

Chapter 7

Organ Waiting Lists



in Australia and New Zealand



Organ Waiting Lists

This chapter brings together waiting list data for the various organs. This data is not directly collected by ANZOD, but has been provided by the relevant outcome Registries. The details for individual organs are discussed below. In many cases more detailed information is contained in the annual reports of the relevant Registries. There are, however, important general considerations in interpretation of waiting list data.

Firstly, waiting list data is not necessarily a good indicator of actual demand for transplantation. There are many people who would benefit from transplantation who are not placed on waiting lists. This reflects the concept of “utility” in selection for transplantation; national consensus guidelines exist in this area (www.tsanz.com.au/organallocationprotocols/index.asp).

For example, listing on the kidney transplant waiting list requires an 80% expected survival at 5 years post transplantation.

Secondly, the reasons for removal from the list are not known in all cases. In some cases (particularly cardiothoracic and liver waiting lists) this may be due to improving health; conversely it may reflect deteriorating

health such that the risks of transplantation are no longer acceptable. Whether these people subsequently returned to the waiting list, remained off the list, or died without returning to the list is not known.

Thirdly, the waiting list data refer only to people on the “active” waiting list who would be transplanted immediately if an organ were available. For some organs, there are groups of patients who have been assessed but not yet activated on the waiting list, or who are temporarily removed or made “inactive”.

Residents of Australia or New Zealand who have transplants performed abroad may or may not be reported to local transplant outcome Registries and may or may not impact on the wait list stock and flow.

For all organs, data is presented in a “stock and flow” format, examining the transitions on and off the waiting list over the period of a calendar year. It is possible those removed from the list are subsequently re-listed. The figures in the tables refer to the lists at 1 January and 31 December of each year.





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Kidneys

Data for these waiting lists are derived from the relevant material from National Organ Matching System combined with material from the ANZDATA Registry. Among people on the deceased donor waiting list, some receive kidneys from living donors. However, most people who receive living donor kidneys are not already on the deceased donor waiting list. These two groups are illustrated separately.

Data is currently available only for Australia. Negotiations are currently underway to extend to the inclusion of New Zealand data.

Figure 7.1

Australian Deceased Donor Kidney Waiting List Stock and Flow Totals 2007 - 2013							
Event	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Active start of year	1339	1333	1251	1264	1183	1087	1073
Made active	592	653	670	630	707	736	762
Taken off list	167	182	178	149	197	153	140
Deceased donor transplant	315	417	401	499	533	554	581
Living donor transplant	95	122	64	58	62	45	54
Transplants abroad	8	2	4	1	2	0	1
Died on list	13	12	10	4	9	6	3
Died within 12mths of removal from list *	18	18	22	14	16	16	17
Active end of year	1333	1251	1264	1183	1087	1065	1056
Deceased donor transplant off list	29	42	45	51	37	53	49
Living donor transplant off list	176	232	263	238	193	193	198

* Classification is by year of death, not year of de-listing (which is why data is available only until 2012). If a de-listing is followed by re-listing or a transplant from any source, it is not counted as a death within 12months of de-listing.



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Liver

This table includes the waiting lists for both Australia and New Zealand. For liver transplantation, the waiting list is extracted from the Australia and New Zealand Liver Transplant Registry Annual Report, based on returns from transplanting centres. More detailed analyses can be found in their Annual Report, at <http://www.anzltr.org/>.

Figure 7.2

**Australian and New Zealand Deceased Donor Liver Waiting List
Stock and Flow Totals 2008 - 2013**

Event	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Active start of year	199	169	175	194	192	186
Made active	290	335	335	336	347	358
Taken off list	48	69	46	68	60	72
Deceased donor transplant	229	228	248	253	268	279
Died on list	48	32	12	17	29	29
Active end of year	169	175	194	192	182	164

Data on liver transplants performed abroad and those who died within 12 months of removal from the list is not collected by the Australia and New Zealand Liver Transplant Registry.



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Cardiothoracic Organs

Waiting lists for heart transplants, lung transplants and heart-lung transplants are collated by the Australia and New Zealand Cardiothoracic Organ Transplant Registry (ANZCOTR), based on reports from transplant units. The data in the tables are those supplied by the ANZCOTR, and include both Australia and New Zealand wait list data. Further material for each organ is available in the ANZCOTR Annual Report at <http://www.anzcotr.org.au/>.

Figure 7.3

Australia and New Zealand Deceased Donor Heart Waiting List Stock and Flow Totals 2008 - 2013

Event	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Active start of year	61	52	51	53	78	78
Made active	113	110	103	117	108	105
Taken off list	24	33	17	7	15	19
Deceased donor transplant	90	71	76	76	85	86
Died on list	8	7	8	9	8	15
Active end of year	52	51	53	78	78	58

Data on cardiothoracic transplants performed abroad is not collected by ANZCOTR.

In Australia in 2013, there were 9 patients de-listed from the heart transplant waiting list and 10 patients de-listed from the lung transplant waiting list. These patients were “too sick” to survive a transplant procedure. The Registry does not collect further information on mortality status on this category of patients, after de-listing.

Figure 7.4

Australia and New Zealand Deceased Donor Lung Waiting List Stock and Flow Totals 2008 - 2013

Event	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Active start of year	111	105	109	124	112	107
Made active	165	155	181	189	186	227
Taken off list	26	15	15	22	16	14
Deceased donor transplant	129	130	136	172	161	188
Died on list	16	6	17	13	14	14
Active end of year	105	109	124	112	107	108



Pancreas

Data for the pancreas transplant waiting list is derived from data supplied by hospitals to the National Pancreas Transplant Registry. It includes both people waiting a combined kidney-pancreas transplant (the great majority) and those waiting a pancreas transplant (following a previous kidney transplant). It does not include people waiting for pancreas islet cell transplants.

Figure 7.5						
Australian Deceased Donor Pancreas Waiting List Stock and Flow Totals 2012 - 2013						
Year	Active at start of year	Made Active	Taken off list	Transplanted Deceased Donor	Died on list	Active at end of year
2012	43	60	16	37	2	48
2013	85	48	26	33	2	72

Data on pancreas transplants performed abroad and those who died within 12 months of removal from the list is not collected by the National Pancreas Transplant Registry.