

H&I HISTOCOMPATIBILITY & IMMUNOGENETICS

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- Histo** → The latin word for tissue i.e. organs, skin, blood
- Compatibility** → Finding the best donor for a transplant or blood transfusion
- Immunogenetics** → Investigating how different people's genes affect their immune responses

What does an H&I Scientist do?

H&I scientists match patients whose organs stop working properly due to illness or injury, with a kind and generous individual who wishes to donate their organ to save or prolong their life.

We provide specially-selected blood products to patients with a variety of cancers and blood disorders.

We perform genetic testing on DNA to help diagnose a number of diseases which are linked to our genes, such as Coeliac Disease and Narcolepsy.



Opportunities

- ★ Contributing to globally recognised research projects
- ★ Using state of the art technology within healthcare
- ★ Attending conferences and events all around the world!



Find out more about becoming an organ donor here!



Organ Transplantation

In order to match donors to patients, H&I scientists receive blood and tissue samples and perform a range of tests in a hospital laboratory to determine whether or not a transplant is likely to be successful.

An organ donor may be living; in the case of kidney transplants and partial liver transplants, or deceased; if a person has made their wishes to donate after death known.

DID YOU KNOW?

Selena Gomez had a kidney transplant in 2017 after her friend was tested by H&I scientists and was found to be compatible!



Stem cells

As well as donating organs, you can also volunteer to donate your stem cells. An H&I Scientist will test your DNA and you may be called up to donate if you are a suitable match for a patient in need. Patients may be suffering from cancers, blood disorders and immune disorders, and a stem cell transplant could save their life!



Find out more about donating stem cells here!



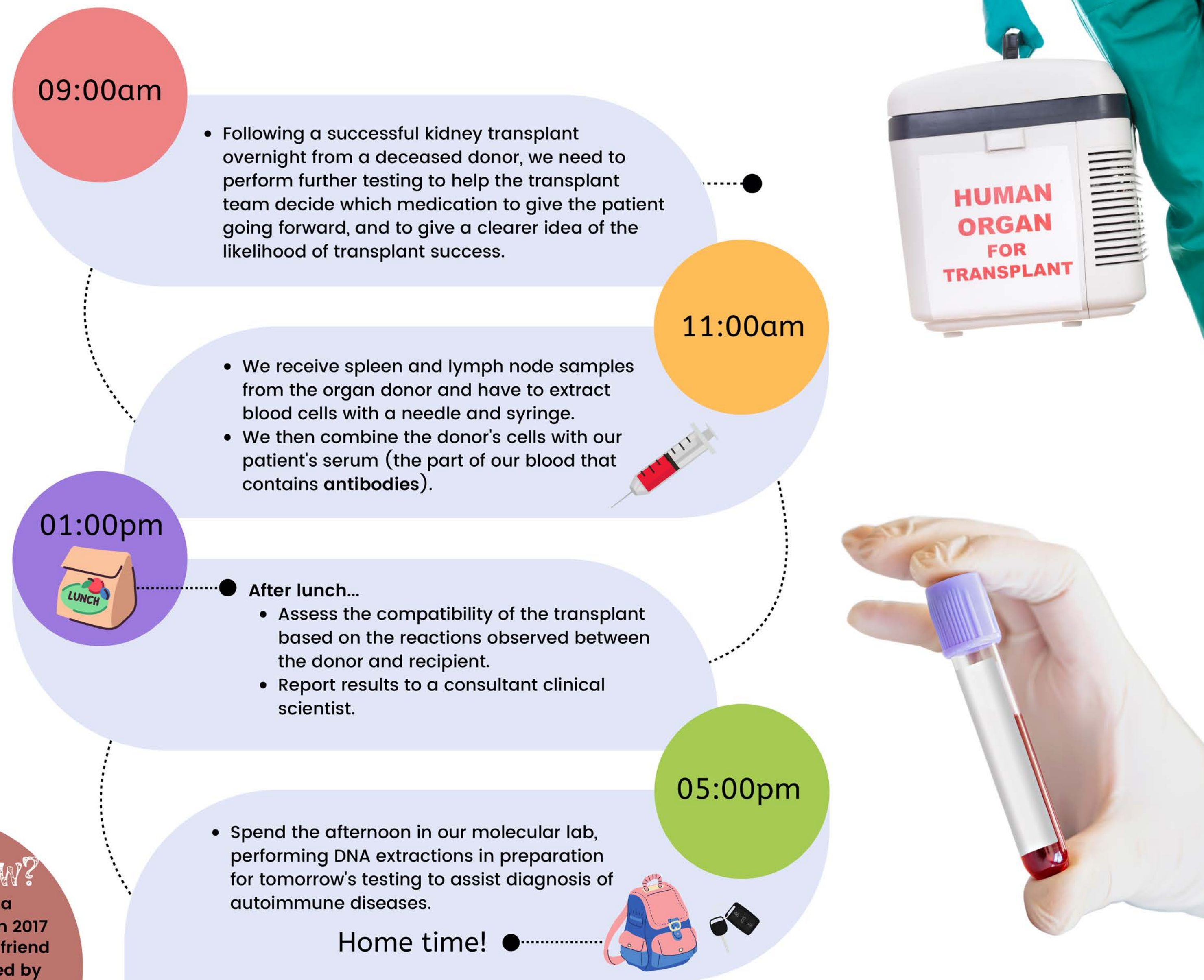
Relationships

As an H&I scientist you will work with a large range of professionals within and outside the NHS. This includes:

- Biomedical Scientists
- Clinical Scientists
- Consultant Clinical Scientists
- Healthcare Support Workers
- Transplant Co-ordinators
- Doctors
- Nurses
- Surgeons
- Research Scientists



A day in the life...



Why H&I?

- Do you love science?
- Do you think organ transplants are fascinating?
- Do you want to save lives, but don't fancy being a doctor or nurse?
- Do you think you can handle human blood and tissue on a daily basis?
- Do you want to contribute to a rapidly evolving field?

H&I might be for you!



Thanks to H&I...

Thanks to the dedicated work of H&I scientists, alongside all of the other medical professionals involved in providing the UK with blood transfusions and organ transplants, there have been...



Over 4.3 thousand organ transplants in 2021/2022^[1]



2.5 million units of blood transfused per year in the UK alone^[2]



1. NHS choices. NHS. Available at: <https://www.organdonation.nhs.uk/helping-you-to-decide/about-organ-donation/statistics-about-organ-donation/transplant-activity-report/> (Accessed: January 20, 2023).
2. NHS choices. NHS. Available at: <https://www.nhs.uk/what-we-do/blood-services/blood-transfusion/transfusion-facts/> (Accessed: January 20, 2023).