

Extended Wait Time for DCD Kidney Recovery

Purpose

Extending wait times in donation after cardiac death (DCD) kidney recovery has the potential to increase the number of transplantable kidneys in Ontario. DCD kidneys already make up around 30% of transplants.

Approximately 25% percent of potential DCD donors fail to donate organs. This has resource implications with unnecessary recipient admission, transportation costs, operating room resources and takes a toll on donor families and recovery teams.

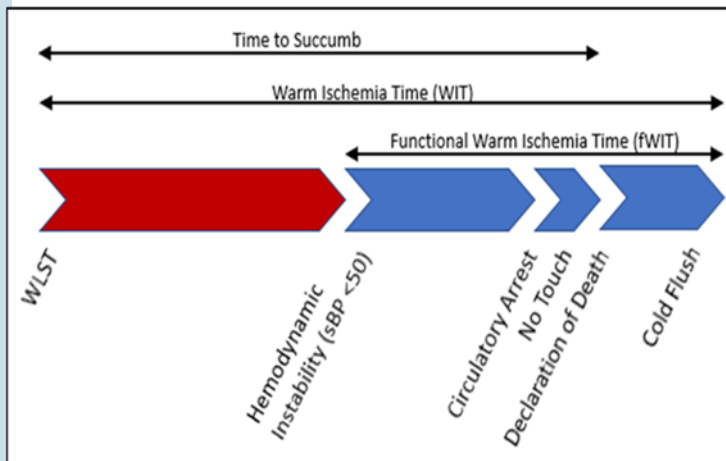
Clinical studies having shown that increasing wait times up to 2 hours have not impacted clinical outcomes in recipients¹. Recovery programs in Ontario have agreed to further increase wait times for Standard Criteria Donors (SCD) and donors to highly sensitized patients (HSP). All recovery teams have agreed to wait 2.5 hours, while some teams may opt to wait up to 3 hours.

This practice aligns with practices in the BC and the UK and if applied, based on data from 2018-19, could result in approximately 14 additional kidney transplants from 7 donors. TGLN will continue to evaluate the implementation of this policy.

Extended Wait Time Inclusion Criteria

Kidney recovery teams will wait additional time for DCD kidney recovery if:

- SCD donor
- or**
- A kidney has been allocated to an HSP recipient



¹ American Journal of Transplantation 2017; 17: 191–200

Process

