

SCOTTISH DONATION AND TRANSPLANT GROUP (SDTG)

Thursday 19 August 2021, 14:00-16:00

Histocompatibility & Immunogenetics Support for Transplantation in Scotland.

Submitted by Dave Turner and Ann-Margaret Little/Cat Hastie

Staffing

Glasgow H&I: Fully staffed at Band 6, one 0.5 band 7 member of staff on maternity leave. One band 6 about to go on maternity leave, cover has been advertised. Two band 4 positions being filled. Fully staffed band 8.

Edinburgh H&I: Fully staffed, although senior BMS (Band 7) on long term sick leave.

On call rotas

The one in four Consultant/Principal Clinical Scientist rota supporting deceased donor kidney, SPK, islet and cardiac transplantation in Scotland continues to work well.

Quality in Organ Donation (QuOD) project

UK wide study, ongoing, funding secured for 2021. Samples are processed by H&I staff in H&I Edinburgh. Still have not established new route for monies from Oxford University to come to NHS Lothian (rather than the previous Edinburgh Uni) and eventually to SNBTS help fund part of a Band 6 post as previously agreed.

Donor HLA typing

Both labs continue to meet the KPI for deceased donor typing.

Donor Characterisation Review

NHSBT hoping to introduce electronic reporting of deceased donor HLA typing and microbiology/virology results to ODT to avoid transcription errors. Anticipated that the rollout for this will occur throughout 2021 for a UK go live in 2022. However, the NHSBT team still need to engage with IT departments in relevant labs to enable this to move forward. There are some concerns locally about the ability to prioritise this project within very stretched local IT departments. DT has been involved in this as an H&I SME.

Joint European Federation for Immunogenetics (EFI) and British Society for Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics (BSHI) Conference, 26th-29th April 2020, Glasgow

This meeting, organised over the last few years by AML, DT and Helen McFarlane from the GGC H&I lab, was held virtually and appears to have been a success, with 96% of delegates scoring the scientific content as good or v good. Final delegate numbers were 1089 from 69 different countries and, to everyone's relief, the meeting even made a small profit!

Paediatric study into the prevalence of SARS-CoV-2 antibodies

Glasgow are participating in a paediatric study (ISPY) looking at paediatric patient serum samples pre and post SARS-CoV-2 pandemic to assess prevalence of coronavirus specific antibodies. The study is being performed in Nottingham and Glasgow are providing serum from excess stores.

Coronavirus pandemic

Both laboratories have been largely unaffected by the pandemic and continue to deliver a “normal” service.