# SPOTLIGHT

**A PUBLICATION FROM** THE ALLIANCE INSIGHT SERIES FOR DONATION AND TRANSPLANT PROFESSIONALS

**VOLUME IX ISSUE 6** 

# **Optimizing Pediatric Neurologically** . Deceased Donor Care

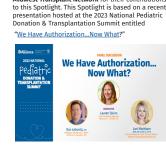
## PICU Staff

- Caring for a pediatric organ donor patient is rare. "Donor physiology and optimizing DNC\* treatment" is not
- taught as a part of healthcare education
- unfamiliar to most PICU Care Teams.
- HOWEVER, pediatric critical physiology and treatment of the critically ill child is part of their expertise.

#### **Tenets of Critical Care**

Utilize aggressive measures to support the patient and save their life. If unable to save their life, allow the opporutnity for donation to be considered.

#### **Opportunities for a Joint Approach in Pediatric Donor Care:**



A special thanks to Dan Lebovitz MD, Pediatric Intensivist, Akron's Children's Hospital and Lori Markham, Vice President & Chief Clinical Officer,

Midwest Transplant Network for their contributions

Helpful Resources:

For additional references & resources; or to learn more, please visit: www.organdonationalliance.org/ insights/alliance-spotlight-series/



#### **Receive more insights each** week. Subscribe to the **Alliance Communications**

Welcome each week with The Alliance Monday Minute. Receive the latest news, insights, upcoming learning programs and collaborative events, and more each week.



Prior to engaging the family in a donation conversation, it is crucial that the OPO and the patient's physician / hospital care team meet to discuss the plan for introducing the opportunity for organ donation to the family. It is important to recognize that presenting the donation opportunity to the family is not "doing something to the family", rather, it is "offering something to the family" that can bring healing through providing a sense of purpose in their loss and a legacy of their loved one.

#### 2. Clinical Donor Management

The clinical management is about identifying strategies to maintain and optimize organ function despite the damage from the underlying disease, illness or injury and the negative physiologic sequelae of brain death. Reversible organ dysfunction may improve when addressed with aggressive resuscitation and frequent re-evaluation. Maintaining appropriate organ perfusion is vital to allow for maximum recovery of organs and therefore stewardship of the gift. (Find specific donor management resources and parameters for each organ system here.)

>5 <sup>th</sup> %, target 50 <sup>th</sup> % for age   >50,000, >100,000 with     • CVP:   active bleeding     >5 and <10   • PT/PTT/Fib:     • Urine Output:   INR<1.5, Fib >150     target 1-4 ml/kg/hr   • pH:     • Temperature:   >7.30 and <7.45     >36 and <37.5°C   • O2 Sats:     • Hematocrit:   >95% on ≤40% FiO <sub>2</sub> >25 and <25   >	Systolic BP:	• PLT:
>5 and <10   • PT/PTT/Fib:     • Urine Output:   INR<1.5, Fib >150     target 1-4 ml/kg/hr   • pH:     • Temperature:   >7.30 and <7.45     >36 and <37.5°C   • O2 Sats:     • Hematocrit:   >95% on ≤40% FiO2	>5 <sup>th</sup> %, target 50 <sup>th</sup> % for age	>50,000, >100,000 with
• Urine Output:     INR<1.5, Fib >150       target 1-4 ml/kg/hr     • pH:       • Temperature:     >7.30 and <7.45       >36 and <37.5°C     • O2 Sats:       • Hematocrit:     >95% on ≤40% FiO2	• CVP:	active bleeding
target 1-4 ml/kg/hr • pH:   • Temperature: >7.30 and <7.45   >36 and <37.5°C • O2 Sats:   • Hematocrit: >95% on ≤40% FiO2	>5 and <10	• PT/PTT/Fib:
• Temperature:     >7.30 and <7.45       >36 and <37.5°C     • O2 Sats:       • Hematocrit:     >95% on ≤40% FiO2	Urine Output:	INR<1.5, Fib >150
>36 and <37.5°C • <b>O2 Sats:</b> • <b>Hematocrit:</b> >95% on ≤40% FiO <sub>2</sub>	target 1-4 ml/kg/hr	• pH:
• Hematocrit: >95% on $\leq$ 40% FiO <sub>2</sub>	Temperature:	>7.30 and <7.45
2	>36 and <37.5°C	• O2 Sats:
>25 and <35	Hematocrit:	>95% on ≤40% FiO <sub>2</sub>
>25 and <55	>25 and <35	

Do not care for many infant and pediatric donors.

family care are their areas of expertise

Most staff are educated care providers for adult patients.

HOWEVER, donor evaluation and management as well as

Need to help hospital staff understand the complicated

donation and then steward the gift the family wants to give

when the survival of their loved one is not possible.

#### 3. Post-Donation

A joint after action review (AAR) between the OPO and hospital care team to discuss effective processes and lessons learned, as well as to identify opportunities for improvement for future cases, will help with process improvement and helps to keep the lines of communication open. The goal of the AAR should be to continuously evaluate how to ensure the process is as smooth as possible, first and foremost for the family, and secondly for both the hospital care team/physician and OPO team. Also, the OPO will continue to remain in contact with the family and will engage the family in memory-making activities, as well as events to honor the memory of their child long after the gift of donation occurs. The OPO will continue to check in with the family periodically and support the questions the family may have, including the potential for communication with the recipients of their loved one's gifts.

#### **Blending Our Expertise**

Throughout the entire process the OPO should be asking themselves how well they are keeping the hospital team and physicians involved, and the hospital team should be asking themselves how well they are interacting with the OPO team. A continuum of care must be maintained to ensure the best stewardship of the precious gift the family is making. Collectively, as a medical community, we have a responsibility to perform pediatric donation well and ultimately:

#### IT'S ALL ABOUT THE KIDS! THEY NEED TO BE THE CENTER OF OUR JOINT EFFORTS.

DONATE

Content Editor: Hedi Aguiar, MSN, RN, Program Consultant, The Alliance The Alliance Spotlight Series is a monthly one-page publication for front-line healthcare professionals, offering quick-takes on critical topics affecting the field of organ donation and transplantation. The Alliance grants permissions for the distribution and reproduction of this educational communication.

# OPO Stafi

- Strategies to maximize organ donation potential are

#### donor process, unique strategies, and therapies used to optimize donor management. **Tenets of Donor Management** Utilize aggressive measures to allow the opportunity for

\*DNC - Death by Neurological Critieria

### 1. Authorization Process