

Donation after circulatory death

Donation after circulatory death (DCD) represents an important pathway that has increased the donor pool in countries such as Australia. Recipient and graft survival for organs such as kidneys and lungs are comparable with DCD and Brain Dead donor pathways. There is notably wide international variation in rates of DCD and the potential reasons for this are explored. The ethical framework that underpins this practice as well as the clinical contexts will be explored. The requirements for successful implementation of a DCD program, potential pitfalls and more recent technological advances which are showing promise will be discussed.