

**OPTN Ad Hoc International Relations Committee
Management of International Living Donors in the U.S
Meeting Summary
November 26, 2024
Conference Call**

**Peter Stock, MD, Chair
Cynthia Forland, Ph.D., Vice Chair**

Introduction

The Management of International Living Donors in the U.S Subcommittee (the Subcommittee) met via WebEx teleconference on 11/26/2024 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Overview of guidance document revisions & Vote

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

Overview of guidance document revisions & Vote

The Subcommittee reviewed revisions made to their draft guidance document project, which focuses on barriers related to the evaluation and follow-up of international living donors. The goal of this guidance document is to provide transplant programs with common practices for evaluating international living donors in the U.S. During this meeting, the Subcommittee reviewed revisions made by OPTN contractor staff, including the scope, language, and content of the document. The Subcommittee then provided any final edits to the document and voted on it for the 2025 public comment cycle.

Data summary:

The guidance document was reviewed and revised by OPTN contractor staff for the following:

- Scope: to ensure content reflects the purview of AHIRC and the OPTN
- Language: consistent/appropriate references
- Content: flagging content unsupported by citations
- Overall flow and cohesiveness

The revisions that were made to the guidance document include:

- Updated the introduction section
 - Added language to clarify the intent of the document.
 - The document is a resource for programs to consider during the evaluation process; findings are not statistically significant.
- Added a background section
 - Added details about the development of the feedback form.
- Restructured subsections
 - Included an introduction to each barrier
 - Included a summary section of the feedback questionnaire
 - Included AHIRC's findings and shared practices.

Summary of discussion:

This was not an agenda item that required a decision.

A member noticed that a section on barriers to donation for non-citizens residing in the U.S. was previously included in the guidance document but is no longer present. The member asked how that section had been restructured. Staff explained that the content from the removed section was still included in the document, but had been restructured and integrated into other sections. They noted that the content on barriers to donation for non-citizens had overlapped with the information presented elsewhere, so the separate section was removed to reduce redundancy.

A member voiced concerns that the logistical barriers faced by non-citizens/residents versus non-citizens/non-residents may differ, and the Subcommittee continued revising the document to address this.

Does the Subcommittee support sending the guidance document to the OPTN Policy Oversight Committee for approval for the January 2025 public comment cycle?

Support: 14 Abstain: 0 Oppose: 0

Next steps:

The guidance document will go to the OPTN Policy Oversight Committee for approval for the January 2025 public comment cycle

Upcoming Meeting

- TBD

Attendance

- **Subcommittee Members**
 - Cynthia Forland
 - Peter Stock
 - Manida Wungjiranirun
 - Donene Vukovich
 - Nancy Marlin
 - Julia Spear
 - Stephanie Little
 - Angele Lacks
 - Steve Wisel
 - Cynthia Forland
 - George Bayliss
 - Julie Spear
 - Abby Ruiz
 - Taryn Shappell
- **HRSA Representatives**
- **SRTR Staff**
 - Avery Cook
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Tamika Watkins
 - Cole Fox
 - Laura Schmit
 - Houlder Hudgins
 - Susan Tlusty
 - Jesse Howell
- **Other Attendees**