



YORK MEDICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES OF MEETING OF YORK MEDICAL SOCIETY Friday 5th February 2021

1. Presidents welcome
2. Minutes of the previous meeting
3. Apologies: None
4. New members: None
5. Guest Speaker:
Miss Catherine Boffa – *Current Trends in Transplant Surgery*

This meeting was all held virtually on Zoom, with Sarah Anderson co-ordinating the IT.

Current Trends in Transplant Surgery, by Miss Catherine Boffa - Consultant Transplant Surgeon, Wessex Kidney Centre.

A brief history of Transplant surgery was given, from experimental work in dogs in 1902 to the most recent advance in Uterine transplant. The evolution of the use of immunosuppressant therapy was also described, from Azathioprine to modern Induction agents.

The purpose of organ transplantation is for quality of life improvement and extension of life. Demand for transplanted organs exceeds supply. Deceased donors are more available than living donors, and since 2019 there is an opt-out scheme for organ donation UK wide. There are guidelines for organ donation from those who have died of infections and certain tumours such as high grade melanoma and cerebral lymphoma. Donors over the age of 85 are usually excluded. Improvements in technology for transport and preservation of harvested organs has meant that organs previously considered as unusable are now able to be transplanted successfully, particularly following circulatory death of the donor.

In 2010 a National Organ Retrieval Service was set up, with 10 abdominal and 6 cardio-thoracic teams, who attend the donor's hospital to perform the retrieval surgery.

Organs from living donors produce the best outcomes. There is a UK wide 'Living Kidney Sharing Scheme' to enable donations to be shared in a small pool to maximise availability of suitably matched organs.

The Covid 19 pandemic has reduced the number of kidneys available for transplantation. Transplant surgery has continued however, with lower risk recipients being selected. Transplant patients are more vulnerable to death, transplant loss, and prolonged in-patient stays.

6. Vote of Thanks: Judith Evans gave the vote of thanks

7. Any other business:

8. Date of Next Meetings:

Friday 15th February – Ms Deena El-Sharief – *Online Quiz Night by Alison Betts*

Friday 26th February – Jonathan Pomroy – *Sketches of the Landscape and Wildlife of Yorkshire*

Friday 5th March – Founders Prize Presentations

Meeting attended by 47

Minutes taken by Susan Reaney