

UK TRANSPLANT**PROPOSED PROCEDURE TO REQUEST ROUTINE (NON-URGENT) CORNEAL TISSUE FOR PAEDIATRIC PATIENTS.**

Non-HLA matched material intended for paediatric patients (age ten or younger) can be ordered in one of two ways:

- 1 A request can be made in the usual manner whereby a request is made to the UK Transplant Duty Office (via fax) with a specified graft date. This method is used for routine adult patients. The eye banks will then issue the most suitable tissue for the graft one day prior to transplant.

Please note: This method does not guarantee material derived from a young donor as it depends on the stock at the time in the eye banks.

- 2 A request can be made to the UK Transplant Duty Office without a specified graft date (ie left blank on the request form). Patients will be entered onto a waiting list and wait for young material (aged less than 15 years) to be tested and cleared by the eye banks. Each centre may have a named patient who can be 'promoted' within that centre's current waiting list at the time. When the material becomes available, offers will be made (purely dependant on time on waiting list and any named promoted patient within each centre) and a tissue expiry date stated, meaning theatre arrangements can be made and recipient availability determined. Ophthalmologists have 24 hours to respond to an offer.

Once accepted, UK Transplant will process the request in a similar fashion to that of a routine request and arrange the delivery of the material one day before the agreed graft date.

Request for material can be made by following the procedure outlined below:

- 2.1 A Non-HLA matched ocular form should be faxed through to the Duty Office by the ophthalmic secretaries using the fax number = (0117) 975 7599. No proposed graft date should be specified. It must be indicated clearly on the form if you wish for the patient to be 'promoted' within the centre's group of patients already listed.
- 2.2 The patient will be added to waiting list and the order determined by the date and time of registration. If the patient is prioritised, the patient will always appear at the top of that centre's patient listing but does not necessarily mean it will always be top of the main listing. If other centres have registered patient(s) before your first registrant (determined by the date/time registered) then an offer will be made in strict date/time order.
- 2.3 Bristol and Manchester eye banks will advise the Duty Office when corneas from donors aged less than 15 years are cleared for grafting. The eye banks will also advise of the expiry date for the tissue.
- 2.4 Offers will be made to centres and details of the donor age and tissue expiry date given. During the offer the Duty Office will request that a graft date is scheduled.

- 2.5 Ophthalmologists or their representatives have 24 hours to respond to an offer and to give a proposed graft date. If no response is received (with a finalised graft date) then the offer will be withdrawn by the Duty Office (contact will be made informing this) and an offer will be made to the next patient on the list.
- 2.6 A proposed graft date must be set that is at least 4 days from the date of notification of the eye banks that the cornea has been accepted (to allow the standard issuing protocol to be followed) but no later than the expiry date for the cornea (as advised by the eye bank and given at the time of the offer)
- 2.7 When an offer is accepted, the Duty Office will process the request, record the patient information and work with the eye banks to arrange tissue preparation.
- 2.8 Transport arrangements will be put in place so that the material is delivered 1 day prior to the scheduled graft date.

3 Additional notes

- 3.1 If an ophthalmologist decides that their patient has waited long enough on the paediatric scheme they can withdraw and order material using the routine method (see point 1).
- 3.2 The Duty Office will contact each centre whose patients appear on the waiting list on the 25th of each month reminding that patient(s) are still awaiting paediatric tissue.