

Travel Grant Report

Name and origin of applicants

Ingebjørg Kvangarsnes, Per Arne Bakkan, Monika Olofsson Storrø

Transplant coordinators, Oslo University Hospital, Norway

Purpose granted

Visit to Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh to observe the use of Normothermic Regional Perfusion (NRP) in controlled Donation after Circulatory Death (cDCD).

Amount granted

19 500 DKK

Time and place of visit

24th – 26th of September 2018, Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, UK

Report

Ms Fiona Hunt, Team Lead GILRTV Theatres, had organized our visit in an extraordinary way and she hosted us during our stay. She has been one of the key persons responsible for establishing the cDCD with NRP programme in Edinburgh.

Mr. Gabriel Oniscu, the Lead clinician of the programme, took his time to inform us about the different aspects of the programme and outcomes after transplantations with organs from cDCD NRP donors. He presented us some very positive follow up data which will be published later this year.

We were especially interested in the following:

-DCD programme in UK – we were presented an overview of the cDCD NRP programme, currently used in the following centers; Edinburgh, Cambridge, Newcastle, Oxford, Royal Free and Birmingham.

-Organization: The Edinburgh experience pointed out the importance of establishing a core team, consisting of the following persons; surgeons, lead practitioner, theatre practitioners perfusion/preservation - scrub, Specialized Nurse Organ Donation (SNOD)

-Procedures: We were presented to the National protocol: Donation after circulatory determination of death (Maastricht category III) with normothermic regional perfusion is approved and used in all 6 centers. They had also local short versions, some of them used in the operating room during the procedures.

-Education and training: The training programme especially highlighted NRP awareness, theoretical component and practical training

-Implementation: Rigorous protocols, Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), competencies established, regular education and hands on training sessions.

-Experiences / Outcome So far the experience of use of NRP in cDCD is very positive. The outcomes presented both from kidney- and liver transplantations are very good. The liver transplant surgeons around UK tend to refuse livers from cDCD donors without NRP. More centers in UK are also planning to start DCD NRP programme due to the good experience and outcome.

Evaluation

Our visit to Edinburgh was of high educational value.

We learned a lot, especially about the importance of the organization of the team and the key persons participating in the procedure. We got some inspiration on how to organize the training.

We want to thank Scandiatransplant for the Travel Grant that made this visit possible. Thank you also to Ms Fiona Hunt who organized the visit and Mr Gabriel Oniscu for taking his time to inform us about all the aspects of the cDCD NRP procedure
