



September 19, 2023

**OPTN Summer Comment Period: Deceased Donor Support Therapy Data Collection**

The National Kidney Foundation thanks the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network for the opportunity to comment on the policy proposal, *Deceased Donor Support Therapy Data Collection*, presented by the Operations and Safety Committee.

NKF advocates for policies that improve organ procurement and transplantation performance and efficiency. Therefore, we support the OPTN policy proposal to add a “donor therapies” data field for organ procurement organizations (OPO) in the Donor Data and Matching System, enhancing the effectiveness of the organ offer filter tool and reducing organ allocation time. Transplant centers should be well-informed of the clinical picture of all deceased donors, including therapies received during the donor’s hospitalization, including but not limited to dialysis, to accept the appropriate kidney for their transplant candidates. However, we believe that different types of dialysis should be included, including continuous renal replacement therapy (CRRT), intermittent hemodialysis, and peritoneal dialysis. In addition, we support the addition of a duration value.

NKF is invested in patients having the best possible post-transplant outcomes. We are pleased that adding these data fields would improve the current data collection by allowing transplant centers to examine the post-transplant effects of kidney patients who received organs from donors who received support therapy before organ procurement. We urge OPTN to educate OPOs and transplant centers on these new additions to the Donor Data and Matching System and the expectations for compliance. OPO compliance should be standardized to eliminate variant practices. In addition, we agree with a post-implementation plan to assess if the inclusion of this variable affects the allocation or non-utilization of these organs.

NKF applauds OPTN for optimizing the use of organ filters to make organ sharing more efficient and for leveraging data collection to improve transplant outcomes for kidney recipients. Please get in touch with Morgan Reid, Director of Transplant Policy and Strategy, at [Morgan.Reid@kidney.org](mailto:Morgan.Reid@kidney.org) if we can support this endeavor further.

Sincerely,

Kevin Longino  
CEO and Transplant Patient

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