

HIPS/23/16 – Understanding Equity Of Access To Best Care For People With Kidney Failure

Kidney transplantation is the best treatment option for most patients with kidney failure. Ensuring that all patients with kidney failure have equitable access to transplantation is an ongoing and important issue. There are concerns that factors such as age, sex, geography, social deprivation and coexisting health conditions, including mental health issues, can disadvantage patients and these inequalities may have been further increased by the COVID-19 pandemic. Our proposal aims to examine important patient priorities with the aim of addressing these inequities thereby improving the future care and continuing health of patients with kidney failure. We will do this by combining, for the first time, multiple routinely collected healthcare datasets containing real-world information about patients with kidney failure in Scotland. We will ascertain whether socioeconomic deprivation and other health conditions, including mental health disorders, affect access to transplantation as well as the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. We will use this information to address these inequities through national policy.