly, Anne Cooney.

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Foreword





Successful kidney transplantation is the best treatment for patients with end stage kidney disease, allowing them to regain quality of life, freedom from dialysis and improving their overall health. The National Kidney Transplant Service (NKTS) remains committed to the provision of a high-quality kidney transplant service and more than 5500 successful kidney transplants have been performed to date. Currently, over 2500 recipients enjoy the benefits of a functioning transplant. Increasingly, potential kidney transplant recipients are identifying a living kidney donor and we have performed 387 living kidney donor transplants in the past 11 years, allowing these recipients enjoy all the benefits of a transplant predicted to give long-lasting excellent function.

Clearly, none of this would be possible without the extraordinary generosity of deceased donor families and friends who consent to organ donation in the midst of their grief. Equally, the courage of the living donor who undergoes major surgery to restore the health of their recipient must be admired. The transplant team at the NKTS wishes to acknowledge in a very special way each and every kidney donor. We see first-hand the extraordinary transformation that each successful transplant brings.

Ms Dilly Little Surgical Director, NKTS

Dr. Colm MageeMedical Director, NKTS

Our mission is fair and equitable access to transplantation for all suitable patients, a commitment to quality through continuous improvement of our standards, processes, and outcomes, and a lifelong duty of care to both kidney donor and recipient.

Highlights 2020

The median waiting time to transplant in 2020 was 19 months

2,579 21

2,579 recipients with functioning transplants at the end of 2020

21 highly sensitised patients (PGen ≥ 85%) were transplanted in 2020

123

123 patients transplanted in 2020 despite the COVID-19 pandemic

Kidney transplant survival is significantly better in the Republic of Ireland when compared with European outcomes collected by the European Collaborative **Transplant Study (CTS)**

The probabilities of transplant survival and patient survival have steadily improved among recipients of both living and decreased donor kidney transplants, reflecting the fact that the NKTS continues to seek improvements in their service

SECTION 1

Introduction

Kidney Transplantation is the best treatment option for patients with end stage kidney disease, offering improved survival and quality of life for those undergoing a successful transplant. The global pandemic of COVID-19 has presented unique challenges to transplant services worldwide and the National Kidney Transplant Service (NKTS) has certainly not been exempt from these difficulties. This Annual Report (2020) details the trends of the kidney transplant waiting list, kidney transplants performed over the years and the health outcomes of those who have received a kidney transplant.

We performed 123 kidney transplants at the National Kidney Transplant Service in 2020. On the 6th March 2020, the first case of COVID-19 virus was diagnosed in the Republic of Ireland. With increasing numbers of cases diagnosed daily from this date, the NKTS sought advice from the National Public Health Emergency Team. Their advice indicated that transplantation services should be limited to emergency liver and cardiac transplantation where the predicted survival of the potential recipient without a successful transplant was estimated in months. Because of the risk of immunosuppression required for successful transplantation, the risks for an individual patient who would contract COVID-19 in the immediate period post kidney transplantation was deemed to be extremely high, as their ability to fight infection would be impaired by the immunosuppression.

In April and May 2020, the country experienced an initial peak in numbers of COVID-19 cases admitted to intensive care units (ICU's) countrywide, impacting on the donor hospitals' ability to refer deceased donors in a COVID-19 negative environment. Equally, providing a COVID-19 free environment for a potential kidney transplant recipient within Beaumont hospital proved challenging. However, due to the strenuous work of the staff in Beaumont Hospital and the NKTS and with the reduction of the COVID-19 caseload countrywide, we resumed kidney transplantation on 28th May 2020, after a hiatus of approximately 10 weeks.

During that 10 week period, we received 12 donor offers from Organ Donation and Transplant Ireland (ODTI) that we regrettably, were unable to convert to transplant. Kidney transplantation has continued uninterrupted since recommencing in May, through 2 subsequent waves of the pandemic.

Kidney transplantation has continued uninterrupted since recommencing in May, through 2 subsequent waves of the pandemic

Because the outcomes from acquiring COVID-19 in the immunocompromised are so poor, it is essential that transplant patients cocoon at home during the early post-transplant period. However, patients also require intensive follow-up during this time, typically needing to attend hospital 12 times in the first 6 weeks. In order to continue the transplant program during the pandemic, we developed a remote monitoring system for transplant recipients.

This system continuously tracks symptoms, blood pressure, weight and laboratory results in the patient's home, reducing the need for hospital attendance by 70% or just 4 visits on average. Patients can also monitor their own data via a bespoke app. Thanks to the support of the HSE community intervention team, we were also able to perform laboratory tests in the home, further reducing the need to attend hospital. We are grateful to the Sláintecare program for its support with this initiative, which has permitted the kidney transplant program to continue through this most challenging period.

Because of the augmented immunosuppression required to transplant 'highly sensitised' recipients, this group of patients were particularly adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. There were 21 patients transplanted with a high level of preformed antibodies, PGen ≥ 85%. There were 14 transplants performed after deceased donor cardiac (DCD) deaths with 3 hospitals referring their first DCD donors reflecting an increasing trend in this donor type. Twenty eight (23%) of our transplants in 2020 were from living kidney donors - a remarkable reflection of the commitment of living donors to the process in the circumstances.

The number of patients alive with a functioning kidney has remained stable. This number reached 2502 at the end of 2020. The number of patients on the transplant waiting list increased during 2020 with 519 listed at the end of 2020, compared to 509 in 2019 and 462 in 2018. In 2020, 152 new patients were added to the transplant waiting list a decrease of 27% on 2019. However, the supply of organs in comparison to the number of patients waiting continues to be the most challenging issue for all transplant programmes, including the NKTS. The median time to transplant from approval to the transplant waiting list was 19 months.

Irish Kidney Transplant outcomes continue to be excellent. The median survival (life expectancy) of allografts for deceased donor kidney transplants is 14.9 years, and we have recorded steady improvements in this number since the 1980s. Based on the most recent data, 1-year Irish kidney transplant outcomes continue to be excellent with 1-year allograft survival for deceased donors 97% and patient survival over 99%.

Twenty eight (23%) of our transplants in 2020 were from living kidney donors – a remarkable reflection of the commitment of living donors to the process in the circumstances

We bench-mark our outcome data against the European Collaborative Transplant Study (CTS) and our outcomes exceed the CTS mean for all groups. Last year, two recipients reached the 40th anniversary of their transplant, bringing to 13 the number of patients who were transplanted in Ireland with a functioning kidney lasting over 40 years.

We performed 28 living donor kidney transplants in 2020. Whilst outcomes for living donor transplants are similar to that for deceased donor transplants in the first year (96% and 100% allograft and patient survival respectively), the benefits of living donor transplantation become apparent in subsequent years. At the 5 year time point, living donor recipients have a 92% allograft survival and 97% patient survival compared to 86% deceased donor allograft survival and 91% patient survival. In addition, patients who received a living kidney donor kidney spent considerably less time waiting for a transplant and spent less time on dialysis, with a significant number avoiding the need for dialysis entirely. These outcomes highlight the enormous advantages of living kidney donation and illustrate why living donation should be the first choice for the majority of Irish patients. It is for these reasons that our motto is 'Living Donor First'.

In summary, 2020 has proven to be one of the most challenging years for everyone involved in healthcare provision but especially for patients awaiting a life-changing kidney transplant. We would like to acknowledge the ongoing work and efforts of all the members of the transplant team, the staff of the ICUs throughout the country and all the staff in Beaumont Hospital who have supported us, in this most difficult of years. We would especially like to acknowledge the forbearance of the patients who depend on this transplant programme and the bravery of the living kidney donors. We will continue to strive to provide the best and safest care to all our patients.

Finally, we are continuously humbled by the generosity shown by all kidney donors and their families. Every deceased donor kidney transplant comes at a time of utmost tragedy for families, who look beyond their own loss and grief to save the life of another person. Living donors place themselves in harm's way to help a loved one, often without a second thought. As such, we have witnessed the best of human nature through working in this programme and wish to thank all donors and their families for their generosity.

At the 5 year time point, living donor recipients have a 92% allograft survival and 97% patient survival compared to 86% deceased donor allograft survival and 91% patient survival

SECTION 2

Kidney Transplant Activity 2020

• In 2020, 123 kidney transplants were performed in the Republic of Ireland (ROI). Of these, 28 were from living donors, 95 were from deceased donors.

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- Overall, there were 30 fewer kidney transplants performed in ROI in 2020 compared to the previous year, reflecting the challenges of transplantation in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The number of recipients living with a functioning kidney remains stable, reaching 2579 (at year end 2020).
 Of the 2579 currently functioning kidney transplants in our service, 2502 (97%) were transplanted in Beaumont Hospital.
- There were 28 living donor kidneys transplanted in 2020 representing a slight increase compared to
 2019, but reduced compared to previous years where there was an overall mean of 38 living kidney
 donor transplants performed over the last 6 years. Living donor transplants represent 23% of all kidney
 transplants performed; similar to the last 6 years where a total of 24% of all transplants performed were to
 living donor recipients. The number of deceased donor kidney transplants was 95 for 2020 which includes
 3 simultaneous pancreas/kidney (SPK) transplants.
- There were 9 paediatric (< 19 yrs) transplants, two of these were from living donors.
- . There was one paired kidney exchange transplant performed in collaboration with our colleagues in the UK.

2.1 Summary of kidney transplant activity 2015-2020

Table 2.1: Summary of transplant activity 2015 – 2020

Category	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Average for 6 yrs. (rounded)
Total number of transplanted kidneys*	153	172	192	167	153	123	160
Number of deceased-donor kidney only transplants	120	122	136	122	126	92	120
Number of Living donor kidney transplants	33	50	51	40	25	28	38
Number of Simultaneous Pancreas/ Kidney (SPK)	0	0	5	5	2	3	3
Number of Paired Kidney Exchange (Living donor UK)	8	7	3	3	3	1	4

^{*}Includes SPK and excludes paired kidney exchange (UK).

Table 2.2: Number of functioning kidney transplants at the end of 2020*

Category	0-10 years	> 10-20 years	> 20-30 years	> 30-40 years	> 40 years	Total kidneys
Deceased donor kidney only transplants	1,067	662	241	53	5	2,028
Living donor kidney transplants	318	48	2	27	8	403
Simultaneous Pancreas/Kidney (SPK)	33	31	5	0	0	69
Kidney/Liver	0	1	1	0	0	2
All kidney transplants	1,418	742	249	80	13	2,502

^{*}Excludes functioning kidneys transplanted abroad who are under the care of the NKTS.

Figure 2.1: Number of deceased donor kidney transplants per annum 1964 – 2020

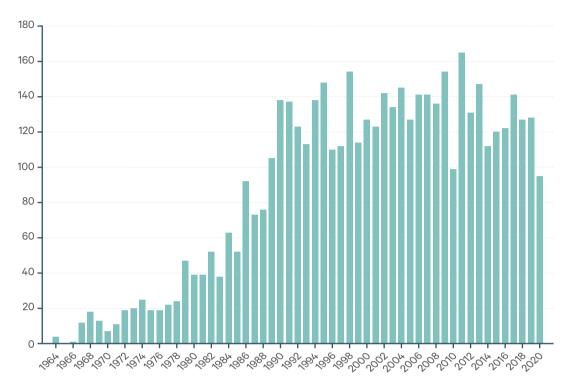
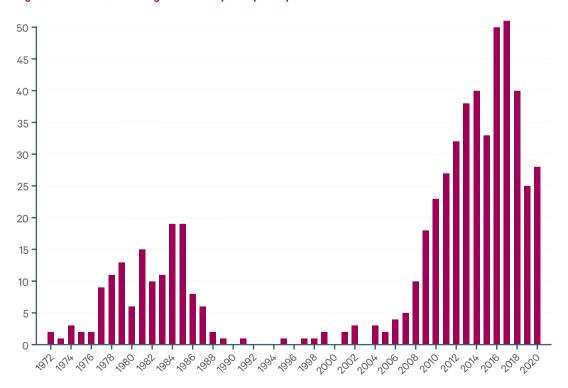


Figure 2.2: Number of living donor kidney transplants per annum 1972 – 2020



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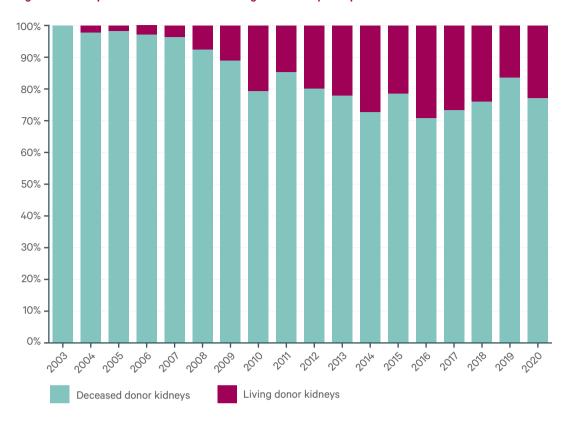


Figure 2.3: Proportion of total deceased & living donor kidney transplants 2003 - 2020

Outcomes and long term survival rates for National Kidney Transplant Service are amongst the highest in Europe

2.2 Immunosuppression protocol 1984-2020

Figure 2.4: Immunosuppression protocol for deceased and living donors 1984 – 2020

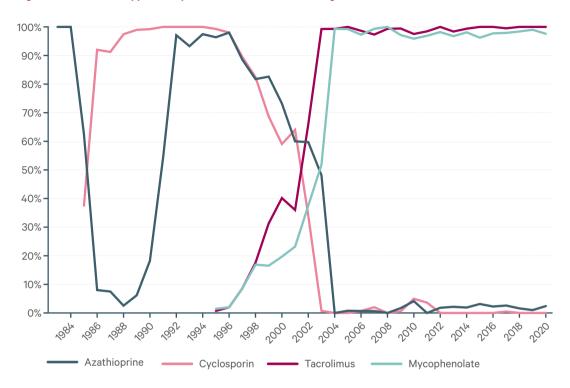
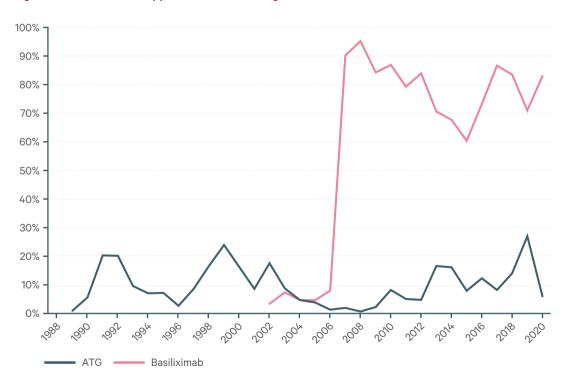


Figure 2.5: Induction therapy for deceased and living donors 1988 – 2020



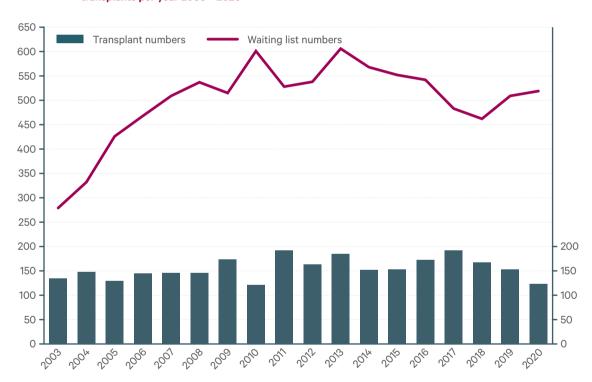
SECTION 3

Kidney Transplant VVaiting List

- At the end of 2020, the number of patients waiting for a kidney transplant had increased to 519 compared to 509 at the end of 2019. The highest number was 2013 when there were 606 patients waiting which decreased year on year until 2019 (Figure 3.1).
- The overall median waiting time to transplant in 2020 was 19 months, i.e. of the 123 patients transplanted
 last year 50% received a kidney transplant before 19 months of being placed on the waiting list, slightly
 increased from 18 months in 2019. Waiting times for living donor transplants were shorter than for deceased
 donor transplants, at 16 months and 20 months respectively (Figure 3.2).
- Median time on dialysis was 29 months overall, 32 months for deceased donor recipients and 15 months
 for living donor recipients (Figure 3.3). In 2020 16 (13%) of transplants were performed before patient
 commenced dialysis (pre-emptively).

3.1 Number of patients awaiting kidney transplant compared to number of patients transplanted per year

Figure 3.1: Number of patients on the transplant waiting list (active and suspended) and number of kidney transplants per year 2003 – 2020



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3.2 Median time on the transplant waiting list and median time on dialysis prior to first transplant

Figure 3.2: Median time on the transplant waiting list prior to first transplant 2003 – 2020

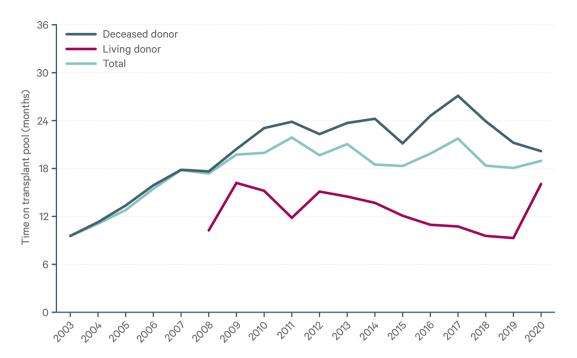


Figure 3.3: Median time on dialysis prior to first transplant 2003 - 2020



3.3 Referring centre for transplant recipients

- Figure 3.4 represents the breakdown of recipients by referring centre for last six years. Overall for period 2015 – 2020 Beaumont had the largest percentage of referrals, however in 2020 Tallaght/St. James's Hospitals had referred 22 (18%) of all kidney recipients.
- Figure 3.5 shows the percent of patients transplanted relative to the number on the transplant waiting
 pool at the start of the year. For example, there were 8 patients on the transplant waiting list at the start of
 2020 from the combined centres of Crumlin/Temple Street Children's hospitals and there were 7 patients
 transplanted from these centres during 2020 representing a rate of 87.5%.

Figure 3.4: Percentage of total kidneys transplanted by referring centre for years 2020 separately and overall for years 2015 – 2020

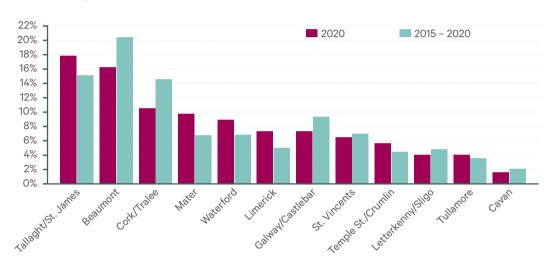
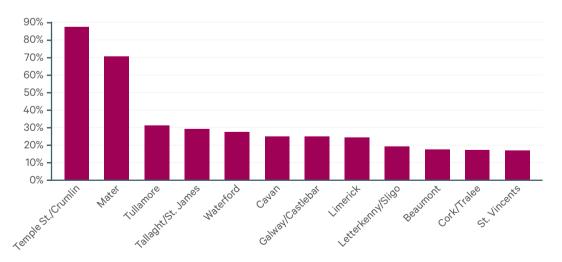


Figure 3.5: Percent of patients transplanted in 2020 relative to number on the kidney transplant waiting list at the start of 2020 by transplant centre



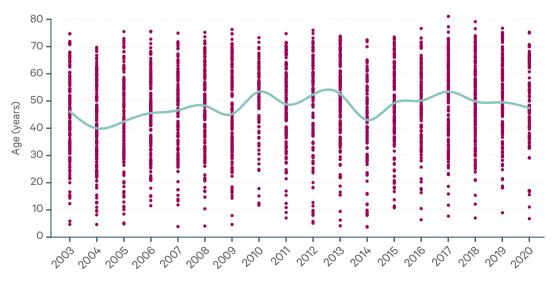
SECTION 4

Donor and Recipient Characteristics at Transplantation

- There has been a modest trend of increasing recipient age at time of transplant for deceased donors. The median age increased from a low of 40 years in 2004 to 53 years in 2017 (Figure 4.1). During 2020, the median age for deceased donor recipients declined slightly to 47 years with a range of 6 to 75.
- During 2020, the median recipient age of living donor transplant was 42 years, range (6 70 years),
 close to the overall median age of 40 years for the period 2007 2020 (Figure 4.2).
- For comparison, during a previous period of high living donor transplant activity 1977 1985, the median
 age at transplant was 28 years.
- Recipient sex ratios of deceased and living donor kidneys has remained constant over time with
 approximately two thirds of transplants being male recipients, which reflects the sex distribution on the
 transplant waiting list. During 2020, there was a reduced percentage of male recipients (59%) compared
 to the period as a whole (Figure 4.3).
- Renal replacement modalities prior to transplantation for 2020 were similar to previous years.
 The percentage of pre-emptive transplants at 13% also reflects overall rates for the time period 2003 2020 (Figure 4.4).
- The number of people on the transplant waiting list for whom there is difficulty in finding a compatible donor due to the presence of antibodies poses a major challenge. There has been a steady increase in the number of such 'highly sensitised' patients transplanted in recent years with 17% of all transplants performed in 2020 to patients with PRA ≥ 85%, a reduction from 2019 (Figure 4.6). This cohort of patients remains challenging to transplant especially in balancing the risks of exposing patients to augmented immunosuppression regimes with the attendant risks, during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Median donor age for deceased donor recipients was 44 years (11 69 years) in 2020 (Figure 4.7).
 This represents a reduction from the highest median donor age in 2019 at 52 years. Median donor age for living donors has remained relatively constant in recent years and was 42 years (range 29 68 years) in 2020 compared to 45 years for the period, as a whole (Figure 4.8).
- Donor sex ratios show more male donors donating deceased donor kidneys and more female donors donating living donor kidneys (Figures 4.9 and 4.10).

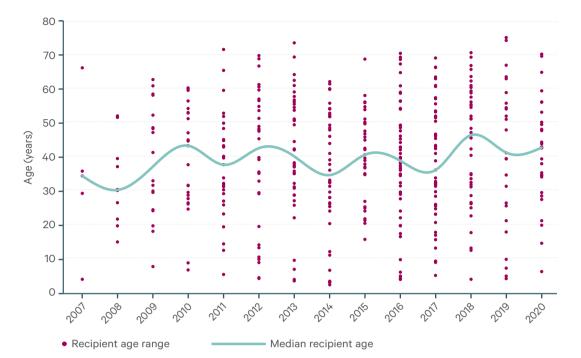
4.1 Recipient age

Figure 4.1: Recipient age at transplant for deceased donor kidneys 2003 - 2020



Recipient age range

Median recipient age

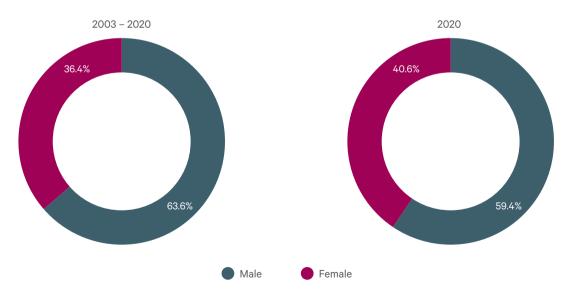


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Figure 4.2: Recipient age at transplant for living donor kidneys 2007 - 2020

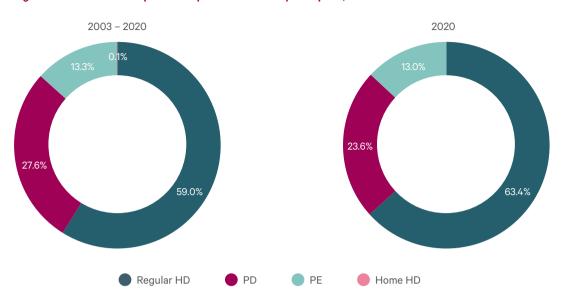
4.2 Recipient sex





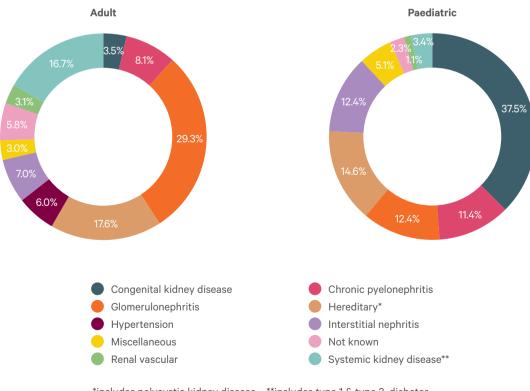
4.3 Mode of renal replacement therapy prior to transplantation

Figure 4.4: Mode renal replacement prior to first kidney transplant, 2003 - 2020



Cause of end stage renal disease for adult and paediatric recipients 4.4

Figure 4.5: Cause of end stage renal disease for adult and paediatric transplant recipients 2003 - 2020



^{*}includes polycystic kidney disease **includes type 1 & type 2 diabetes

23

4.5 Panel reactive antibodies of transplant recipients

Figure 4.6: Percent PRA in categories for all transplants 2003 - 2020



17% of all transplants were to highly sensitised recipients

4.6 Donor age

Figure 4.7: Donor age for deceased donor kidney transplants 2003 – 2020

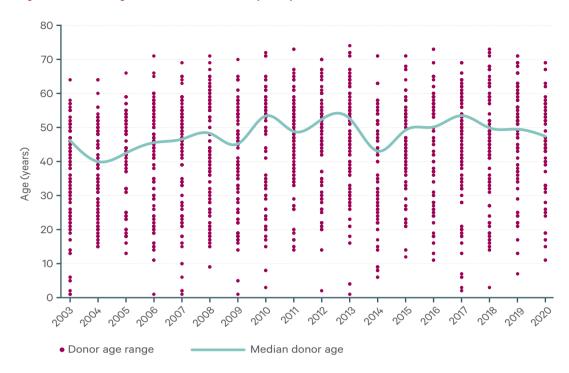
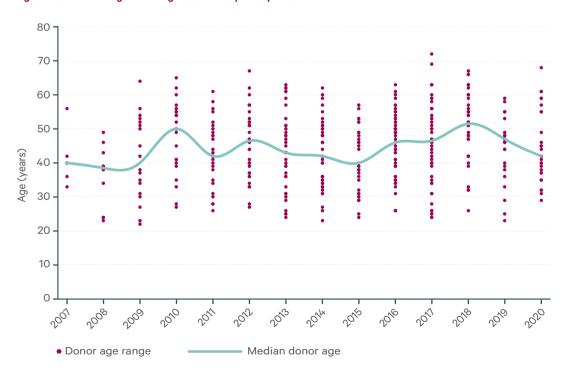


Figure 4.8: Donor age for living donor kidney transplants 2007 – 2020



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4.7 Donor sex

Figure 4.9: Donor sex for deceased donor kidney transplants 2003 - 2020

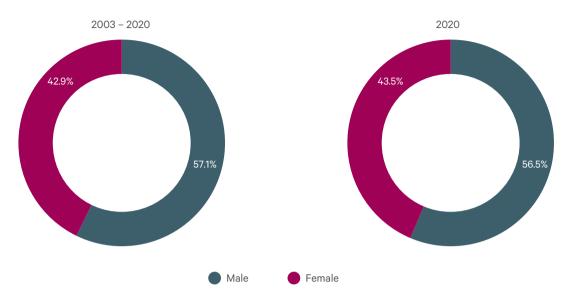
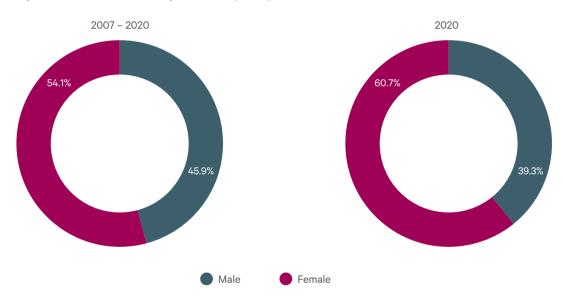


Figure 4.10: Donor sex for living donor kidney transplants 2007 - 2020



Main cause of ESRD in adults is glomerulonephritis while in children it is congenital disease

4.8 Deceased donor offers not converted to transplantation

Based on the information received from the donor co-ordinators in Organ Donation and Transplant Ireland (ODTI), each donor is carefully evaluated in order to estimate the likely outcome of the transplant and the risks to the potential transplant recipient. In order to arrive at the decision to proceed to transplant, the consultant surgeon follows the guidelines provided by the Council of Europe 'Guide to the quality and safety of organs for transplantation', the European Society of Transplantation and the British Transplant Society Guidelines. Clearly, this is a clinical decision based on a judgment as to whether the kidney transplant is predicted to give a successful, durable outcome to the recipient while balancing the risks such as transmission of malignancy or infection to the potential recipients. When a decision to proceed with a transplant is made, the primary nephrologist of the potential transplant recipient is contacted to confirm that they too are in agreement with the decision to proceed to transplant.

In 2020, the NKTS received a total of 43 potential donor referrals from the ODTI that were not converted to transplantation. The NKTS operates a 'two consultant surgeon turn-down' policy, meaning that if a donor is deemed not suitable to proceed, the consultant surgeon discusses the decision with another consultant transplant surgeon before declining the donor. Each decision is then reviewed quarterly by a multi-disciplinary team to reevaluate the declined donor decisions.

The decision not to proceed to transplantation for the 43 donors declined is summarised as follows:

Table 4.1: Summary of reasons donor offers from ODTI declined

Reasons donor declined	Number
Donor declined due to risk of COVID-19 infection	13
Donor declined due to identified co-morbidity predicted to negatively impact kidney transplant outcome	12
Donor declined due to risk of transmission of malignancy	4
Donor declined due to risk of transmission of infection	12
Donor family withdrew consent	2

Of the 12 donors declined due to the risk of infection, 5 were either known to be hepatitis C or hepatitis B positive, or to have lifestyle attributes making them high risk for viral infections such as HIV or hepatitis C or B or syphilis. With advances in the screening for and treatment of these infections, it is now possible to safely transplant organs from such 'lifestyle-risk' donors, as occurs in other transplant centres. In fact, because of the younger age profile of such donors, kidney transplant outcomes are typically excellent, complication rates, including rates of acquired infection, are low. International utilisation of organs from lifestyle risk donors has thus steadily increased in recent years. In response to this changing landscape, this year the NKTS has recently developed a roadmap to increase the utilisation of lifestyle-risk donors, in collaboration with experts in virology and infectious diseases. A revised consent process for recipients has been instituted, including supporting videos and patient information. Recipients will now be specifically consented regarding the risks of contracting syphilis, HIV, Hepatitis B or C if offered a kidney from a 'lifestyle-risk donor', and in the event they should contract these infections post transplant, will be treated accordingly. It is our expectation that the utilisation of organs from such 'lifestyle risk' donors will increase on foot of these initiatives.

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SECTION 5

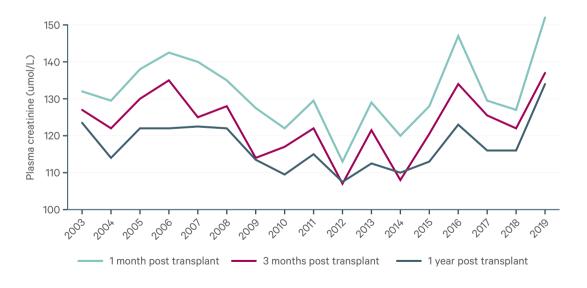
Recipient Outcomes

- The overall median allograft survival for adult deceased donors in the past 25 years is 14.9 years, with steady improvements in outcomes over time (Table 5.1).
- Outcomes for first and second allograft are almost identical between 1995 and 2019 with median allograft survivals for first and second deceased donor adult allografts of 14.8 and 15.3 years respectively. Third and fourth allografts reported median allograft survival were11.3 and 6.1 years respectively (Table 5.3).
- Survival of allograft at one-year for deceased donor adult kidney recipients for 2015 2019 was 97.2%.
 Five-year allograft survival remains stable at 86.1% for 2010 2014 slightly below the previous time period (2005 2009) of 87.8%. These results compare very favorably with the earliest period 1995 1999 where 5 year allograft survival was 71.8% (Table 5.5).
- Median patient survival for adult deceased donors between 1995 2019 was 21.9 years (Table 5.6).
- Patient survival at 1 year remained stable for the three most recent eras and was at a high of nearly 98.8% for the period between 2015 2019. Five year survival rates improved markedly going from 85.2% in the initial period to 91.2% for 2010 2014 (Table 5.8).
- The rate of delayed allograft function (defined as the temporary requirement of dialysis within one week
 of transplant) for deceased donor kidneys was very high in 2019 at 39% and 12% for living donor recipients
 (Figure 5.12), but reduced to 26% and 4% respectively for 2020.
- Instances of acute rejection, defined as either biopsy proven TCMR (T-cell mediated rejection) or ABMR
 (antibody mediated rejection) within the first year of transplantation have been relatively stable over the
 last decade with average 10% per year. The rate for 2019 was below average at 7.2% (Figure 5.13).

5.1 Deceased donor outcomes

5.1.1 Renal function at 1 month, 3 months and 12 months post-transplant of surviving allografts

Figure 5.1: Median plasma creatinine post transplant 2003 - 2019



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5.1.2 Adult deceased donor kidney only allograft long term outcomes

5.1.2.1 Overall adult deceased donor allograft outcomes

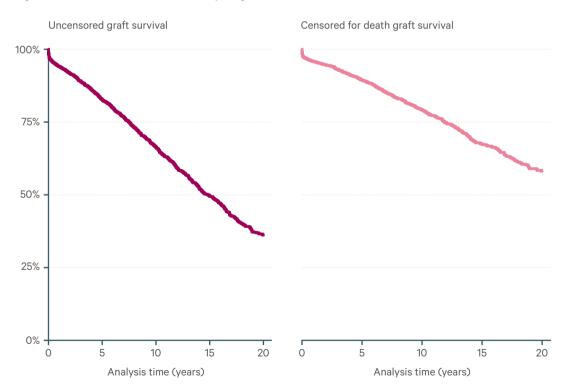
Table 5.1: Overall median adult deceased donor allograft survival 1995 – 2019

No of transplants	Median allograft survival in years [95% C.I.] Uncensored for death		
2,955	14.9	[14.0 – 15.8]	

Table 5.2: Adult deceased donor allograft survival 1995 – 2019

Follow up time (years)	Estimated allograft survi [95% C.I.] Uncensored for death	val Estimated allograft survival [95% C.l.] Censored for death
1	94.07 [93.16 – 94.87]	95.66 [94.85 – 96.34]
5	82.75 [81.26 – 84.13]	89.21 [87.95 – 90.34]
10	66.49 [64.48 – 68.41]	78.22 [76.89 – 80.43]
15	49.65 [47.25 – 52.01]	66.80 [64.31 – 69.16]
20	36.16 [33.30 – 39.02]	57.17 [53.79 – 60.40]

Figure 5.2: Adult deceased donor kidney allograft survival 1995 – 2019



5.1.2.2 Adult uncensored deceased donor allograft outcomes for first and repeat transplants

Table 5.3: Overall median allograft survival for adult deceased donor transplants 1995 – 2019*

Transplant number	No of patients		nn allograft survival s) [95% C.I.]
1	2,527		[14.0 - 15.8]
2	369	15.3	[13.7 – 18.0]
3	50	11.3	[7.7 – 16.5]
4	8	6.1	[0.09 – 15.8]

^{*}One recipient with a 5th transplant not included.

Table 5.4: Deceased donor adult allograft survival 1995 – 2019 by transplant number

Transplant number	Follow up time (years)	Estimated percent allograft survival [95% C.I.]
1	1	94.1 [93.1 – 95.0]
1	5	83.1 [81.4 – 84.5]
1	10	66.7 [64.6 – 68.8]
1	15	49.6 [47.0 – 52.2]
1	20	36.4 [33.3 – 39.5]
2	1	94.6 [91.7 – 96.5]
2	5	81.9 [77.3 – 85.7]
2	10	67.8 [62.0 – 72.9]
2	15	51.8 [45.2 – 57.9]
2	20	35.9 [28.0 – 43.8]
3	1	91.9 [79.8 – 96.9]
3	5	78.5 [63.5 – 87.8]
3	10	50.2 [34.1 – 64.3]
3	15	38.2 [22.9 – 53.3]
3	20	25.5 [10.2 – 44.0]
4	1	75.0 [31.5 – 93.1]
4	5	60.0 [19.6 – 85.2]
4	10	45.0 [10.8 – 75.1]
4	15	30.0 [04.4 – 62.8]
4	20	30.0 [04.4 – 62.8]

Median adult first allograft survival of over 14 years

Transplant number = 1
Transplant number = 2
Transplant number = 3
Transplant number = 4

50%

50%

10

15

20

Analysis time (years)

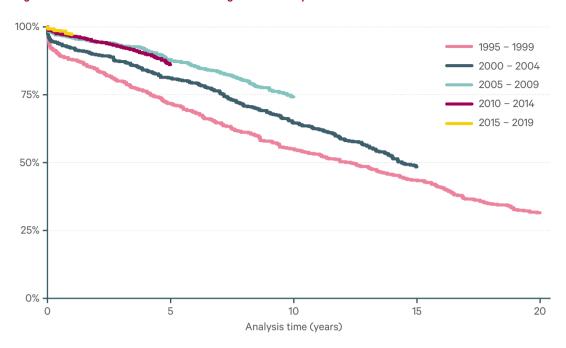
Figure 5.3: Adult deceased donor first and repeat transplants allograft survival estimates 1995 - 2019

5.1.2.3 Adult uncensored deceased donor first allograft outcomes by era

Table 5.5: Adult first deceased donor allograft survival by era 1995 – 2019

Period transplanted	Follow up time (years)	Estimated allograft survival [95% C.I.]
1995 – 1999 1995 – 1999 1995 – 1999 1995 – 1999 1995 – 1999	1 5 10 15 20	88.0 [84.7 - 90.6] 71.8 [67.5 - 75.6] 55.1 [50.4 - 59.5] 43.6 [39.0 - 48.0] 31.5 [27.3 - 35.8]
2000 - 2004 2000 - 2004 2000 - 2004 2000 - 2004	1 5 10 15	92.2 [89.4 - 94.3] 81.2 [77.4 - 84.4] 64.6 [60.1 - 68.7] 48.4 [43.9 - 52.8]
2005 - 2009 2005 - 2009 2005 - 2009 2005 - 2009	1 5 10 15	96.1 [94.0 – 97.4] 87.8 [84.7 – 90.3] 74.2 [70.3 – 77.8]
2010 - 2014 2010 - 2014 2010 - 2014 2010 - 2014	1 5 10 15	96.5 [94.5 – 97.8] 86.1 [82.8 – 88.8]
2015 - 2019 2015 - 2019 2015 - 2019 2015 - 2019	1 5 10 15	97.2 [95.3–98.3]

Figure 5.4: Adult first deceased donor allograft survival by era 1995 – 2019



5.1.2.4 Overall adult deceased donor patient survival

Table 5.6: Overall median adult deceased donor patient survival 1995 – 2019

No of transplants	Median patient survival (years) [95% C.I.]		
2,528	21.9	[20.6 – 24.0]	

Table 5.7: Estimated adult deceased donor patient survival 1995 - 2019

Follow up time (years)	Estimated patient survival [95% C.I.]		
1	97.6	[96.9 – 98.1]	
5	90.1	[88.8 – 91.2]	
10	79.6	[77.7 – 81.4]	
15	66.3	[63.8 – 68.7]	
20	54.1	[50.9 – 57.2]	

100% 75% 50% 25% 0% 0 5 10 15 20

Analysis time (years)

33

Figure 5.5: Kaplan-Meier adult deceased donor patient survival estimates 1995 - 2019

5.1.2.5 Overall adult deceased donor patient survival by era

Table 5.8: Adult first deceased donor patient survival by era transplanted 1995 – 2019

Period transplanted	Follow up time (years)	Estimated patient survival [95% C.I.]
1995 - 1999 1995 - 1999 1995 - 1999 1995 - 1999 1995 - 1999	1 5 10 15 20	96.1 [93.9 – 97.5] 85.2 [81.6 – 88.1] 77.0 [72.9 – 80.6] 66.9 [62.3 – 71.1] 54.2 [49.4 – 58.7]
2000 - 2004 2000 - 2004 2000 - 2004 2000 - 2004 2000 - 2004	1 5 10 15 20	96.7 [94.7 - 98.0] 90.0 [87.0 - 92.4] 78.9 [75.0 - 82.3] 66.3 [61.8 - 70.4]
2005 - 2009 2005 - 2009 2005 - 2009 2005 - 2009 2005 - 2009	1 5 10 15 20	98.1 [96.5 – 99.0] 91.7 [89.0 – 93.7] 81.3 [77.7 – 84.4]
2010 - 2014 2010 - 2014 2010 - 2014 2010 - 2014 2010 - 2014	1 5 10 15 20	97.9 [96.2 – 98.8] 91.2 [88.4 – 93.4]
2015 - 2019 2015 - 2019 2015 - 2019 2015 - 2019 2015 - 2019	1 5 10 15 20	98.8 [97.4 – 99.5]

25%

0%

75% - 50% -

10

Analysis time (years)

- 1995 - 1999 - 2000 - 2004

2005 - 20092010 - 20142015 - 2019

20

15

Figure 5.6: Adult first deceased donor patient survival by era transplanted 1995 - 2019

5.1.3. Long term outcomes for paediatric deceased donor kidney transplants

5.1.3.1 Paediatric deceased donor allograft and patient survival

5

Table 5.9: Overall median paediatric deceased donor allograft survival 1995 – 2019

No of transplants	Median allograft survival (years) [95% C.I.]		
185	16.2	[13.1 – 21.1]	

Table 5.10: Paediatric deceased donor allograft and patient survival 1995 – 2019

Follow up time (years)	Estimated <i>allograft</i> survival [95% C.I.]		Estimated <i>patient</i> survival [95% C.I.]	
1	93.0	[88.2 – 95.9]	98.8	[95.3 – 99.7]
5	82.1	[75.6 – 87.0]	98.1	[94.3 – 99.4]
10	70.4	[62.6 – 76.8]	98.1	[94.3 – 99.4]
15	52.8	[43.8 – 61.1]	93.0	[86.1 – 96.5]
20	41.5	[31.9 – 50.8]	83.5	[72.8 – 90.2]

Figure 5.7: Paediatric deceased donor allograft survival 1995 – 2019

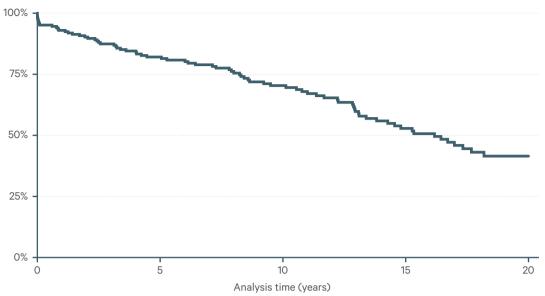
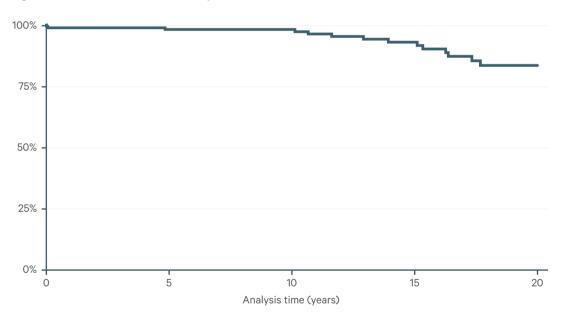


Figure 5.8: Paediatric deceased donor patient survival 1995 – 2019



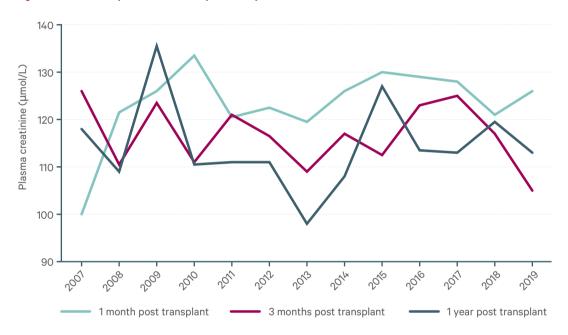
Adult and paediatric living donor allograft 5 year survival is over 92% and patient survival is over 97%

5.2 Living donor outcomes

One-year allograft survival for adult living donor transplant recipients was 96.3%, and patient survival
was 100%. Similar one-year allograft results were observed for paediatric recipients. Five-year allograft
survival for adult living donor transplant recipients between 2007 and 2019 was 92.5% and patient survival
was 97.4%. For paediatric recipients 5 year allograft and patient survival was 92.6% and 97.1% respectively
(Table 5.11).

5.2.1 Renal function at 1 month, 3 months and 12 months post-transplant of surviving allografts

Figure 5.9: Median plasma creatinine post transplant 2007 – 2019



Adult living donor patient survival at 10 years is 92%

5.2.2 Long term outcomes for living donor kidney transplants

Table 5.11: Adult and paediatric living donor allograft and patient survival 2007 – 2019

	Allograft survival (first kidneys)				Patient survival			
Follow up time (years)	Adult living donor allograft survival % [95% C.I]		Paediatric living donor allograft survival % [95% C.I]		Adult living donor patient survival % [95% C.I]		Paediatric living donor patient survival % [95% C.I]	
1	96.3	[93.3 – 98.0]	95.5	[83.0-98.8]	100	[]	100	[]
3	95.0	[91.4 - 97.1]	92.6	[78.5-97.6]	99.1	[96.5 - 99.8]	97.1	[81.4 - 99.6]
5	92.5	[88.0 - 95.3]	92.6	[78.5-97.6]	97.4	[93.9 - 98.9]	97.1	[81.4 - 99.6]
10	80.5	[69.1 – 88.0]	64.7	[26.6-86.7]	91.9	[82.0 – 96.5]	97.1	[81.4 – 99.6]

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Figure 5.10: Allograft survival for first adult and paediatric living donor kidney transplants 2007 - 2019

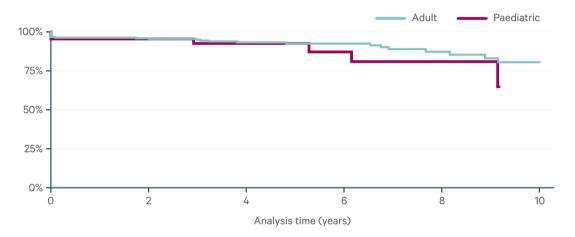
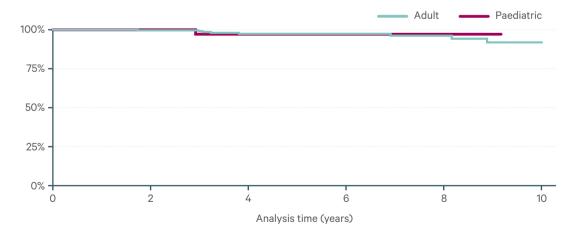


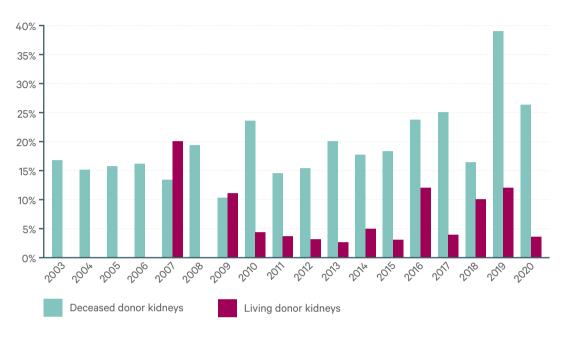
Figure 5.11: Patient survival for adult and paediatric living donor kidney transplants 2007 – 2019



5.3 Adverse outcomes

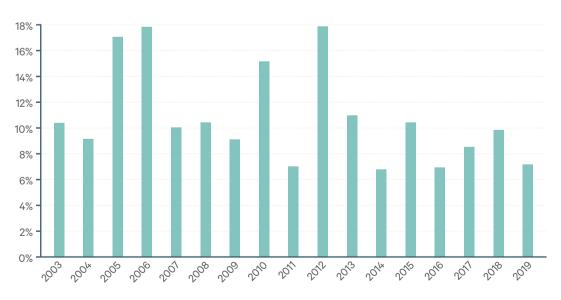
5.3.1 Delayed allograft function

Figure 5.12: Delayed allograft function percentage post transplant 2003 – 2020



5.3.2 Biopsy proven TCMR (T-cell mediated rejection) or ABMR (antibody mediated rejection) rejection

Figure 5.13: Acute rejection rate post transplant 2003 - 2019



SECTION 6

International Comparisons

6.1 Comparison of Irish kidney transplant outcomes with European Union (Collaborative Transplant Study)

The Collaborative Transplant Study (CTS) is based on the voluntary cooperation of transplant centres from around the world. The CTS has active support of more than 400 transplant centres in 42 countries, with more than 500,000 data sets for kidney, heart, lung, liver, and pancreas transplants collected. The study is coordinated from the Institute of Immunology of the University of Heidelberg, Germany. The Heidelberg CTS team includes physicians, immunologists, computer scientists, statisticians and laboratory staff.

The study's aims are strictly scientific. Aside from maintaining a transplant registry, the CTS conducts various prospective and retrospective studies on particular research topics.

The NKTS provides anonymised data through a secure encrypted portal to the CTS, and they, in return, have produced graphs showing the performance of the NKTS compared to other EU centres.

6.1.1 EU (CTS) comparison for kidney transplant survival outcomes

Figure 6.1: EU (CTS) comparison of adult first deceased-donor kidney patient survival

First deceased donor kidney transplants, adults 1989 – 2018

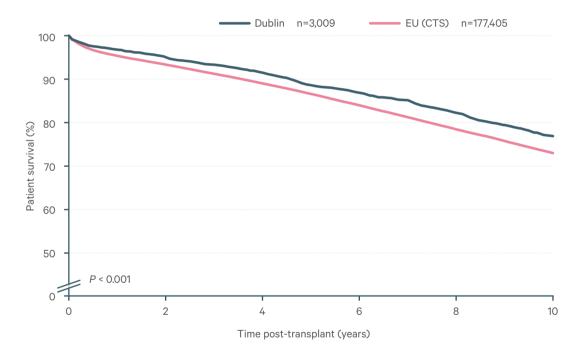


Figure 6.2: EU (CTS) comparison of adult first deceased-donor kidney patient survival by era transplanted
First deceased donor kidney transplants, adults

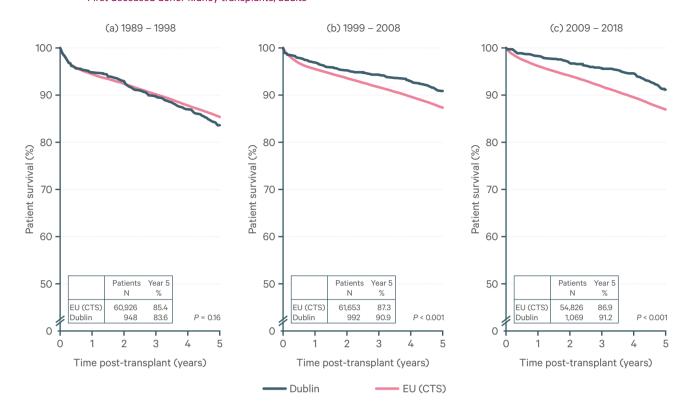


Figure 6.3: EU (CTS) comparison of adult first deceased-donor kidney allograft survival

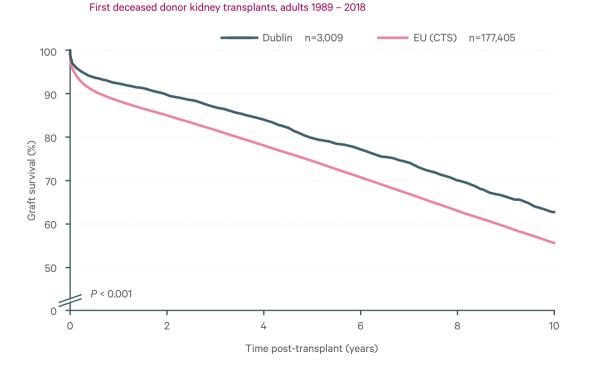
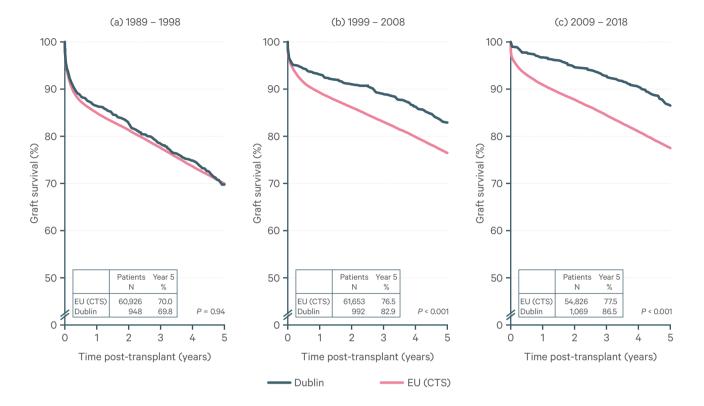


Figure 6.4: EU (CTS) comparison of adult first deceased-donor kidney allograft survival by era
First deceased donor kidney transplants, adults



The probabilities of transplant survival and patient survival have steadily improved among recipients of both living and decreased donor kidney transplants, reflecting the fact that the NKTS continues to seek improvements in their service

Figure 6.5: EU (CTS) comparison of adult retransplanted deceased-donor kidney allograft survival by era

Deceased donor kidney retransplants, adults

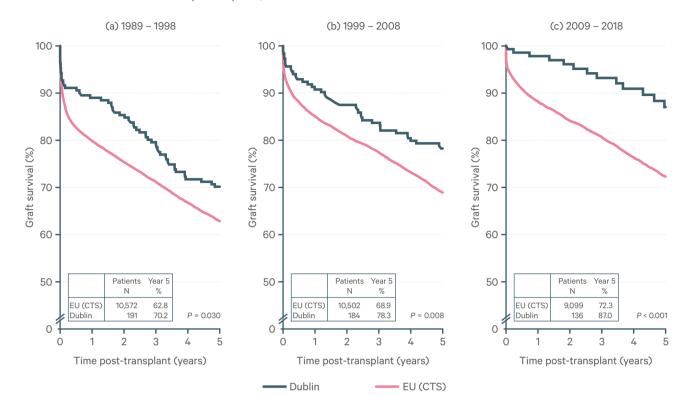


Figure 6.6: EU (CTS) comparison of paediatric first deceased-donor kidney allograft survival
First deceased donor kidney transplants, paediatrics (< 18 years) 1989 – 2018

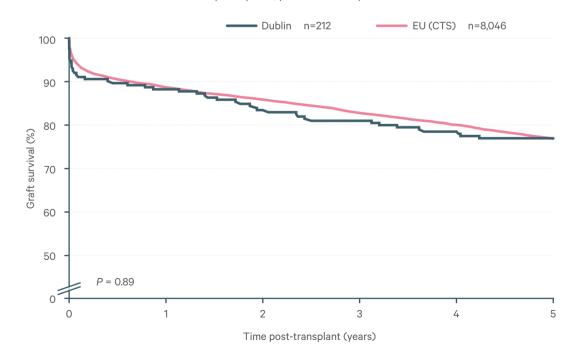


Figure 6.7: EU (CTS) comparison of adult first living-donor kidney patient survival

First living donor kidney transplants 2008 – 2018, adults (≥ 18 years)

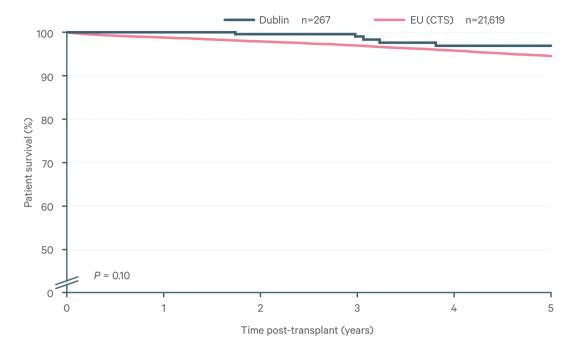


Figure 6.8: EU (CTS) comparison of adult first living-donor kidney allograft survival

First living donor kidney transplants 2008 – 2018, adults (≥ 18 years)

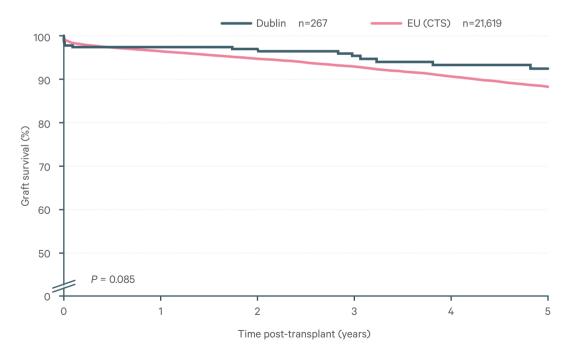
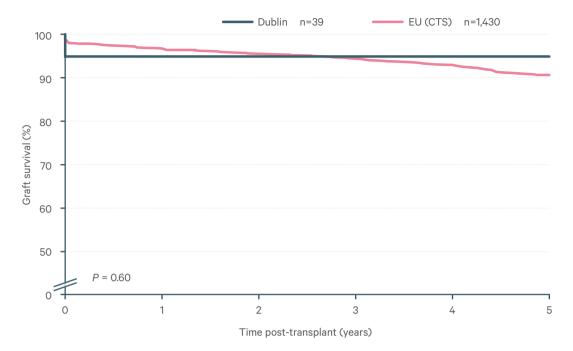


Figure 6.9: EU (CTS) comparison of paediatric first living-donor kidney allograft survival

First living donor kidney transplants 2008 – 2018, paediatrics (< 18 years)



Long term patient and allograft survival compares favourably with European centres

6.2. Comparison of transplantation rates between European Renal Association (ERA)/European Dialysis and Transplantation Association (EDTA) countries and Ireland

The ERA/EDTA Registry collects data on renal replacement therapy (RRT) via the national and regional renal registries in Europe. For this section comparisons are made between 40 ERA/EDTA countries/regions and Ireland which is not affiliated to ERA/EDTA.

Data was gleaned from the 2018 ERA/EDTA report released in November 2020.

- The overall kidney transplant rate PMP (per million population) was 34 for Ireland during 2018.
 The countries with the highest rates of kidney transplantation are Spain, Northern Ireland, the Netherlands and Scotland with 71, 57, 56 and 55 PMP respectively (Figure 6.10).
- Deceased donor kidney transplant rate PMP is 26 for Ireland. The countries with the highest rates of deceased donor kidney transplantation are Spain, Czech Republic, France and Portugal with 65, 46, 45 and 43 PMP respectively (Figure 6.11).
- Living donor kidney transplant rate PMP is 8 for Ireland. Countries with the highest rates of living donor kidney transplantation were Turkey, The Netherlands, Northern Ireland, and Iceland with 37, 28, 27 and 26 PMP respectively (Figure 6.12).



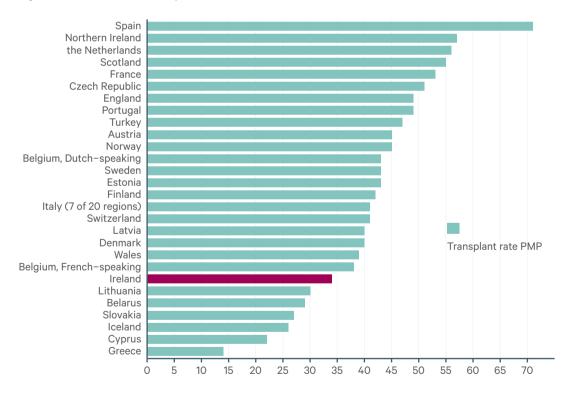


Figure 6.11: Deceased donor rates of transplantation PMP for EDTA countries and Ireland for 2018

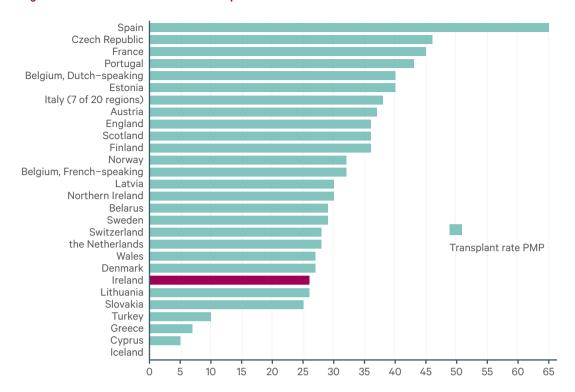
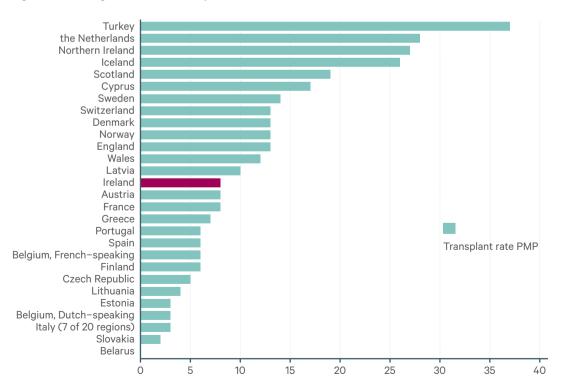


Figure 6.12: Living donor rates of transplantation PMP for EDTA countries and Ireland 2018



SECTION 7

Living Donor Programme

7.1 Introduction

Donor organ shortage is a major problem for patients within the European Union resulting in long waiting times for organ transplantation. In addition to transplantation with an allograft from a deceased donor, living donor organ transplantation is an option. Receiving a kidney transplant from a living recipient has many advantages over deceased donation including increased allograft and patient survival, reduction in rejection rates and waiting times, plus the added benefit that surgery can be scheduled.

With the increase in numbers of living donor kidney transplants the health of the donor should be monitored regularly. Therefore, follow-up with a nephrologist ensures that there is no additional exposure to adverse incidents as a result of the nephrectomy. Long term follow up data on kidney donors provides insight and information in the long term safety and possible health risks of living donation for the donor. As stated in Article 15 of the 'Directive 2010/53/EU of the European Parliament' countries within the European Union are obliged by law to have a follow up system for living kidney donors, this was legislated into Irish law in August 2012.

COVID-19 posed particular difficulties for the Living Donor Programme in 2020. However, 98 potential donors were immunologically evaluated for 74 recipients. This reflected a decrease of 49% presenting for evaluation compared to previous year activity. 63 potential donors were medically assessed and underwent investigations to determine suitability to proceed with live donation. Of the 63, five had opted for the Paired Kidney Exchange Programme in collaboration with our colleagues in the UK. Of note these donor recipient pairs can now be seen in Belfast as part of cross –border collaboration which has practical advantages (e.g. travel and access) for all involved. Of the 58 potential direct living donors medically assessed 13 have proceeded to donation in addition to the 15 who commenced work-up in 2019.

- There were 28 living donor kidneys transplanted in 2020.
- In the period 2001 2020 donation to adults occurred mainly between siblings (51%), spouses (16.5%), parents (16%) and children (9%). However for paediatric recipients, parents are in the majority at 83% (Figure 7.1).
- Overall females are more likely to donate at 53% (Figure 7.2).
- Median age at donation was 44 overall with unrelated donors having a median age of 52 years and adult children to parent donation at 33 years. Spousal and unrelated donors are generally of the older age groups while the youngest age groups are identified in adult children donating to parents (33 years).
 Donor ages ranged from 20 to 72 (Figure 7.3).
- The median length of in hospital stay for living donors was four days for 2020. For later time periods 2011 – 2015 and 2016 – 2020 this reduced to 5 days reflecting the advancement of minimal invasive surgical techniques (Figure 7.4).
- All living donors are followed up by surgical team and are then offered an annual follow-up with their local nephrologist, 81% of living donors are availing of this service. The median length of time of follow up is 36 months ranging from 1 month to 215 months (17.9 years).
- At follow up, 12% of all living donors developed hypertension post donation. The highest risk was in older age group > 55 years (18%) (Figure 7.5).
- As expected the renal function (eGFR) declines post donation but recovers to a baseline of 66 (ml/min/1.73m²) at 5 years from a median level of 99 (ml/min/1.73m²) pre donation.

Figure 7.1: Relationship between living donor and recipient

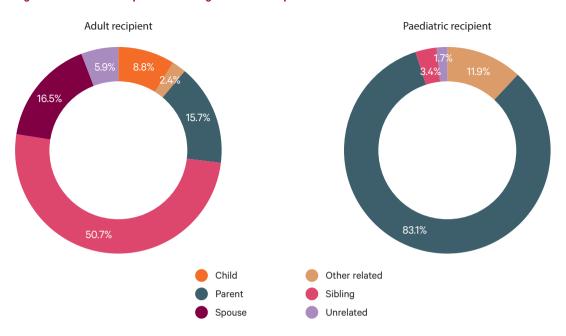


Figure 7.2: Percentage donor sex by donor type of relation

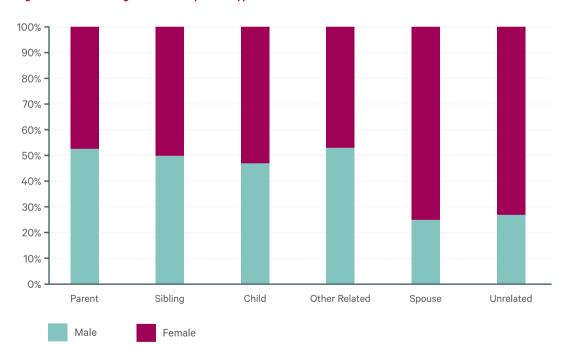
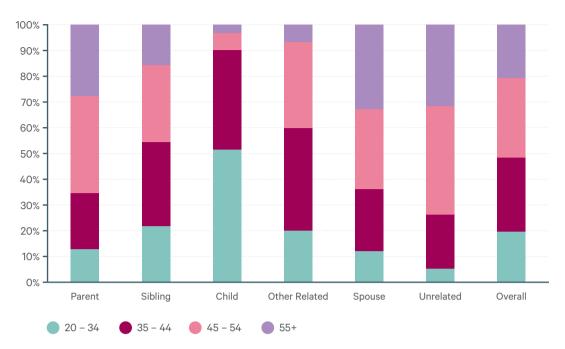


Figure 7.3: Percentage donor age groups by donor type of relation



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Figure 7.4: Length of stay of living donors by time period of donation

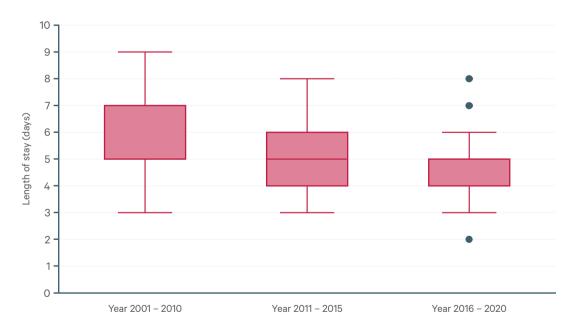


Figure 7.5: Percentage of post donation hypertension by donor age group

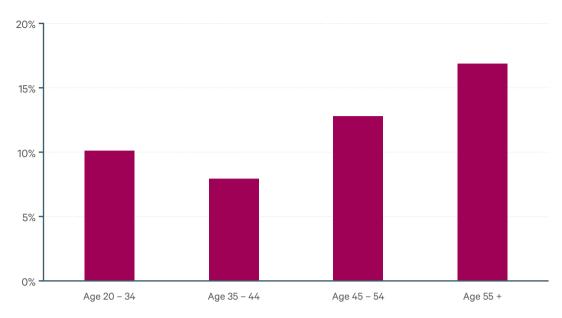
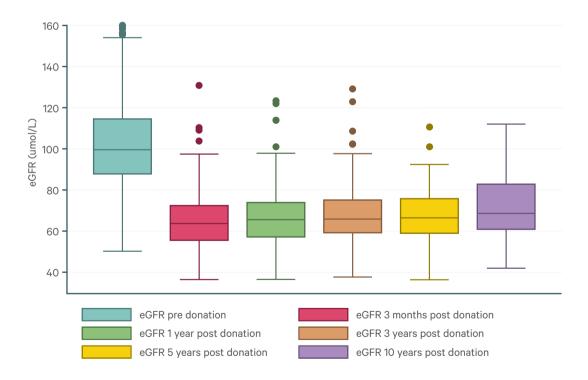


Figure 7.6: Median and interquartile eGFR for living donors pre and post donation



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Staff List

In preparing this Annual Report, the Directorate Team would like to acknowledge the generosity of all kidney donors whose 'Gift of Life' makes each transplant a reality. We also recognise the extremely hard work of the Transplant Team and indeed all the staff in Beaumont Hospital. In particular, we wish to recognise the following people whose dedication and commitment have hugely contributed to the high quality of care afforded to our patients.

Consultants

Ms Dilly Little Consultant Transplant Surgeon

Mr Gordon Smyth Consultant Transplant Surgeon

Mr Ponnusamy Mohan Consultant Transplant Surgeon

Mr Richard Power Consultant Transplant Surgeon

Mr James Forde Consultant Transplant Surgeon

Mr Ian Robertson Consultant Transplant Surgeon

Mr Ati Ferede Consultant Transplant Surgeon

Prof Conall O'Seaghdha Consultant Nephrologist

Prof Peter Conlon Consultant Nephrologist

Dr Colm Magee Consultant Nephrologist

Prof Declan DeFreitas Consultant Nephrologist

Dr Mark Denton Consultant Nephrologist

Dr Carol Traynor Consultant Nephrologist

Mr Denis Murphy Independent Medical Assessor

All Consultant nephrologists nationally

NCHD staff at Beaumont Hospital for Urology and Nephrology Services

Nursing team

Ms Annmarie Mulligan Directorate Nurse Manager

Ms Melanie McDonnell Directorate Nurse Manager

Ms Monica Cunningham CNM2 St Damien's Transplant Unit

Mr Enda Maguire CNM1 St Damien's Transplant Unit

Ms Marisa Pinheiro Transplant CNS

Ms Fiona Downes Acting Transplant CNS

All transplant nursing, healthcare and household staff

Transplant Co-ordinators

Ms Laura Austin CMN3

Ms Andrea Fitzmaurice CMN2

Ms Laura Lynch CNM2

Ms Marion Stacey CMN2

Ms Laura Motherway CNM2

Renal day care nursing team

Ms Michelle Newe CNM2 Renal day care

Ms Ciara Tolan CNM1 Renal day care

Ms Olive McEnroe CNS Ambulatory care

Ms Caitriona McNamara CNM1 Ambulatory care

Ms Louise McSkeane CNM Ambulatory care

Ms Ruth O'Malley CNM Ambulatory care

Ms Brenda Groarke Patient Care Co-ordinator

Ms Andrea Scully Patient Care Co-ordinator

Ms Jane Ormond Patient Care Co-ordinator

All renal day care nursing staff

St Peters and Acute Dialysis Team

Ms Veronica Francis CNM 3 Haemodialysis

Ms Gerardine Maguire CNM 2

All dialysis nursing, healthcare and household staff

TUN Directorate Staff

Mr Tom Moran Directorate Business Manager

Mr Binu Vasu Renal IT Manager

Mr Patrick O'Kelly Statistician

Ms Anne Cooney Renal Transplant Data Manager

Ms Sinead Cronnolly Quality Manager

Ms Caroline Hughes

Ms Mary Sullivan

Ms Claire Kavanagh

Ms Laura Byrne

Clerical Staff

Ms Jennifer Cronin

Ms Kim Kavanagh/Ms Anna Farley

Ms Mary Dowdall/Ms Rebecca Moran

Ms Rita Mather

Ms Joan Long

Ms Rebecca Kavanagh

Ms Gillian O'Rourke

Ms Aisling Connolly/Ms Gillian Curran

Ward clerks Marie Fitzpatrick, Mary Butler, Liz Mythen,

Betty Pender/Theresa Cooling & Denise Redmond/Amanda Walsh

Ms Kim Kavanagh/Ms Anna Farley

Ms Mary Dowdall/Ms Rebecca Moran

Critical Care and Anaesthetic Directorate, Beaumont Hospital

Dr Margaret Bourke Clinical Director

Dr Michael Power Clinical Director

Dr Michael Moore Consultant Anaesthetist

Dr Sinead Galvin Consultant Anaesthetist

Dr Tanya O'Neill Consultant Anaesthetist

Dr James O'Rourke Consultant Anaesthetist

Dr Alan Gaffney Consultant Anaesthetist

Ms Sinead Connolly Directorate Nurse Manager

Ms Clare Morris ADON

Ms Eileen Buckley CNM2

And all the Beaumont Theatre Nursing Staff

Department of HistoPathology

Dr T Dorman Consultant Pathologist

Dr B Doyle Consultant Pathologist

HistoPathology Scientists

Department of NHISSOT

Prof Mary Keogan Consultant Immunologist

Dr Khairin Khalib Consultant Immunologist

Ms Geraldine Donnelly Chief Medical Scientist

All Scientists and staff in NHISSOT

Dept of Psychiatry & Psychology

Dr Siobhan MacHale Consultant Psychiatrist

Dr. Ciara Keogh

Ms Tara Power Social Worker

Department of Radiology

Dr Martina Morrin Consultant Radiologist

Dr Ruth Dunne Consultant Radiologist

Dr Aoife McErlean Consultant Radiologist

Dr Jane Cunningham Consultant Radiologist

Dr Andrew McGrath Consultant Radiologist

Dr Mark Given Clinical Director

Prof Michael Lee Consultant Radiologist

And all Radiologists and Radiographers

Paediatric Services at Temple Street and Crumlin

Dr Atif Awan Consultant Nephrologist Temple Street Children's University Hospital

Dr Mary Waldron Consultant Nephrologist Crumlin Hospital

Dr Niamh Dolan Consultant Nephrologist Temple Street Children's University Hospital

Dr Clodagh Sweeney Consultant Nephrologist Temple Street Children's University Hospital

Dr Maria Stack Consultant Nephrologist Temple Street Children's University Hospital

 $\label{thm:consultant} \mbox{Dr Michael Riordan Consultant Nephrologist Temple Street Children's University Hospital}$

Mr Feargal Quinn Consultant Paediatric Urologist Crumlin Hospital

Dept of Anaesthesia in Temple Street Children's University Hospital and all the Theatre and ward nursing staff in Temple Street Children's University Hospital

Proteins Laboratory

Ms Geraldine Collier Principle Biochemist

All Scientists and staff in Laboratory Directorate

Transplant Porters

Noel Flood

Mark Dunne

All Portering Staff in Beaumont Hospital

Academic Publications 2020

- Long-term outcome of transplant ureterostomy in children: A National Review.
 Costigan CS, Raftery T, Riordan M, Stack M, Dolan NM, Sweeney C, Waldron M, Kinlough M, Flynn J, Bates M, Little DM, Awan A. Pediatr Transplant. 2020 Nov 20:e13919. doi: 10.1111/petr.13919. Online ahead of print.PMID: 33217168
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- Risk factors and long-term consequences of new-onset diabetes after renal transplantation. Tomkins M, Tudor RM, Cronin K, O'Kelly P, Williams Y, Little D, de Freitas DG, Denton M, O'Seaghdha C, Conlon P, Smith D. Ir J Med Sci. 2020 May;189(2):497-503. doi: 10.1007/s11845-019-02112-6. Epub 2019 Oct 21.PMID: 31631244
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- Cancer survival in kidney transplant recipients in Ireland. Murray SL, O'Leary E,
 De Bhailís ÁM, Deady S, Daly FE, O'Kelly P, Williams Y, O'Neill JP, Sexton DJ, Conlon PJ
 Nephrol Dial Transplant. 2020 Oct 1:35(10):1802-1810
- 10. The impact of switching to mTOR inhibitor-based immunosuppression on long-term non-melanoma skin cancer incidence and renal function in kidney and liver transplant recipients. Murray SL, Daly FE, O'Kelly P, O'Leary E, Deady S, O'Neill JP, Dudley A, Rutledge NR, McCormick A, Houlihan DD, Williams Y, Morris PG, Ni Raghallaigh S, Moloney FJ, Sexton DJ, Conlon PJ. Ren Fail. 2020 Nov;42(1):607-612
- Polygenic risk score of non-melanoma skin cancer predicts post-transplant skin cancer across multiple organ types. Stapleton CP, Chang BL, Keating BJ, Conlon PJ, Cavalleri GL. Clin Transplant. 2020 Aug:34(8):e13904
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National Kidney Transplant Service

Beaumont Hospital, Dublin 9. T: (01) 809 3119 or (01) 809 2759 E: transplantcoordinators@beaumont.ie www.beaumont.ie/kidnevcentre



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