

Transplant First: In a Covid world what can we do?

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I am sure we have all had a difficult and possibly traumatic time negotiating Covid so far. Like me you may be conflicted in both wanting to move forward to restart TF but also feeling overwhelmed by even starting “normal” activities. Nevertheless things are moving on, and those of us in the TF KQuIP team want to help where we can. Undoubtedly you will have been encouraged to look for the opportunities in our “new normal”. Although exhaustion may have set in there are also some open doors at the moment such as the pace of change, flexibility around pathways, promotion of IT solutions, setting up of Operational delivery networks etc. We know that, at least for the short term, your TF projects will not look the same but we hope that there are structures and skills that can be adapted to our current challenges. Your KQuIP project managers will be in touch to offer support, pick your brains, and determine what you want to do next and how KQuIP can support. In the meantime here is a selection of thoughts around how TF and the Covid challenge interact.

Equity of access

Covid may impact on this as transplant units are able to open up at different times

Complicated assessment guidelines, lack of evidenced based cardiology

Is this an opportunity to reduce cardiovascular test burden as the wait list for routine tests has dramatically increased?

Data collection tool: capturing Covid effect

Interactions, pathways, decision making between Transplant and Referring centres

We will adapt the TF data tool to allow recording of Covid related delays

Operational Delivery Networks have been set up.

Virtual meetings and clinics can facilitate more rapid communication between transplant and referring units

Staff support

The KQuIP Programme Managers are here to support you – email to request support with your plans and measures

Shared learning

We can support sharing successful initiatives and knowledge as we move forward