**Minutes**

**National Renal Transplant Leadership Team**

**Strategic Group Meeting**

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| **Date:** | 4 December 2020 | | | | | |
| **Time:** | 9.45am -3.30pm | | | | | |
| **Location:** | Ko Awatea, Room 101,  Middlemore Hospital, Auckland | | | | | |
| **Chair:** | Nick Cross | | CD National Renal Transplant Service | | CDHB | |
| **Attended:** | | Andy McNally | | Nephrologist, | | HBDHB | |
|  | | Carl Muthu | | Transplant surgeon | | ADHB | |
|  | | Chanel Prestidge | | Paediatric Nephrologist,  Starship Hospital | | ADHB | |
|  | | Claire Beckett | | Transplant coordinator | | CCDHB | |
|  | | Colette Meehan | | Administrator (minutes) | | CDHB | |
|  | | Denise Beechey | | Renal CNS | | CMDHB | |
|  | | Heather Dunckley | | Clinical Scientist,  New Zealand Blood Service | | Auckland | |
|  | | Jane Presto | | Operations manager | | CCDHB | |
|  | | Janice Langlands | | Donor Coordinator,  New Zealand Blood Service | | Auckland | |
|  | | Jo Brown | | Funding and Development Manager  Hospitals | | ADHB and Waitemata DHB | |
|  | | John Irvine | | Renal physician | | CDHB | |
|  | | John Kearns | | Consumer representative | | Auckland | |
|  | | John Schollum | | Renal physician | | SDHB | |
|  | | Karen Lovelock | | Transplant coordinator | | ADHB | |
|  | | Karen Macleod | | Consumer representative | | Dunedin | |
|  | | Kristin Wilson | | Business manager LTU | | ADHB | |
|  | | Paul Manley | | Renal physician | | ADHB | |
|  | | Philip Matheson | | Renal physician | | CCDHB | |
| **Attended via Zoom:** | | Justin Roake | | Transplant surgeon | | CDHB | |
|  | | Mark O’Carroll | | Respiratory physician | | ADHB | |
|  | | Annette Pack | | Portfolio Manager | | MOH | |
| **Guests:** | | Andrew Salmon | | Renal physician | | Waitemata DHB | |
|  | | Ian Dittmer | | Renal physician | | ADHB | |
|  | | Tom Hanna | | Transplant surgeon | | ADHB | |
| **Apologies:** | | Drew Henderson | | Renal physician | | WDHB | |
|  | | Dilip Naik | | Transplant surgeon | | CCDHB | |
|  | | Helen Pilmore | | TSANZ President Elect | | ADHB | |
|  | | Ralph La Salle | | Acting Executive Director Planning, Funding and Decision Support | | CDHB | |

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|  | **Agenda Item** | **Notes and Actions** |
| 1. | Welcome/Conflicts of Interest | Nick introduced Paul Manley. He will replace Ian Dittmer as representative for Auckland Renal Transplant Group.  Ian will continue to attend Strategic meetings as a guest in the context of his other renal service roles.  Guests introduced:   * Dr Andy Salmon (Renal Physician, WDHB) * Dr Mark O’Carroll (Respiratory Physician, Chair Transplant Board ADHB) * Dr Ian Dittmer (Transplant Nephrologist, ADHB; Medical Director NKAS; Clinical Director NZKE; Manager of Chronic Conditions ADHB) * Dr Tom Hanna (Transplant Surgeon ADHB )   All strategic group members were advised again to consider **any conflicts of interest**, and advise the Chair if they have any. |
|  | **Previous minutes passed** | **Strategic Group Minutes – 29 May 2020**  Passed: Jo Brown  Seconded: John Irvine  **Operational groups meeting - 9 October 2020**  Passed: Denise Beechey  Seconded: Philip Matheson |
| 2. | Actions Update | **Ongoing items:**  1. LKDA books – **Annette Pack** is waiting to hear back from Kidney Health New Zealand who indicated an interest in sponsorship.  2. Immunisations Advice review – no update.  3. NDD donor chain orphan kidney policy. Discussions with Australia completed. Agreement not signed off yet. Next review step is with RACOS. Crux of agreement is that if a kidney is removed and not able to go to the original intended recipient then the kidney will be reallocated to the waiting list of the country it is in (or arriving in if in transit) when reallocated.  4. Long suspended patients list – no update as no one has volunteered. i.e. a Registrar or Advanced Nursing degree candidate to take on a project to improve accuracy and usefulness of this list and create an optimum review system. If there is any Registrar or Advanced Nursing candidate Interested – contact **Ian**  **(Action: Nick to approach coordinators).**  **Completed items:**  1. Breast Cancer Screening in Donors > 70 -normally ineligible for DHB screening. However, they will be screened, if under assessment for being a living donor. Policy updated and now on the MOH website.  2. Coordinators’ study day – took place on 27 November as planned.  3. Donors no longer required in kidney exchange. Process has been developed and agreed. Jo Burton will contact the local transplant coordinator involved with the donor on each occasion. |
| 3. | CD Report / Transplant equity project update | **CD report**  Presentation and discussion about transplantation in 2020 and challenges in coming years.  **Metrics:**  Once developed, new metrics for reporting to MOH should also be distributed to CEs and GMs of each DHB with renal services.  **Transplants being stopped by an event via emergency health management decision.**  Decision makers need to know the flow on effects of suddenly stopping a transplant from proceeding because of an event – e.g. White island emergency; Covid-19 planning.  **Action:**  Identify who needs to be advised within DHBS and write a letter accordingly. **Nick Cross, Jo Brown, Ian Dittmer**.  **Transplant equity project update**  Project status is on target for time frames.  **Action:**  Defer the three main elements of the allocation policy for final discussion to the Operational Group meeting on 5 February 2021. **Nick Cross**. |
| 4. | Transplant Equity TOR adjustment | **Terms of reference**  Document has been adjusted for equity; proposed changes reviewed and agreed.  **Action:**  Upload revised TOR to the NRTS MOH site to replace existing TOR. **Colette Meehan** |
| 5. | Ethnicity and Access to Pre-emptive Transplantation in Paediatrics | This item was held over due to time constraints and will now be on the agenda of the 28 May Strategic Group meeting. |
| 6. | Transplant Metrics at Waitemata DHB | Dr Andy Salmon (Renal Physician, WDHB) described a pre-transplant metrics method for kidney transplants at Waitemata DHB. |
| 7. | Replacement National Transplant Metrics | NRTS metrics process was difficult to gather and provide accurate measurement, leading to abandonment. New system is needed to:  1. Leverage data and structures already available  2. Inform policy changes  3. Provide understandable and meaningful for clinical teams and management  4. Influence processes  5. Drive process change to further aims of NRTS/NRTLT   * Better outcomes for ESKD patients in NZ (not just more transplants/transplant outcomes) * Equitable access   NRTLT/NRTS role   * Advise on metric design * Collaborate with measurers, funders, providers * Receive and interpret information * Advise on process change within health system to improve   Key process improvement targets   * Time for assessment * Proportions of ESKD population assessed * Recipient wait listing (via ANZDATA) * Operation waiting time for live donors   Other options being explored   * Decision support CDHB * Data Management National Collections   **Actions:**  1. Engage with ANZDATA to progress development of metrics via ANZDATA   * **Heather** will forward an email to Nick with additional information to assist.   2. **Nick** will contact Gerald Water for information about using data from NZ Transplant Survival Score website for capturing assessment decisions, and time point of assessment.  3. Next meeting: present ‘rough sketch’ of 5 metrics that could be better used**. Nick Cross**. |
| 8. | NKAS – Allocation of DCD Kidneys Proposed Change | NRTS NZ kidney allocation scheme December 2020 draft.  DCD change, minor amendments: approved  Change to make listing criteria for SPK the same as listing criteria for kidneys only (< 6 months to ESKD treatment): agreed in principle, for further discussion at ARTG  **Actions:**  1. Make changes document to only be agreed changes as above (**Nick**)  2. Proceed with upload to NRTS MOH website after Nick’s change. **Colette.**  3. Circulate update to Renal Service CDs and transplant coordinators. **Colette**.  4. ARTG to discuss SPK change. **Paul.**  5. NRTLT to consider feedback from ARTG |
| 9. | Draft Pancreas Allocation Algorithm | **NRTS NZ pancreas allocation** scheme draft V2.  Wellington and Christchurch transplant centre feedback received, agreed. ARTG agreed.  Feedback from Liver Transplant team (via Mark O’Carroll/ADHB Transplant Board) to amend blood group criterion to be ‘blood group compatible’ in line with other solid organ allocation  Discussion about waiting time as prime determinant and effect on liver allocation if any (via Carl M) - resolved to put that directly to Liver team via Transplant Board/Carl  **Actions**:  1. Clarify Tier 2 waiting time as the criterion for allocation with liver team **Nick/Carl**. |
| 10. | TSANZ Items: Australian COVID Vaccine Proposal | TSANZ Vaccine Proposal 24.11.20 Final  Discussed. No action required in NZ. |
| 11 | Dual Transplant Outcomes | Tom spoke about the value of dual kidney transplants.   1. Background of Dual Kidney Transplantation 2. Brief literature review    * Surgical techniques    * Outcomes 3. Auckland DKT series 4. Compare outcomes of DKT with matched Single Kidney Transplant (SKT) group   **Actions:**  1. Send copy of PowerPoint to Justin. **Nick.**  2. Upload information to the research projects section of the MOH NRTS website. **Colette** |
| 12 | Communication from Donor Surgeons to Transplant Team | **Protocol use of biopsy marginal deceased donor kidneys – communication.**  i.e. transplant surgeon’s conversation with the retrieving donor surgeon. Biopsy information makes decision to accept kidney or not much clearer.  **Actions:**  1. Revise ‘damaged kidneys’ document to improve communication protocol between surgeons. **Nick**  2. Abbreviate documents. **Nick**  3. Discuss with donor surgeons and discuss with Nick if issues. **Carl**  4. Upload revised document to NRTS MOH website. **Colette** |
| 13 | Allocation Issues Register | **Allocation Protocol Issues Register December 2020**  **Actions:**  1. Recommend to Chief Medical Officer NZBS that disclosure of ‘non-event’ allocation be considered. **Nick/Heather**.  2. Update register (exclude event date) and upload to MOH website. **Colette.** |
| 14 | Allocation Error | **Cross match results.**  Specific event discussed. Errors in the manual crossing out system noticed in lab.  New system to be introduced. All ‘not suitable’ match information will be electronically removed.  **Action**: Add to register |
| 15 | Social Media / Live Donors (Living Donor Whanau) | Useful site for donor peer support now available. Kidney Donor Whanau, via Kidney health New Zealand.  Circulate email about the group – **Colette** |
| 16 | Other business | None |
|  | **Proposed dates for 2021 for both:**  **Operations Group and Strategic Group**   1. Operations **zoom**(only) Friday 5th February 2021 2. Operations face-to-face Friday 19th March 2021 (venue TBA) 3. Strategic face-to-face Friday 28th May 2021 (venue TBA) 4. Ops **Zoom** (only) Friday 9 July 2021 5. Operations face-to-face Friday 24th Sept 2021 (venue TBA) 6. Strategic face-to-face Friday 3rd December 2021 (venue TBA) | |

**Next Strategic Group Meeting:**face-to-face Friday 28th May 2021 (venue TBA)