


COVID-19 - National Transplantation and Donation Rapid Response Taskforce Communique No.22 – 23 September 2020

- Transplantation update in Australia:
 - Nationally, there are 1,933 active COVID-19 cases.
 - There are 100 COVID-19 patients in hospital with 11 patients in ICU, with 7 being ventilated.
 - ANZDATA have reported the following COVID-19 cases among dialysis patients and kidney transplant recipients; 33 (19 recoveries): 20 kidney transplant patients (4 active cases, 15 recoveries and 1 death) and 13 dialysis patients (2 active cases, 4 recoveries and 7 deaths). Four liver and one lung/kidney transplant recipients are all recovering.
 - There are currently no issues with ICU capacity.
 - The South Australian borders are opening to NSW, assuming no further community cases as at midnight 23/9/20. Queensland borders due to open (1/10/20) which will allow patients from northern NSW to return to receiving treatment from their Brisbane transplant unit.
 - ARCBS Lab staff in Melbourne are continuing to run split shifts, with Sydney returning to regular shifts, all other labs are business as usual.
 - Sparse commercial flight availability continues to pose problems for inter-state retrievals.
- Victoria:
 - COVID-19 cases in Victoria – in the past 24 hours, there have been 28 newly confirmed cases, with 8 patients in ICU, with 6 of those ventilated.
 - There has been a decrease in COVID-19 patients in hospitals and ICUs.
 - Donor numbers are fluctuating, transplantation services are fully operational.
 - The main challenges Victorian units continue to face are logistical, including commercial flight availability, border issues (in particular accessing SA from VIC), interstate patients needing to return home and lack of access for family visitation for patients in ICU.
- Research/Trials: A report on a large cohort of kidney transplant recipients (approx. 1500) from New York is being reviewed and is likely to be published in December 2020. The report will provide data on the propensity for kidney recipients with a PCR+ COVID-19 infection to mount an IgG response, and also what proportion of asymptomatic recipients became COVID-IgG(+) following the first wave of infection in New York. Case reports of transplant patient recovery from COVID19 are emerging.
- Data: Current COVID-19 epidemiological data was provided and is available [here](#). Australia recorded 33 new cases and 3 deaths with 28 of the new cases being in Victoria, 2 being in NSW and 3 in WA. Internationally, in the past 24 hours, India reported 75,083 new cases, the US 52,070 and Brazil 13,411. Record new cases were reported for Indonesia (4,176) and the Netherlands (2,274). Weekly case numbers continue to increase in Spain, France, Russia, UK, Ukraine, Iran, Czech Republic, Turkey, Germany, Italy, Romania, Belgium and Canada.



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