



Overview of Organ Donation and Transplantation

A summary of the main features of organ donation and transplantation activity in the UK during the financial year from 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2013

2.1 Summary of activity

As the total number of deceased donors and transplants continued to increase this year, the number of patients on the active transplant list at 31 March 2013 is 304 less than on the same date last year. This drop reflects an increasing number of transplants performed and a reasonably steady number of patients joining the transplant list each year. The increase in donor and transplant numbers (1 April 2003 to 31 March 2013) and the number of patients registered on the transplant lists at 31 March each year are shown in **Figure 2.1**. There were 206 more deceased donor transplants in 2012-2013 than in the previous year, representing a 7% increase. The corresponding increase in the number of deceased donors was 11%.

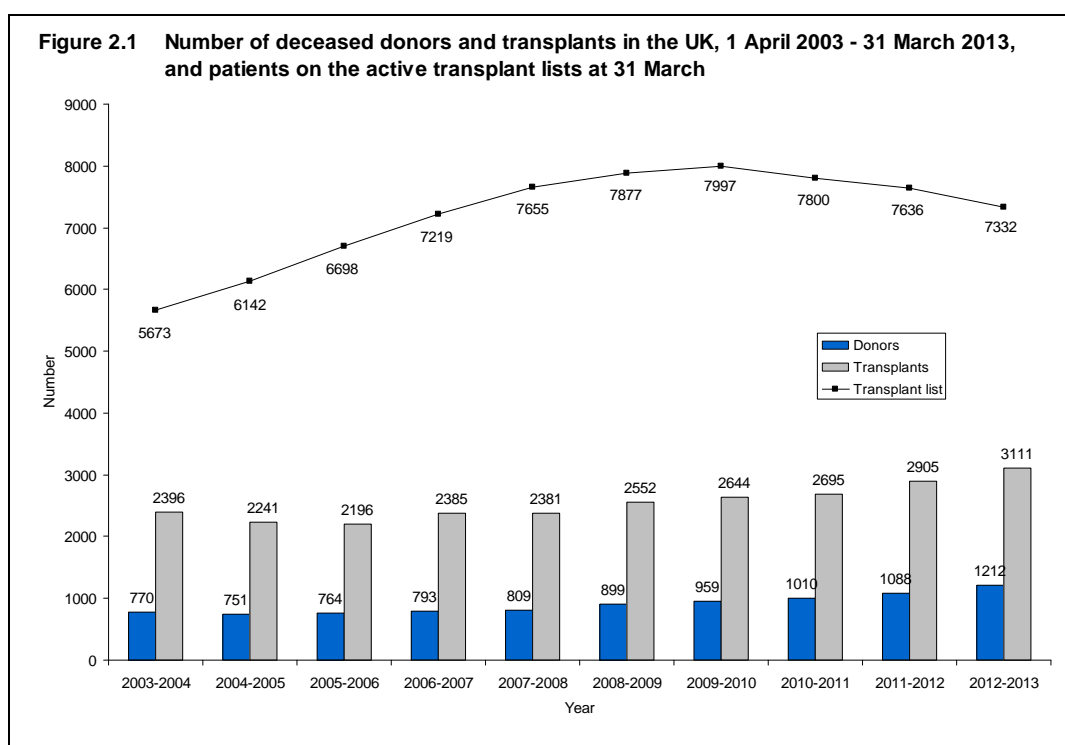
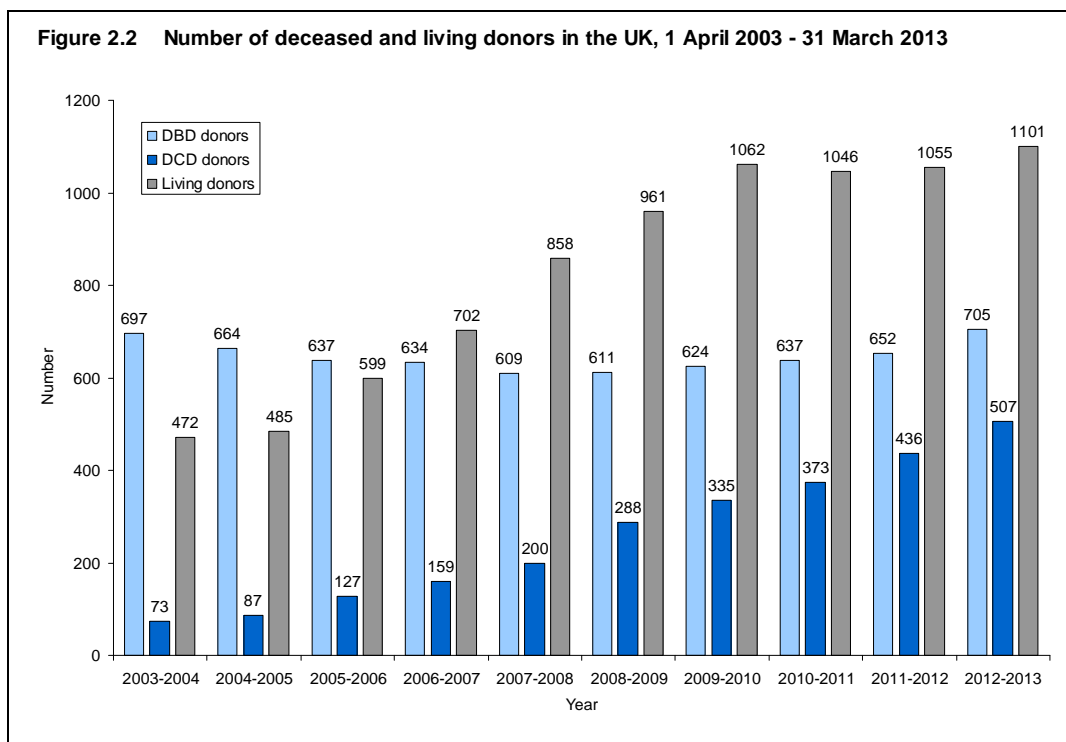


Figure 2.2 shows the number of deceased and living donors for 2003-2013. The number of deceased organ donors in the UK fell over a number of years but following the implementation of the Organ Donation Taskforce recommendations, the numbers rose and are continuing to increase. The number of donors after brain death (DBD) has increased by 16% over the last six years, reversing the trend which had seen a 13% decrease between 2003-2004 and 2007-2008. The number of donors after circulatory death (DCD) has been increasing year-on-year in an effort to bridge the gap between the number of donors and the number of patients waiting for a transplant. In particular the number of these donors has increased by 154% since 2007-2008. Living donors remained relatively stable, with 1,101 this year representing a 4% increase on last year.



2.2 Transplant list

At 31 March 2013, 7,332 patients were registered for an organ transplant in the UK on the active transplant list. A further 3,030 patients were temporarily suspended from the active national transplant list because they were unfit or otherwise unavailable for transplant. Details of numbers of patients on each of the organ transplant lists are given in **Table 2.1** for 31 March 2012 and 2013. The total number fell by 304 patients (4%) due to falls in the number of patients on the kidney and liver transplant lists.

Table 2.1 Active transplant lists in the UK at 31 March 2012 and 2013			
	2012	2013	% Change
Kidney & pancreas patients	6669	6387	-4
Kidney	6417	6115	-5
Kidney & pancreas	193	208	+8
Pancreas	35	37	+6
Pancreas islets	24	27	+13
Cardiothoracic patients	399	439	+10
Heart	167	197	+18
Heart/lung	16	16	0
Lung(s)	216	226	+5
Liver patients	534	472	-12
Intestinal patients^{1,2}	13	9	-
Other multi-organ patients³	21	25	+19
ALL PATIENTS	7636	7332	-4

Percentages not reported when fewer than 10 in either year

¹ Excludes bowel only patients see Table 9.1 in Chapter 9

² Three including kidney in 2012, 3 including kidney in 2013

³ Includes patients waiting for kidney and liver transplants (18 in 2012, 18 in 2013), kidney and heart transplants (2 in 2012, 3 in 2013), liver and pancreas transplants (1 in 2012, 3 in 2013), kidney, liver and pancreas (1 in 2013)

2.3 Transplants

There was a 6% increase in the total number of organ transplants (from deceased and living donors) last year: 4,212 transplants were performed in 2012-2013 compared with 3,960 in 2011-2012 (**Table 2.2**). All multi-organ transplants are identified separately as are transplants from living donors.

The total number of kidney transplants increased by 7% in 2012-2013; kidney only transplants from donors after circulatory death increased by 12%, and the number of living donor kidney transplants increased by 6%. The total number of cardiothoracic organ transplants rose by 5%, the number of liver transplants rose by 4% and the number of pancreas transplants (including pancreas only, kidney/pancreas and pancreas islets) decreased by 3%.

Table 2.2 Transplants performed in the UK, 1 April 2011 - 31 March 2013			
Transplant	2011-2012	2012-2013	% Change
DBD kidney	960	1034	+8
DCD kidney	639	716	+12
Living donor kidney	1009	1068	+6
DBD Kidney & pancreas	138	133	-4
DCD Kidney & pancreas	35	33	-6
DBD Pancreas ¹	24	33	+38
DCD Pancreas	13	5	-
Pancreas islets	30	30	0
Deceased heart	138	142	+3
Domino heart	3	0	-
Heart/lung	5	3	-
DBD Single lung	27	19	-30
DCD Single lung	4	9	-
DBD Double lung	127	134	+6
DCD Double lung	17	25	+47
Partial lung	0	1	-
DBD liver	480	520	+8
DCD liver	130	135	+4
Domino liver	5	2	-
DBD liver lobe	109	117	+7
DCD liver lobe	2	1	-
Living donor liver lobe	38	31	-18
Kidney & heart	0	3	-
Kidney & liver	18	11	-39
Liver & pancreas	7	7	-
Liver, kidney & pancreas	2	0	-
TOTAL ORGAN TRANSPLANTS	3960	4212	+6
Total kidney transplants¹	2801	2998	+7
Total pancreas transplants¹	249	241	-3
Total cardiothoracic transplants	321	336	+5
Total liver transplants¹	791	824	+4

Percentage not reported when fewer than 10 in either year
¹ Includes intestinal transplants, 10 in 2011-2012 (9 including liver (2 including kidney)) and 8 in 2012-2013 (7 including liver), excludes bowel only transplants, see Table 9.3 in Chapter 9