



**25 September 2018, Strasbourg, France**

## **Just released: 2017 international figures for organ donation and transplantation**

Monitoring of practices in the field of organ donation and transplantation allows strengthened transparency, as well as international benchmarking. The Newsletter Transplant, which is issued by the EDQM/Council of Europe every year in coordination with the National Transplant Organisation in Spain, is the official source of information that can be used as basis for policy making globally.

The Newsletter Transplant summarises comprehensive data provided by national focal points designated by governments on donation and transplantation activities. It provides figures and analysis of international trends concerning deceased and living donation, overall number of transplantations and transplantations by organ type, management of waiting lists, organ donation refusals and authorised centres for transplantation activities. As of today, the information in the Newsletter Transplant covers almost 70 countries worldwide, including Council of Europe Member States, observer countries and observer networks (e.g. Iberoamerican Donation and Network Council on Organ Donation and Transplantation, Mediterranean Network).

Key results from the Newsletter Transplant 2018 issue show:

- a global increase in living (9 035, an increase of 4% on 2016) and deceased (13 071, +5% on 2016) donation;
- a global increase in the number of transplants performed (42 998 +3% on 2016);
- the number of patients registered on waiting lists also marked a slight increase with 144 082 patients on a waiting list (+1.2% on 2016).

The EDQM has started to consider gender equality aspects in its Newsletter Transplant, which provides for the first time collected data disaggregated by sex for both organ donors and recipients in 2017. This approach is in line with the commitment of the CD-P-TO to take due account of a gender perspective in the performance of its tasks and to strive to achieve gender mainstreaming in all its policy areas. Gender is an important variable to take into account for efficient health policies that are adapted to the needs of the whole population. As available research reveals gender-based differences in relation to both donors and recipients of organs, data by gender can give better insight and hence support the definition of more relevant national policies.

All the information contained in the Newsletter Transplant, as well as many additional statistics from all over the world regarding activities per country/region and trends over the years, may be downloaded and graphically displayed at the Global Observatory website (<http://www.transplant-observatory.org/>).

The Newsletter Transplant can be ordered (print version) on the EDQM store (<https://store.edqm.eu>) or downloaded for free here: [www.edqm.eu/freepub](http://www.edqm.eu/freepub).

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**Note for the Editor:** Further information is available on the internet site <https://www.edqm.eu/>



## **The European Committee on Organ Transplantation (CD-P-TO)**

In the field of health, this Committee coordinates transplant activities for the European Directorate for the Quality of Medicines and HealthCare (EDQM) on behalf of the Council of Europe. Its activities include the elaboration of Resolutions and Recommendations that have profoundly impacted national legal and ethical frameworks, organisational models, and professional practices. The Committee also publishes technical guides in the fields of organs, tissues and cells, which serve as valuable tools for regulators and health professionals throughout Europe and beyond. The work of the Committee is disseminated to Member States as a way of supporting the evolution of national legislation and has made freely available on the EDQM website: [HERE](#).

The EDQM is a leading organisation that protects public health by enabling development, supporting implementation, and monitoring the application of quality standards for safe medicines and their safe use. Our standards are recognised as a scientific benchmark worldwide. The European Pharmacopoeia is legally binding in member states<sup>1</sup>. Similarly, the EDQM develops guidance and standards in the areas of blood transfusion, organ transplantation and consumer health issues.

<sup>1</sup>There are thirty-nine members of the [European Pharmacopoeia](#) Commission: *Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia", Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom and the European Union.*

***A political organisation set up in 1949, the Council of Europe works to promote democracy and human rights continent-wide. It also develops common responses to social, cultural and legal challenges in its 47 member states.***