

**OPTN Ad Hoc International Relations Committee
Management of International Living Donors in the U.S
Meeting Summary
August 8, 2023
Conference Call**

**Pramod Bonde, MD, Chair
Peter Stock, MD, Vice Chair**

Introduction

The OPTN Ad Hoc International Relations – Management of International Living Donors in the U.S (the Subcommittee) met via Citrix GoToMeeting teleconference on 08/08/2023 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Open Forum

The following is a summary of the Subcommittee’s discussions.

1. Open Forum

The group agreed to submitting a data request and suggested reviewing protocols from high-volume programs that are facilitating international living donation.

The Subcommittee is comprised of five groups: communications, logistics, donor follow-up, undocumented non-U.S. citizens/non-U.S. residents (NCNR), and risk of exploitation, inducement, and coercion. The undocumented NCNR group met and had an open forum about their section of the subcommittee project.

Summary of discussion:

A member expressed concerns about misclassification of citizenship status. She explained that there may be non-U. S Citizens/U. S Residents (NCR) who are being classified as NCNR. Another member agreed with this concern and suggested identifying programs that perform a high volume of NCR transplants and determining if programs report citizenship status correctly. Another member agreed that misclassifying citizenship status is important but is not the primary effort of the subcommittee project.

A member shared that they have transplanted several NCNR pediatric patients at their center. Often, the parents of the children would like to donate to them but could not guarantee that the NCNR parent would have access to care if there were complications post-surgery. Therefore, they would not be able to donate to their child. A member stated that the recipient’s insurance covers any donor complications after organ donation.

A member inquired if there was insurance coverage for donors who experience post-donation complications. The Vice-Chair replied that the recipient’s insurance covers the donor. Another member added that it depends on the insurance company and how long they will cover the donor. A member noted that undocumented adults currently do not have access to medical care, but in California, Medicaid coverage will expand to cover all undocumented adults. A member inquired if NCR donors are

included in the project's scope; he explained that some international living donors live in the U.S. and, therefore, are relevant to the project's scope. The chances of getting an NCR to donate to their child are higher than getting a donor from a different country, such as Mexico.

Next steps:

The Committee will continue to discuss their section of the project.

Upcoming Meeting

- August 22, 2023

Attendance

- **Subcommittee Members**
 - Carrie Thiessen
 - Eliana Agudelo
 - Scott Sanoff
 - Peter Stock
 - Taryn Shappell
- **HRSA Representatives**
 - Marilyn Levi
 - Shelley Grant
- **SRTR Staff**
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Tamika Watkins
- **Other Attendees**