Non-directed Altruistic donation

The flow chart below summarises the steps taken in altruistic donation cases.

Potential non-directed altruistic donor contacts local transplant centre.

Donor assessment: Local transplant centre provides information on altruistic donation. If the potential donor wishes to proceed, the transplant team will assess whether the donor is suitable to be a living donor. This involves both medical tests and a mental health assessment. This process can take a number of months.

Approval process: Donor interviewed by a local Human Tissue Authority (HTA) accredited Independent Assessor (IA).

Approval process: The role of the IA is to ensure the requirements of the Human Tissue Act (2004) and associated regulations have been met.

Approval process: The IA submits a report of the interview to the HTA. A panel of HTA members assesses the case and makes a decision.

Once the case is approved by the HTA, the donor is registered with NHSBT (ODT) and an organ matching and allocation process is undertaken. This works in the same way that organs from deceased donors are allocated to recipients on the national waiting list.

Further clinical tests (cross-match testing) by NHSBT and transport of organ arranged.

Transplant operation.