

What is the potential for organ donation in patients presenting to Emergency Departments not admitted to Intensive Care?

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Key aims

- Identify all potential for organ and tissue donation
- Create and maintain excellent, nationally consistent processes for donation



Objective

- To establish the extent of missed opportunity for organ donation in those patients with severe brain injury attending Emergency Departments
- Required collaboration and flexibility



Method

- A retrospective audit in four tertiary NZ hospitals across North and South Island
- Site selection by consensus between ODNZ and local ICU Link staff, approached willing ED staff
- Dataset constructed by ODNZ and discussed with working party: modified because local variation mandated different approaches to data collection



Inclusion and exclusion criteria

- Any adult patient admitted through ED in 2015 with severe brain injury who died on that admission and was not admitted to an Intensive Care Unit
- Severe brain injury by ICD coding
- Exclusions: none



Results

Hospital	Number	Stroke	Age median	Age range	Age >70	ED attendances p.a.	ICU deaths 2015	% ED attendances
A	39	27	78	46-92	20	65000	129	0.06
B	7	0	85	68-99	6	52000	146	0.01
C	43	N/A	75	59-79	31	92000	144	0.05
D	13	12	57	37-81	3	112000	80	0.01



Results

- No uniform way of
 - a) classifying severe neurological injury or
 - b) detecting those not admitted to ICU
- Small number potential donors
 - 3 in 10,000 ED attendances
 - Additional relative 20% increase in ICU deaths



Results

Not all of these would be admitted

1. 68% aged over 70 y (fewer organs retrievable)
2. Organ specific medical contra-indications e.g. cirrhosis, CRF
3. Family agreement to admission and donation is unknown



Conclusions

- This method could inform development of audit system: would need to evolve to give confidence of uniformity
- To prospectively identify patients we will start with a trigger tool generated by expert opinion
- ODNZ has a role in recommending which patients should be excluded



Questions?

