

New Brunswick Organ Donation Program - Restoring Hope

Health/Santé

October 11th 2012

NB Donation Initiative

The New Brunswick organ donation program has had several challenges since last year.

In the past 2 years there have been temporary consultants at the Department of Health responsible for the organ donation program.

Health Canada Inspection

- May 31th notice was received that the Health Canada Inspection of the NB program was scheduled for July 3-6th
- The latest consultant, a permanent position, was hired June 18th 2012.
- The very steep learning curve needed to be accelerated 😊

Due to the current structure of the program, the Organ Donation Resource Nurses (ODRN) are located within 3 different facilities, the Department of Health consultant in an entirely different city.

Though technology provides many advantages, coordination and updating of documentation with sufficient input from the ODRN can be a challenge, face to face meetings work best for this.

Time was not on our side.

- As you all know, the Health Canada Inspection process is evolving as standards and regulations have been implemented and this latest inspection was very focused on program documentation.
- Charts created between 2009 and 2012 were audited.

- Of the 4 charts audited, 2 had been identified and reported by the NB program as having issues:
 - One was a testing process deviation which was appropriately reported, followed up and documented.
 - One was a non reportable test follow up, which was identified by the tissue program but did not affect the suitability of the organ.
- One was complete and acceptable.

- One chart was flagged as the organs having been improperly released. This was based on the interpretation by the inspection team.
- On further Health Canada review it was determined that in fact there was no flaw in the donor suitability process for that patient.

- The way the inspection unfolded, the NB program suspended service, choosing to err on the side of safety, but was never officially deemed non compliant.
- This inspection provided an opportunity to both raise the profile and improve the program.

- Overall the timing of the inspection was fortuitous, in that it provided the opportunity for the new consultant to become immersed in the program very quickly.
- Our goal of a strong, more sustainable, organ donation program was given a little extra push in the aftermath of the inspection report.

- After a very long summer during which the program was short one ODRN; we are fortunate to have hired a new ODRN who began his orientation this week.

New Brunswick

Year	2009	2010	2011	to Sept 30 2012
Donors	12	7	7	10
Referrals	27	20	21	23

