

SCOTTISH DONATION AND TRANSPLANT GROUP (SDTG) Thursday 18 November 2021, 14:00-16:00

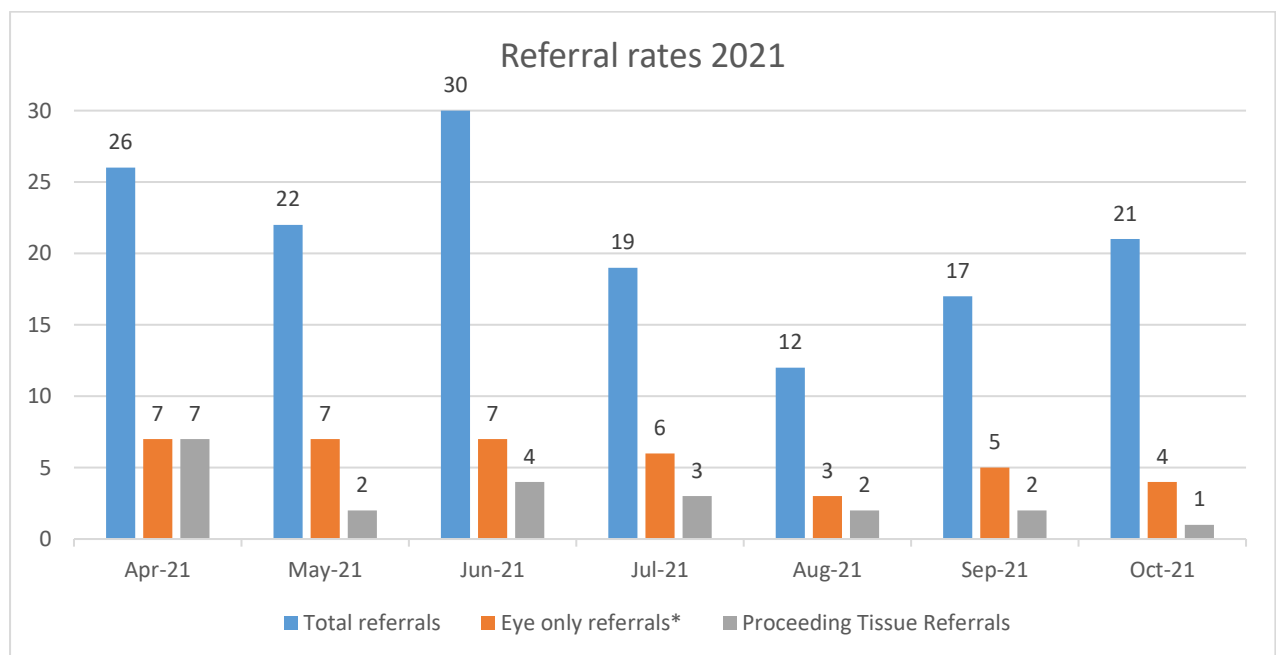
Tissue Donation Update

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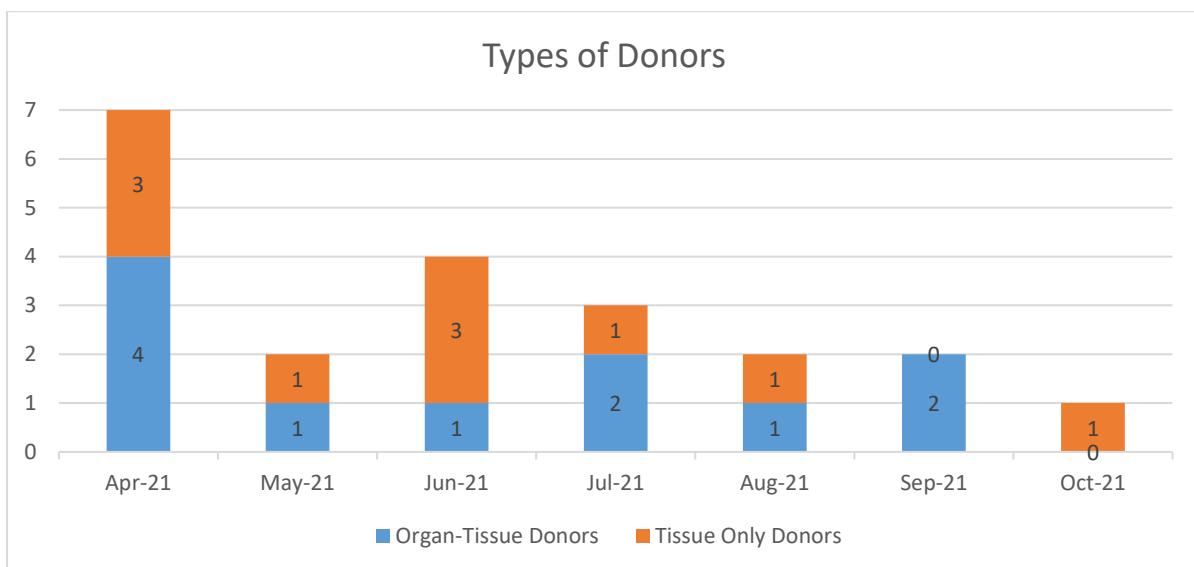
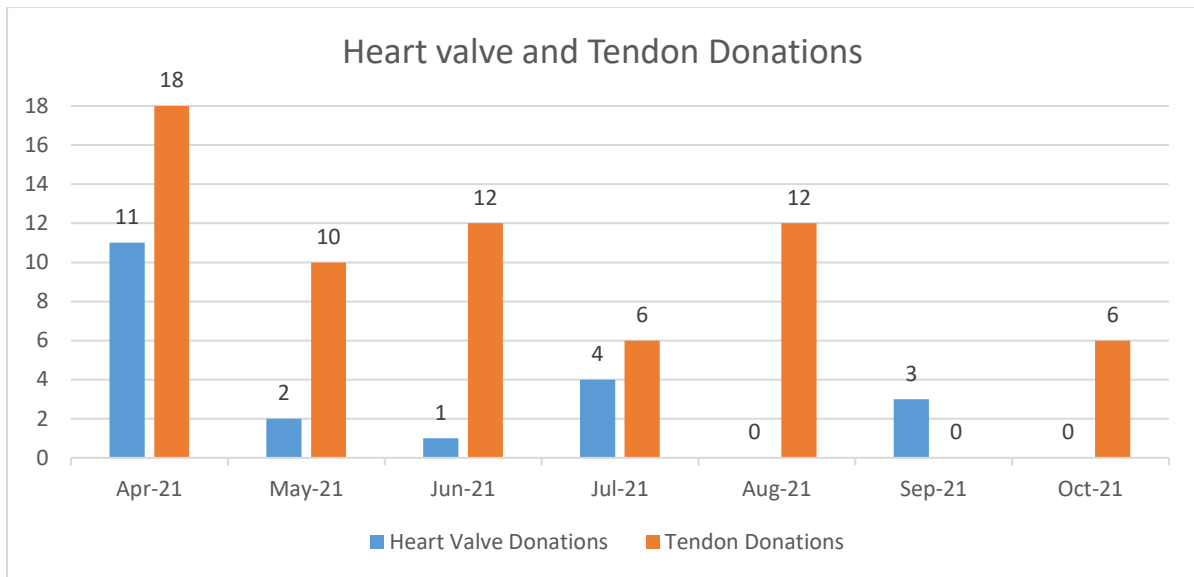
Deceased Tissue Donation

Over the last three months (August to October) the number of potential tissue donor referrals and the number of proceeding tissue donors has dipped further compared to earlier months. This is in line with a similar drop in the rate of organ donor referrals and there is anecdotal evidence that the number of deaths in Emergency Departments has also been lower than normal over the last three months.

Despite this, deceased tissue donation has continued to be progressed where possible, and during the first 7 months of this financial year (up to end October 2021), there were a total of 147 referrals to SNBTS, of which 21 were suitable for deceased tissue donation. Of the 21 donors, 11 were organ donors first, with the remaining 10 donating tissue only. These 21 donors donated a total of 21 heart valves and 64 tendons. There were also a further 39 eye-only donors referred to NRC (NHSBT), with SNBTS retrieving a total of 36 eyes from 18 donors.



*Eye-only donor referrals are managed by NRC, NHSBT



Pancreatic Islet Programme

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to adversely impact suppliers of a number of bespoke reagents that are essential for islet cell processing, with the suppliers continuing to struggle to supply the essential reagents in a timely manner. SNBTS has continued to work hard to identify suitable contingency suppliers although all suppliers appear to be struggling at present. Further the islet service, similar to other transplant services, has also experienced a drop in the number of potential donors being referred for islet donation.

Despite this the SNBTS Islet Isolation Lab has continued to process pancreata for clinical transplantation where offered, with excellent results. To date in the first 7 months of the 2021/22 financial year (up to end of October 2021), 11 pancreata were offered to and processed by SNBTS, of which 8 (73%) yielded a successful transplantable product by SNBTS release criteria, leading to a transplant on 7 (64%) occasions.

Live Bone Tissue Donation

The COVID-19 pandemic is once again having a significant negative impact on a number of Scottish Hospitals, with elective surgery once again being suspended and often cancelled at short notice. This is once again having a significant negative impact on the ability to progress bone donation.

There is an additional ongoing impact of the fact that elective orthopaedic surgery has been delayed such that potential bone donors are ending up needing donated bone themselves instead of being bone donors. As a result, the rate of bone donation remains lower than required to maintain a reliable bone stock, while bone usage remains relatively increased despite the relatively low rate of orthopaedic elective operations going ahead just now.

In the first 6 months of this financial year (up to end of September 2021) the rate of bone donation (FH retrieved) vs usage is demonstrated in the table below:

	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Total
FH Retrieved	38	54	56	49	38	41	276
Used	40	48	40	20	61	22	231