



SECTION 11

Deceased Organ Transplant Waiting Lists

SUMMARY

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

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Suggested Citation

ANZOD Registry. 2023 Annual Report, Section 11: Deceased Organ Transplant Waiting Lists. Australia and New Zealand Dialysis and Transplant Registry, Adelaide, Australia. 2023. Available at: www.anzdata.org.au

Waiting List Dynamics

There are some important caveats to consider when interpreting the waiting list data presented in this report.

Firstly, waiting list data is not necessarily a good indicator of actual demand for transplantation. Due to the limited availability of organs for transplantations not all people with end stage organ disease are able to be treated with transplantation and therefore each organ waiting list employs criteria for listing in order to prioritise the use of organs. There are many rules guiding eligibility for transplantation. For further information please see the Transplantation Society of Australia and New Zealand (TSANZ) website 'Organ Allocation Guidelines'. www.tsanz.com.au

Secondly, the reasons for removal from the waiting list also vary. In some cases, an individual may pass away before receiving an organ. In other cases (particularly cardiothoracic and liver waiting lists) they may be removed due to improving health; conversely removal may reflect deteriorating health such that the risks of transplantation outweigh benefits. Data regarding whether these people subsequently return to the waiting list, remain off the list, or die without returning to the list is not available at this stage, consistently across all organs.

Thirdly, the waiting list data 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 example, patients may develop a medical problem that makes them temporarily or permanently unfit for transplantation.

Residents of Australia or New Zealand who have transplants performed abroad may not be reported to local transplant outcome Registries and may not impact on the wait list numbers.

For all organs, data is presented in a format, examining the transitions on and off the waiting list over the period of a calendar year. It is possible those removed from the waiting list are subsequently re-listed. For organs that have criteria for urgent transplant (i.e. liver, heart) patients may be placed on the waiting list and removed very quickly and therefore point prevalent numbers do not represent the activity and readers should refer to the 'made active' number to get an idea of overall activity.

The data in the tables refer to the lists at 1 January and 31 December of each year.

In the tables presented in this chapter, the rows describe:

- Number on the active list at the beginning of each year
- Number added to the active list during the year - 'made active'
- Number removed from the active list during the year
- Number of transplants to people on the waiting list
- Number who died while on the active waiting list
- Number on the active waiting list at the end of the year

Kidney Waiting List

Data for these waiting lists are derived from OrganMatch (OM), combined with material from the ANZDATA Registry. Some people in the deceased donor (DD) kidney waiting lists may receive a kidney from a living donor (LD), though the majority of living kidney donor recipients are not on the waiting lists. A patient is deemed fit for transplantation and activated on the deceased donor transplant list, but a living donor kidney can be made available prior to a deceased donor transplant taking place.

Data is currently only available for Australia. Negotiations are continuing to also include New Zealand data in future reports. Further material is available in the ANZDATA Annual Report at www.anzdata.org.au

Table 11.1 Deceased Donor Kidney Waiting List Activity*, Australia 2017-2022

Event	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
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Active start of year	1009	1017	1031	1233	1234	1443
Made active	862	906	1194	965	1102	1003
Taken off list	339	344	201	232	208	299
Transplant	510	539	781	729	680	743
Died on list	5	9	10	3	5	8
Active end of year	1017	1031	1233	1234	1443	1396

*Data may differ to that previously published as data is updated in subsequent years in OM and ANZDATA

Liver Waiting List

Data for the liver transplant waiting list are derived from OrganMatch (OM). More information may be found from the Australia and New Zealand Liver Transplant Registry (ANZLTR) Annual Report at <http://www.anzltr.org/>.

Table 11.2 Deceased Donor Liver Waiting List Activity*, Australia 2017-2022

Event	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Active start of year	127	137	111	193	161	150
Made active	172	147	357	263	264	230
Taken off list	56	77	30	50	39	12
Transplant	100	88	233	234	212	206
Died on list	6	8	12	11	24	5
Active end of year	137	111	193	161	150	157

*Data may differ to that previously published as data is updated in subsequent years in ANZLTR.

The data in tables 11.3 and 11.4 are supplied by OrganMatch only.

Heart Organ Waiting List

Table 11.3 Deceased Donor Heart Waiting List Activity*, Australia 2017-2022

Event	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Active start of year	59	97	95	85	71	75
Made active	134	125	132	145	125	121
Taken off list	24	33	31	13	9	13
Transplant	64	82	94	142	107	108
Died on list	8	12	17	4	5	2
Active end of year	97	95	85	71	75	73

Lung Organ Waiting List

Table 11.4 Deceased Donor Lung Waiting List Activity*, Australia 2017-2022

Event	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Active start of year	105	129	129	111	100	103
Made active	195	200	201	170	191	162
Taken off list	45	50	49	17	16	13
Transplant	122	132	150	154	162	135
Died on list	4	18	20	10	10	18
Active end of year	129	129	111	100	103	99

Pancreas Waiting List

Data for the pancreas transplant waiting list is derived from data supplied by OrganMatch. It includes both people waiting for a combined kidney-pancreas transplant (the majority) and those waiting for a pancreas transplant alone. It does not include people waiting for pancreas islet cell transplants.

Table 11.5 Deceased Donor Pancreas Waiting List Activity*, Australia 2017-2022

Event	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Active start of year	62	47	30	86	46	73
Made active	27	31	103	32	70	54
Taken off list	29	24	12	27	12	17
Transplant	13	20	32	45	31	46
Died on list	0	4	3	0	0	1
Active end of year	47	30	86	46	73	63

*Data may differ to that previously published as data is updated in subsequent years in OM

Intestine Waiting List

Data for the intestine transplant waiting list are derived from OrganMatch (OM). It includes both people waiting for a combined organ and intestine transplant (the majority) and those waiting for an intestine only transplant.

Table 11.6 Deceased Donor Intestine Waiting List Activity*, Australia 2017-2022

Event	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Active start of year	7	6	2	3	5	5
Made active	2	0	2	3	4	0
Taken off list	2	3	1	0	1	0
Transplant	1	1	0	1	3	2
Died on list	0	0	0	0	0	0
Active end of year	6	2	3	5	5	3