

# Distribution of Kidneys and Pancreata from Alaska

*OPTN Kidney and Pancreas Transplantation Committees*

# Purpose of the Proposal

- Response to recently Board-approved changes to kidney and pancreas distribution
- Addresses potential inefficiency that could impact organ utilization in kidney and pancreas allocation:
  - There are no transplant programs within 250 nautical miles of donor hospitals in Alaska
  - Without a proposed solution, organs from Alaska could be offered to a candidate in Florida before a very similar candidate in California
  - Ischemic time and organ efficiency placement would be negatively affected by keeping the system the way it is

# Proposal

- The Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (Sea-Tac) would be a substitute for the donor hospitals in Alaska as the center of the 250 nautical mile circle for kidney and pancreas allocation
- For organs from donors in Alaska, candidates would have points added to their allocation score based on the proximity of the candidate's transplant hospital to Sea-Tac:
  - Up to two (2) proximity points within 250 nautical miles (NM) of Sea-Tac
  - Up to four (4) proximity points outside 250 NM circle

# Rationale

- Prevents inefficiency and potential underutilization of kidneys and pancreata from donors in Alaska
  - 2018: 30 kidney and 2 pancreas deceased donors
- Consistent with Board-approved changes to kidney and pancreas allocation (removing DSA and region & instead allocating with fixed-distance circle)

# Feedback from Breakout

# Discussion

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- Proposed changes would modify allocation to treat kidneys and pancreata recovered in Alaska as if they were recovered at Sea-Tac
- Purpose is to promote efficient placement of organs and utilization