Algorithmic Screening: An Effective Way to Reduce Screening Time

Julia Jasinski, Tissue Donation Coordinator; Stephen Page, Tissue Operations team Lead, CTBS

New England Donor Services

Background:

In 2019 NEDS effectively implemented the process of algorithmic screening for all potential tissue donors. The goal was to reduce the screening eligibility time for both the Tissue Donation Coordinator (TDC) as well as the clinician reporting the death. This was an effective approach to change the Tissue Screening Worksheet (TSW) in True North. In 2022 the TSW was broken into three specific types of screening. Specifically, ED and Scene Deaths, Inpatient Deaths and Skin Only potential. Previously True North was programmed that these types of deaths were screened in the same manner.

Algorithmic Screening was tailored with in True North in such a way that would allow all TDC's to document in a consistent screening formats. Each screening format is ordered in a specific way that will identify potential contraindications for tissue eligibility depending on individual circumstances. The most common medical conditions are identified at the beginning of each screen the TDC continues to gather more information regarding the potential donor that may not be apparent in the general medical history or clinical course.

Screening Formats:

In-Patient Death:

- Medical History
- SCI
- Physical Assessment
- Medications
- Clinical Course
- Plasma Dilution

ED Death:

- Medical history
- Clinical Course
- SCI (if available)
- Physical Assessment
- Medications
- Plasma Dilution

Skin Only:

- Medical History
- Physical Assessment
- SCI
- Medications
- Clinical Course
- Plasma Dilution

Results and Conclusion:

By obtaining information from the provider to the specific type of death, time on the phone is decreased from for both the TDC and for the clinician providing the patients information. Ensuring that we are obtaining the patients information in a timely and appropriate manner. Algorithmic screening has not only decreased the amount of time both the tissue donation coordinator and the clinician's time on the phone, it has subsequently decreased the amount of errors in information. Subsequently, by implementing the algorithmic screening process it has reduced the amount of time new hires have spent learning and developing their screening process.

Tissue Donation is a time sensitive process and algorithmic screening allows us to make those kinds of decisions in a timelier manner while accepting the highest quality donors that will provide the highest quality tissues for recipients.

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ED Death:
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- **Medications**
- **Plasma Dilution**

Skin Only:
- **Medical History**
- **Physical Assessment**
- **SCI**
- **Medications**
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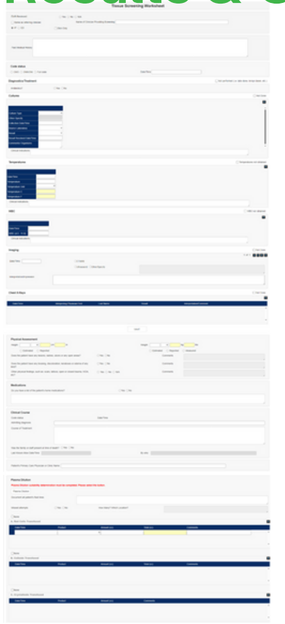
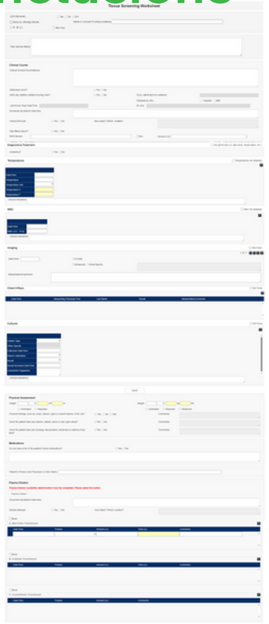
- **Plasma Dilution**

Results & Conclusions



In-Patient Death



ED Death

Skin Only

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