Organ Donation in the Emergency Department: An analysis of best practice
NHSBT Potential Donor Audit

• Conducted by specialist nurses in organ donation
• 12 Regional NHSBT teams
• All deceased patients aged <80 years
• In critical care areas including EDs since April 2013
• Only patients who were intubated and ventilated then died within 24 hours of treatment withdrawal.
Died in Emergency Department meeting PDA referral criteria
1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017

- Not Referred
- Referred

Number of patients

Eastern
London
Midlands
North West
Northern
Northern Ireland
Scotland
South Central
South East
South Wales
South West
Yorkshire
Families approached regarding organ donation in the ED
1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017

Consent Rates
Specialist Nurse involved in approach 69%
Consultant/ED doctor only 27%
Overarching principles

- Refer all patients when there is plan to withdraw life sustaining treatment to the specialist nurses for organ donation.
- Approach the families of potential organ donors together with the specialist nurses.