



Glossary

The following glossary was agreed by many European countries involved in the Eurocet project, with the objective of harmonising the terminology utilised in the field of organ, cell and tissue donation and transplantation.

[a](#) [b](#) [c](#) [d](#) [e](#) [f](#) [g](#) [h](#) [i](#) [k](#) [l](#) [m](#) [n](#) [o](#) [p](#) [q](#) [r](#) [s](#) [t](#) [u](#) [v](#) [w](#) [x](#) [z](#)

—■ A

Abdominal aorta

Refers to the portion of the aorta below the diaphragm (largest arterial conduit below the diaphragm) to the bifurcation into the right and left common iliac arteries.

Admission diagnosis

Evidence-based medical reason for admitting a patient to a critical care unit.

The admission diagnosis (e.g.: head trauma) can be different from the ultimate cause of death (e.g: septicaemia)

Allogeneic

Refers to cells obtained from a donor and intended for infusion into another person.

Amniotic membrane

The clear two layered fetal membrane surrounding the embryo which is removed from the placenta.

Aortic valve

Annular segment of aorta comprising the valve leaflets and with a specified diameter.

Aorto-iliac bifurcation

Also Abdominal Bifurcation means the distal (lower) section of the abdominal aorta and proximal (nearest centre of the body) of each iliac artery.

Apheresis

Medical technology in which peripheral blood of a donor or patient is passed through an apparatus that separates out one particular constituent.

Artery

Muscular blood vessel normally found carrying blood pumped from the heart to the organs and extremities.

Autologous

* Means cells or tissues removed from and applied in the same person.

—■ B

Blood vessels

A tube in the body carrying blood to (veins) or from (arteries) the heart.

Bone

Hard mineralised connective tissue making up the skeleton and used to support body structures.

Bone filling material

Cancellous (spongy type of bone with a very high surface area found at the ends of long bones) or Corticocancellous bone which has been chopped, shaped or ground to chips, cubes, granules or powder.

Brain Death

Medical cases with a complete and irreversible cessation of all cerebral and brain stem functions. (cfr. Council of Europe definition)

—■ C**Cancellous bone chips**

Spongy (Cancellous) bone cut in pieces, chopped or shaped to chips or cubes of various sizes.

Cardiovascular

Relating to the heart or vessels carrying blood.

Charts (Charts reviewed)

The number of medical records of patients who died in a Critical Care Unit over a defined period of time.

Combined tissue and organ donor

An organ and tissue donor from whom at least one organ and tissue intended for human application have been retrieved.

Consent

Consent to donation, either directly from the donor him/herself or as a result of family approach. In countries with a presumed consent legislation, consent to donation can be the result of absence of objection, either in a national non-donor registry, and/or after consulting the donor's relatives after death.

Cord blood

*** Haematopoietic progenitor cells collected from placental vessels and umbilical cord blood vessels after the umbilical cord is clamped and/or severed.

Cord blood Bank

*** Is a facility in which haematopoietic progenitor cells collected from the placental and umbilical cord blood vessels are processed, cryopreserved, and/or stored.

Cord blood unit collection

** Refers to the collection of a cord blood unit, for cryopreservation and transplantation.

Cord blood unit donor

A donor whose placenta was used for the collection of the cord blood unit.

Cornea

The transparent, dome-shaped window structure covering the front of the eye.

Cornea HLA matched

A cornea for transplant for which HLA matching between donor and recipient is required.

Cornea non-HLA matched

A cornea for transplant for which HLA matching between donor and recipient is not required.

Cortical strut

A small shaped piece of compact bone mainly from the femur or tibia used in structural grafting, such as rings, pins etc.

Cortico cancellousbone chips

Bone containing both compact and spongy part cut into pieces, chopped or shaped to chips or cubes of varying sizes.

Cryopreserved

*** refers to cells frozen using devices, supplies, and techniques validated to maintain viability.

—■ D**Death diagnosed**

Cases reported suitable for organ donation and in which death was formally diagnosed in compliance with hospital policies, national guidelines and/or legal requirements (cfr. Council of Europe definition of brain death).

Deceased donor

A group comprising of both deceased heart beating and deceased non-heart beating donors.

Deceased heartbeating donor

A deceased heartbeating donor is a person declared dead according to national regulations and diagnosed by means of neurological criteria and who subsequently becomes a donor of organs or tissues.

Deceased non-heartbeating donor

A deceased non-heartbeating donor is a person declared dead according to national regulations and diagnosed by means of cardio-pulmonary criteria and who subsequently becomes a donor of organs or tissues.

Distributed/distribution

* Transportation and delivery of cells or tissue intended for human application.

DNA Class I Typed

Tests performed using DNA techniques to determine the HLA-A,B,C type of an individual at the allelic level.

DNA Class II Typed

Tests performed using DNA techniques to determine the HLA-DR,DQ type of an individual at the allelic level.

Donation

The giving of organs, tissues or cells for use in human transplantation.

Domino donor

A person who by receiving an organ transplant is able to donate an organ to be used in another person. For example a person with diseased lungs who receives a heart and lung block may donate their heart to another.

Donation from A

HP cells collected from peripheral blood.

Donation from M

HP cells collected from bone marrow.

Donor

Every human source, whether living or deceased of human organs, cells or tissues for human application.

—■ E

Exported

Human organs, tissue or cells intended for human application procured inside of the national boundary and transported to another country where it is to be used.

—■ F

Family approach

Cases where the potential donor's next-of-kin is approached by hospital and/or procurement staff to get consent for donation.

Femoral arteries superficial

***** The section of femoral artery from the bifurcation of the common femoral artery with the profunda femoris artery to the popliteal artery.

Femoral head

Ball shaped proximal head of the femur (thigh bone) forming ball and socket joint with the os coxae (hip bone).

—■ G

G-CSF stimulation

A technique that may be employed to increase the number of white cells present in blood.

—■ H

HLA typing

Tests performed to identify the genetic characteristics of the Human Leukocyte Antigen (HLA) system.

HLA AB Typed

HLA typing at the A and B loci.

HLA AB & DR Typed

HLA typing at the A B & DR loci.

HPC (Haematopoietic Progenitor Cells)

*** Include primitive pluripotent haematopoietic cells capable of self-renewal as well as maturation into any of the haematopoietic lineages, including committed and lineage-restricted progenitor cells, unless otherwise specified, regardless of tissue source.

HPC – A (Haematopoietic Progenitor Cells Apheresis)

*** Haematopoietic progenitor cells collected from the peripheral blood of a donor using an apheresis technique.

HPC - C (Haematopoietic Progenitor Cells Cord Blood)

*** Haematopoietic progenitor cells collected from placental and umbilical cord blood vessels after the umbilical cord is clamped and/or severed.

HPC – M (Haematopoietic Progenitor Cells Marrow)

*** Haematopoietic progenitor cells aspirated from the iliac crests, sternum or other bones of a human donor.

—■ I

Iliac arteries

Two large arteries that originate from the aortic bifurcation and end when bifurcating into the external iliac and internal iliac artery.

Imported

Human organs, tissue or cells intended for human application procured outside of the national boundary to which it has been transported for use.

—■ L

Ligament

A tough band of fibrous connective tissue that connects bone to bone.

Living donor

A living donor is a donor of organ/s tissue or cells who is not classified as deceased and in the case of organ donation domino donors are counted as living.

—■ M

Marrow

Tissue at the center of large bones. It is the place where new blood cells are produced. Bone marrow contains two types of stem cells: hematopoietic (which can produce blood cells) and stromal (which can produce fat, cartilage and bone).

Medically Suitable for Donation

A person who is brain dead with no medical contraindications for donation.

Menisci

The cartilage cushions found in the knee joint between the femur and tibia.

Mitral valve

The two cusped heart valve between the heart's left atrium and left ventricle.

MUD

**** Matched Unrelated Donor.

Musculoskeletal

Tissues which are part of the skeletal and/or muscular system such as bones, cartilage, tendons and , ligaments which function in support and movement of the body.

—■ N

Not medically suitable

Cases where the deceased person does not meet the medical criteria for donation at any given point in the donation process and as the result of a careful examination of the past medical and social history and current medical situation.

Absolute exclusion criteria for solid organ donation are:

- Active TB
- Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) – infection or positive serological or viral culture findings
- Jakob-Creutzfeldt Disease
- Viral Septicaemia

- Extracerebral Malignancy or <5-year History of Treated Malignancy

Relative exclusion criteria are:

- Hepatitis C
- Hepatitis B Surface Antigen (*unless organs are to be used for a Hepatitis B Surface Antigen positive patient*)
- Extreme Immaturity
- Connective Tissue Disease
- Agranulocytosis
- Aplastic Anaemia
- Haemophilia

—■ O

Organ donation

Cases with procurement of at least one solid organ with the purpose of transplantation.

Organ Donor (effective donor)

A donor is a person from which at least one solid organ has been retrieved for transplantation.

Organ Donor (utilised donor)

A utilised donor is a person from which at least one solid organ has been retrieved and transplanted.

—■ P

Pathology

Disease or condition causing the transplant to be undertaken.

Patient referred

Cases discussed with / referred to a procurement coordinator, organ procurement agency as a potential solid organ donor.

Potential donor

Any person who has no medical contraindications for organ, tissue or cell donation (*see also 'Not medically suitable'*) and who meets the definition of a deceased heartbeating donor, deceased non-heartbeating donor or living donor.

(Council of Europe definition for Organ potential donor: Any person diagnosed brain (stem) dead by means of clinical examination and after elimination of any medical contraindication to donation.)

Preservation

The use of chemical agents, alterations in environmental conditions or other means during processing to prevent or retard biological or physical deterioration of cells or tissues.

Processing

All operations involved, but not limited to, the preparation, manipulation, preservation and packaging of tissues or cells intended for human applications.

Pulmonary valve

The heart valve between the right ventricle and the pulmonary artery.

—■ R

Related

Existence of a genetic relationship between donor and recipient.

Released

Tissue meeting criteria for quality and safety and so deemed fit for human application.

Retrieval Centre

** A place where haematopoietic progenitor cells are collected.

—■ S**Sclera**

The tough, opaque tissue that serves as the eye's protective outer layer.

Search performed

Number of searches for compatibility performed in the marrow registry.

Serious Adverse Event

* Any untoward occurrence associated with the procurement, testing, processing, storage and distribution of cells that might lead to the transmission of a communicable disease, to death or life-threatening, disabling or incapacitating conditions for patients or which might result in, or prolong, hospitalisation or morbidity.

Signs of brain death

Cases where a patient's clinical condition shows one or more of the following signs that indicate that brain death may be imminent:

Glasgow Coma Scale <5, neg. corneal reflex, neg. pupillary reflex, neg. oculocephalic (doll's eyes) reflex, neg. oculovestibular reflex, neg. gag/cough reflex, iso-electric EEG, pos. apnoea test, absence of cerebral flow.

Skin

Strips of skin for grafting and procured as partial or full thickness.

Skin - meshed

Strips of skin graft less than 1mm in depth cut into a lattice structure to increase surface area.

Storage

* Means maintaining the product under appropriate controlled conditions until distribution.

Survival rate

Survival time of either the recipient or the transplant for a specific cohort of recipients having undergone a particular transplant type.

—■ T**Tendon**

Strip of fibrous connective tissue normally found connecting muscle to bone.

Thoracic aorta

***** The section of aorta contained within the posterior mediastinal cavity from the fourth to the twelfth thoracic vertebra.

Tissue donation (effective)

When tissue intended for human application is retrieved from a human body.

Transplanted/transplantation

The human application of organs, tissue or cells on or in a human recipient with the intent of providing temporary or permanent engraftments.

—■ U

Unit search

** Refers to the process of identification of a transplant unit, in compliance with a set of defined criteria.

Units

Defined as the local measurement of tissues by weight or volume. This can vary from region to region.

Unrelated

Where there exists no genetic relationship between donor and recipient.

—■ W**Waiting List**

A waiting list is a collection of patients who are awaiting an organ, tissue or cell transplant. All patients are counted regardless as to whether they are "actively" participating or are suspended (temporally not transplantable) on the date of the reporting of the waiting list information.

Whole bone

Whole or pieces of bone which remain as a piece rather than being ground down.

** Definitions from the Directive 2004/23/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 31 March 2004 on setting standards of quality and safety for the donation, procurement, testing, processing, preservation, storage and distribution of human tissues and cells*

*** Definitions from Italian Guidelines issued by Conferenza Stato Regioni 2003, 10th of July 2003 "Guidelines for procurement, manipulation and clinical use of haematopoietic progenitor cells"*

**** Definitions extracted from JACIE standards*

***** Definitions translated from the Italian Bone Marrow Donor Registry (IBMDR) Standards*

****** Definitions from the ISBT 128 Standard for Product Coding: Bounded Lists and Definitions, ICCBBA 2005*