

Abstract

Background

The length of time required to complete an organ donation case has an impact on Organ Procurement Organization (OPO) finances, hospital staffing, donor family care, and transplant recipients. A quality improvement project was initiated to analyze if use of an evidence-based resource guide could decrease the length of organ donor cases from authorization to cross-clamp.

Methods

Organ procurement recovery coordinators were educated on use of an evidence-based resource guide and asked to implement the guide at the start of an organ donor case. Case lengths during the intervention period were compared to case lengths 3-months prior to the intervention.

Results

Total case length during the 12-week intervention period averaged 6.49 hours shorter compared to average case length prior to the intervention period. Procurement coordinator confidence in organ donor management and allocation also improved over the implementation period.

Conclusion

An evidence-based resource guide shows promise as a potential intervention to decrease organ donor case length in hours. Expansion of this project to other OPOs should be considered to increase knowledge about the resource guide as it relates to a reduction in organ donor case times.