

# 2020 Summary of Non-U.S. Resident Transplant Activity

## OPTN Ad Hoc International Relations Committee

The OPTN Ad Hoc International Relations Committee is charged with reviewing all citizenship data reported to the OPTN. Citizenship information is provided by transplant center and organ procurement organization staff filling out the data collection forms in UNet<sup>sm</sup>. *OPTN Policy 17.1: Report of Activities Related to the Transplantation of Non-U.S. Citizens/Non-U.S. Residents* states that the Committee “will prepare and provide public access to an annual report of transplant hospital activities related to the registration and transplantation of non-U.S. citizens/non-U.S. residents.” The current report is the Committee’s sixth fulfillment of this policy requirement.

Below is a high-level summary of the 2020 Annual Report. To obtain a copy of the full report, please submit a data request by completing the online request form at <https://optn.transplant.hrsa.gov/data/request-data/>.

### Methods

OPTN data were used to calculate summary statistics for waiting list registrations, transplant recipients, and deceased and living donors who do not reside in the U.S. There are two main groups considered when looking at non-U.S. residents: non-U.S. citizens/non-U.S. residents (NCNR) and non-resident aliens. Stratification of the statistics are shown by non-U.S. residents types as well as by organ, pediatric age group, and transplant hospital when appropriate. The number and percentage of candidates that are specifically in the U.S. for the purpose of transplantation is also provided. The complete methods can be found in the full report. All analyses are based on OPTN data as of June 25, 2021.

### Summary of Results

During 2020, a total of 60,073 adult and pediatric registrations were added to the U.S. solid organ transplant waiting list. Of those, 740 (1.2%) were indicated to be for candidates not residing in the U.S., including 152 (0.4%) registrations for candidates in the U.S. specifically for the purpose of transplantation.

The percentage of non-U.S. resident registrations added in 2020 varies by organ, from 0.5% (7) kidney-pancreas registrations to 8.3% (12) of intestine registrations. The 528 kidney and 102 liver additions represent 1.4% and 0.8% of their total registrations, respectively. While 1.2% of adult registrations were non-U.S. residents, 2.3% of pediatric waiting list registrations were for this group of patients.

Approximately 59% (147) of all transplant hospitals (all organs) had no registrations added during 2020 where the candidate citizenship was reported as non-U.S. resident. Of these centers, 15.6% (39) listed 5 or more NCNR registrations.

During 2020, a total of 33,306 adult and pediatric deceased donor transplants were performed. Of those, 411 (1.2%) were indicated to be for recipients not residing in the U.S., including 104 (0.3%) for recipients in the U.S. specifically for the purpose of transplantation. Also of these 411 NCNR deceased donor transplants, 6 were listed as non-resident aliens. The percentage of NCNR deceased donor transplants in 2020 varies by organ, from 0.0% (0) heart-lung deceased donor transplants to 5.5% (5) of intestine deceased donor transplants. The 253 kidney and 65 liver deceased donor transplants represent 1.4% and 0.8% of their totals respectively.

Approximately 63% (157) of all hospitals (all organs) had no deceased donor transplants during 2020 where the candidate citizenship was reported as non-U.S. resident.

Additionally, in 2020 there were 5,725 living donor transplants. Of these, 1.1% (64) were for NCNR recipients. 1.0% (53) of all living donor kidney recipients were NCNR and of those, 17 were in the U.S. specifically for transplant. 2.2% of all living donor liver transplants were NCNR and of those, 8 were in the U.S. specifically for a transplant.