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Titel des Beitrags: [Abdominal organ retrieval: strategies to improve quality].

Abstract: The blatant problem of organ shortage leads to an increasing acceptance of organs from extended criteria donors. This increases the importance of the process of organ donation and retrieval. A working group of representatives of Bavarian retrieval surgeons and the procurement organization German Foundation of Organ Transplantation (DSO) was initiated to develop consensus-based recommendations for quality improvements in the field of organ retrieval on the basis of regional data. The main aim was to professionalize retrieval teams by specified training standards and to define objective qualifications for retrieval surgeons. Initial measures of the working group included agreement on standardized retrieval techniques and improvement of documentation in terms of quality forms and the return rate of the forms. Quality data are being analyzed prospectively with a new categorization of complications. Communication among centers and teams and complication reporting has already been improved and initial structural changes have been set up.

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