

Chapter 7

Organ Waiting Lists



in Australia and New Zealand



Organ Waiting Lists

This chapter brings together waiting list data for the various organs. This data is not directly collected by ANZOD, but has been provided by the various outcome Registries. The details for individual organs are discussed below. In many cases more detailed information is contained in the annual reports of the various Registries. There are important general considerations in interpretation of waiting list data however.

Firstly, waiting list data is not necessarily a good indicator of actual demand for transplantation. There are many people who would benefit from transplantation who are not placed on waiting lists. This reflects the concept of “utility” in selection for transplantation; national consensus guidelines exist in this area (www.tsanz.com.au/organallocationprotocols/index.asp). For example, listing on the kidney transplant waiting list requires an 80% expected survival at 5 years post transplantation.

Secondly, the reasons for removal from the list are not known in all cases. In some cases (particularly cardio-

thoracic and liver waiting lists) this may be due to improving health; conversely it may reflect deteriorating health such that the risks of transplantation are no longer acceptable. Whether these people subsequently returned to the waiting list, remained off the list, or died without returning to the list is not known.

Thirdly, the waiting list data tables refers only to people on the “active” waiting list who would be transplanted immediately if an organ were available. For some organs, there are groups of patients who have been assessed but not yet activated on the waiting list, or who are temporarily removed or made “inactive”.

For all organs, data is presented in a “stock and flow” format, examining the transitions on and off the waiting list over the period of a calendar year. It is possible those removed from the list are subsequently re-listed. The figures in the tables refer to the lists at 1 January and 31 December of each year.





Organ Waiting Lists

Kidneys

Data for these waiting lists are derived from the relevant material from National Organ Matching System combined with material from the ANZDATA Registry as part of a one-off project in 2012, including data to the end of 2010. Among people on the deceased donor waiting list, some receive kidneys from living donors. However, most people who receive living donor kidneys are not already on the deceased donor waiting list. These 2 groups are illustrated separately. Data is currently available only for Australia. Negotiations are currently underway to update the Australian data, and to extend to the inclusion of New Zealand data.

Figure 7.1

Kidney Transplant Waiting List, Australia										
Year	Active at start of year	New listings	Removed from list	Transplanted (Deceased Donor)	Transplanted (Live Donor)	Transplant Overseas	Died on list	Active at end of year	Transplanted (Live Donor not on list)	Total Live Donor
2007	1386	623	173	338	96	8	14	1380	175	271
2008	1380	686	196	441	123	1	16	1289	231	354
2009	1289	710	189	434	63	4	10	1299	264	327
2010	1299	651	160	533	59	1	7	1190	237	296



Liver

This table includes the waiting lists for both Australia and New Zealand. For liver transplantation, the waiting list is extracted from the Australia and New Zealand Liver Transplant Registry Annual Report, based on returns from transplanting centres. More detailed analyses can be found in their Annual Report, at <http://www.anzltr.org/>.

Figure 7.2

Liver Transplant Waiting List, Australia and New Zealand						
Year	Active at start of year	New listings	Removed from list	Transplanted Deceased Donor	Died on list	Active at end of year
2008	199	290	48	229	48	169
2009	169	335	69	228	32	175
2010	175	335	46	248	12	194
2011	194	336	68	253	17	192
2012	192	347	60	268	29	182

Pancreas

Data for the pancreas transplant waiting list is derived from data supplied by hospitals to the National Pancreas Transplant Registry. It includes both people awaiting a combined kidney-pancreas transplant (the great majority) and those awaiting a pancreas transplant (following a previous kidney transplant). It does not include people waiting for pancreas islet cell transplants.

Figure 7.3

Pancreas Waiting List, Australia and New Zealand						
Year	Active at start of year	New listings	Removed from list	Transplanted Deceased Donor	Died on list	Active at end of year
2012	43	60	16	37	2	48



Organ Waiting Lists

Cardiothoracic Organs

Waiting lists for heart transplants, lung transplants and heart-lung transplants are collated by the Australia and New Zealand Cardiothoracic Organ Transplant Registry, based on reports from transplanting units. The data in the tables are those supplied by the Registry, and include both Australia and New Zealand. Further material for each organ is available in the ANZCOTR Annual Report at <http://www.anzcotr.org.au/>.

Figure 7.4

Heart Transplant Waiting List, Australia and New Zealand						
Year	Active at start of year	New listings	Removed from list	Transplanted Deceased Donor	Died on list	Active at end of year
2008	61	113	24	90	8	52
2009	52	110	33	71	7	51
2010	51	103	17	76	8	53
2011	53	117	7	76	9	78
2012	78	108	15	85	8	78

Figure 7.5

Lung Transplant Waiting List, Australia and New Zealand						
Year	Active at start of year	New listings	Removed from list	Transplanted Deceased Donor	Died on list	Active at end of year
2008	111	165	26	129	16	105
2009	105	155	15	130	6	109
2010	109	181	15	136	17	124
2011	124	189	22	172	13	112
2012	112	186	16	161	14	107