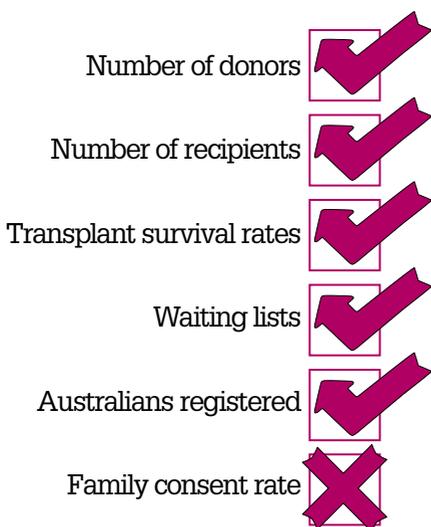


Australia's Organ & Tissue Donation

report card
JANUARY–JUNE 2010

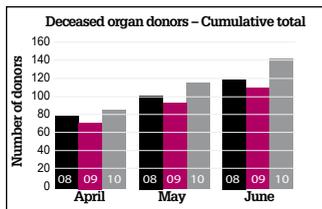


Australian Government
Organ and Tissue Authority



Pancreas Transplant Registry
National Organ Matching Service

Donors

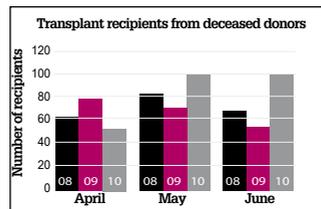


- ▶ From January to June 2010 there were 149 organ donors. This is significantly higher than the same period for any year in the past decade.¹
- ▶ In 2009 Australia had 11.3 donors per million population (dpmp). If the current trend continues, the donation rate for 2010 will be 13.4 dpmp.²
- ▶ In addition, donations occur via living donation, whereby a living person donates a kidney or portion of their liver to a loved one.
- ▶ From January to June 2010 there were 137 donations from living donors.

¹ Australia and New Zealand Organ Donor Registry

² Australia and New Zealand Organ Donor Registry

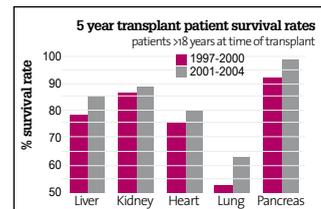
Recipients



- ▶ Over 30,000 Australians have benefited from transplantation since it became a standard treatment option in 1965
- ▶ On average in Australia, every deceased donor contributes to to 3 life transforming transplants and may contribute up to 10.
- ▶ From January to June 2010, 450 Australians received organ transplants, 100 of these in June alone. This is the highest monthly result since August 2008 and the highest result for the any equivalent 6 month period this decade.¹
- ▶ From January to June 2010, 137 Australians received transplants from living donors.

¹ Australia and New Zealand Organ Donor Registry

Transplant survival rates



- ▶ Australia has one of the highest organ transplant success rates in the world.
- ▶ Overall survival rates have improved significantly over the past decade.
- ▶ There have been improvements in each of the 5 year survival rates of adult transplant recipients.
- ▶ Provisional results from current 2 year survival information indicate further improvements in the survival rates will be achieved.

Waiting lists



Kidney	1286
Heart	84
Liver	169
Lung	135
Pancreas	27
Intestine	3
Total	1704

JUNE 2010

At the beginning of June 2010 there were 1704 Australians waiting for a life saving transplant. This is one of the lowest waiting list totals in many years.¹

Movement off the transplant waiting list occurs for a variety of reasons including receiving a transplant, improvement in health, becoming too ill to undergo a transplant, death, a new medical treatment, declining treatment, or non-compliance with waiting list requirements.

Kidneys remain the organ in highest demand in Australia, however the average number of Australians on the waiting list for a kidney transplant has declined slightly in 2010.

¹ Australia and New Zealand Organ Donor Registry

Donor Register



Australians registered on the Donor Register
5,672,782

The number of Australians who have registered their consent to donate organs has increased by over 108,000 in the last 12 months¹.

Only people over 18 years of age can register their legally valid consent or objection on the Australian Organ Donor Register (AODR). 16 and 17 year olds are able to register their intent to donate.

Whilst an individual is able to record their consent on the AODR, it is still important to discuss your wishes with your loved one's as they will be asked to give the final OK for donation to proceed. Evidence shows that families are more comfortable making a decision to allow donation when they know their loved one's wishes.²

¹ Medicare Australia

² National Community Awareness Survey 2010, Woolcott Research

Family consent rate



<60%

Whilst almost 80% of Australians are willing to become organ and tissue donors¹, actually fewer than 60% of Australians consent to donation on behalf of a family member². A contributing factor is 40% of Australians do not know the donation wishes of their loved ones³.

Next of kin will always be consulted regardless of whether you have registered your wishes.

The Organ and Tissue Authority is actively working to increase the consent rate for donation by encouraging Australians to discuss and know each other's donation wishes.

¹ National Community Awareness Survey 2010, Woolcott Research

² National Organ Donor Collaborative

³ National Community Awareness Survey 2010, Woolcott Research



General comments

The Organ and Tissue Authority was established on 1 January 2009 as part of the Australian Government's National Reform Package *A World's Best Practice Approach to Organ and Tissue Donation for Transplantation*. In partnership with states, territories, clinicians, consumers and the community the Organ and Tissue Authority is leading a nationally coordinated approach to organ and tissue donation. This includes activities targeted at clinical practice as well as activities focused on increasing family consent rates.

Precise comparisons of Australia's organ donation performance in relation to the performance of other countries are difficult due to a range of factors that include different organ donation processes and differences in the way organ donors are classified in different countries. Whilst it is acknowledged that 'donors per million population' is inadequate for precise comparisons, it is currently the only acceptable method available. In using this measure to compare Australia's performance against other countries it can be seen that there is still room for improvement in Australia, as in 2009 the United Kingdom achieved 15.5 dpmp, the United States of America achieved 24 dpmp and Spain achieved a world-leading 34 dpmp.

If the current trend in organ donor numbers continues for the rest of the year, it is expected that almost 300 Australians will have donated their organs in 2010. This would result in the highest number of donations in Australia's history.

Future versions of the Report Card will include information about eye and tissue donation in Australia.

www.donatelife.gov.au



To donate life, discuss it today OK?
For more information visit donatelife.gov.au

OK