

Ad Hoc International Relations Committee Report

*OPTN/UNOS Board of Directors Meeting
Marian O'Rourke, RN, CPTC, Chairman
June 23-24, 2014*

Background: 2010 Policy Reviews

Citizenship Categories

- Not uniform;
- Unable to categorize non-US citizens living in the US;
- Unable to identify patients entering the US specifically for transplant

Concerns with audit policy language

5% guideline widely interpreted as maximum allowable transplant threshold for non-US citizens living in the US

Background: 2012 Policy Changes

New citizenship categories

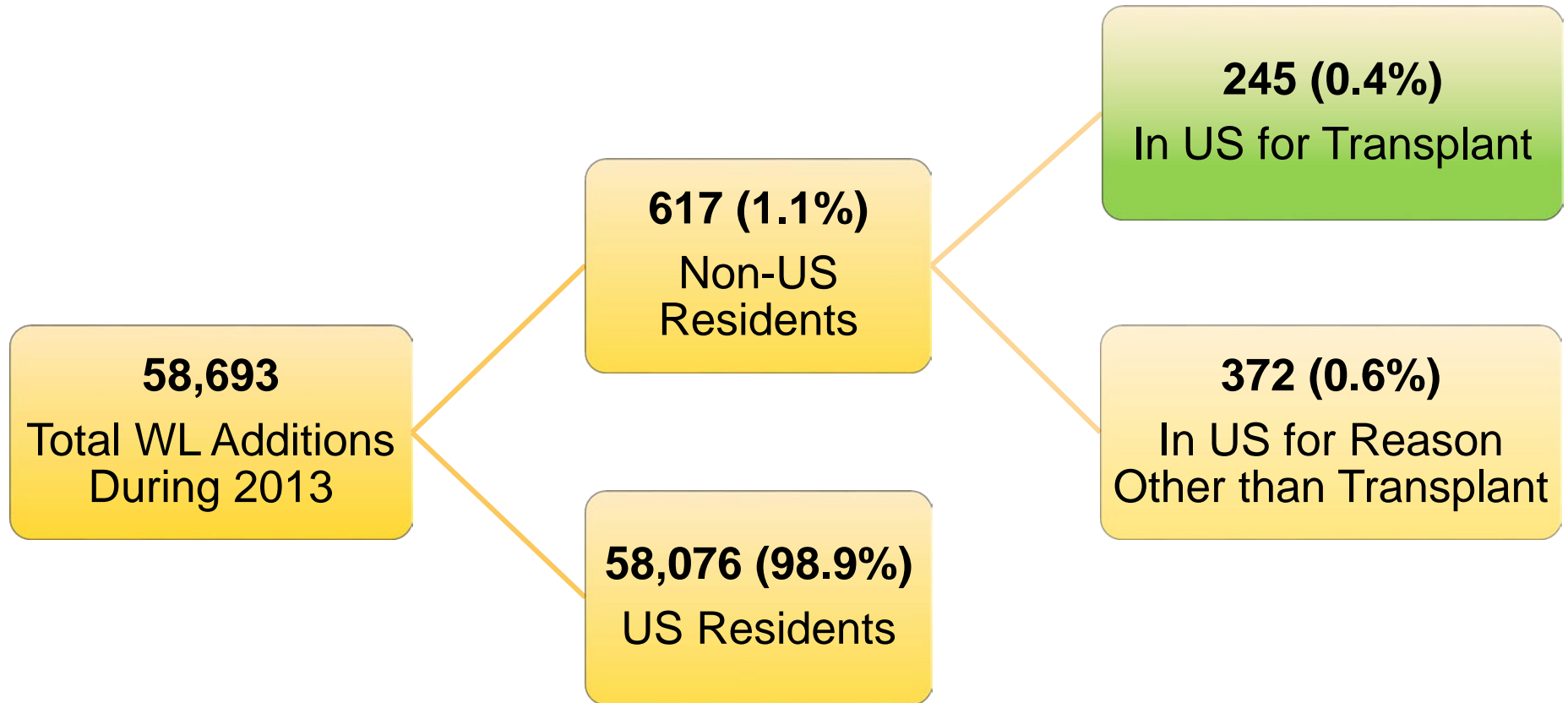
5% transplant threshold for non-US residents eliminated.

Annual Report of Activities Related to Registration and Transplantation non-US Citizens/non-US Residents

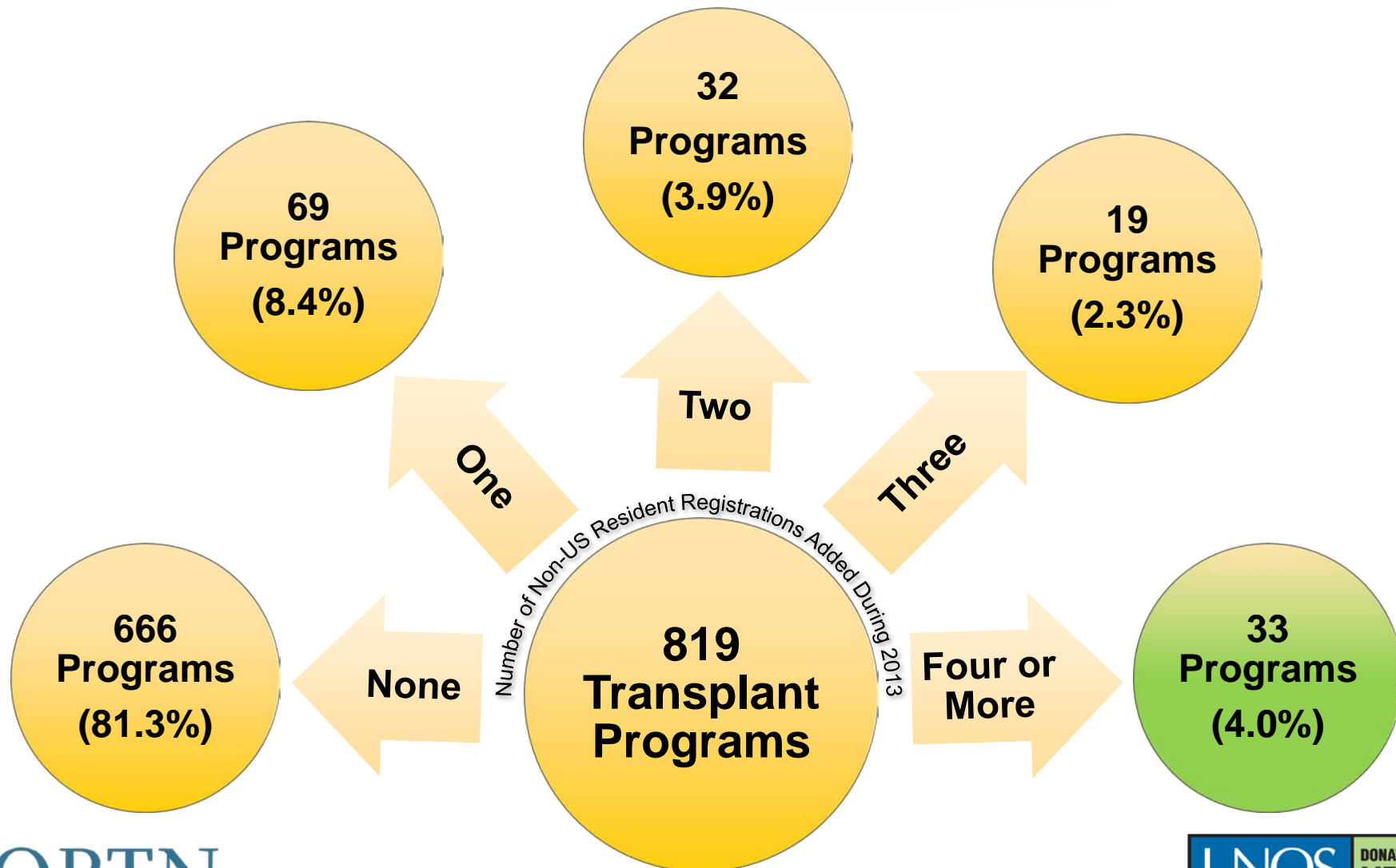
Ongoing Committee Initiatives

- Publication of annual report of non-US citizens/non-US resident registrations and transplants
- Identify criteria for issuance of a voluntary survey to ascertain additional information on such activities
 - No final conclusions made on thresholds for surveying programs
- Finalize the survey questions to elicit additional information

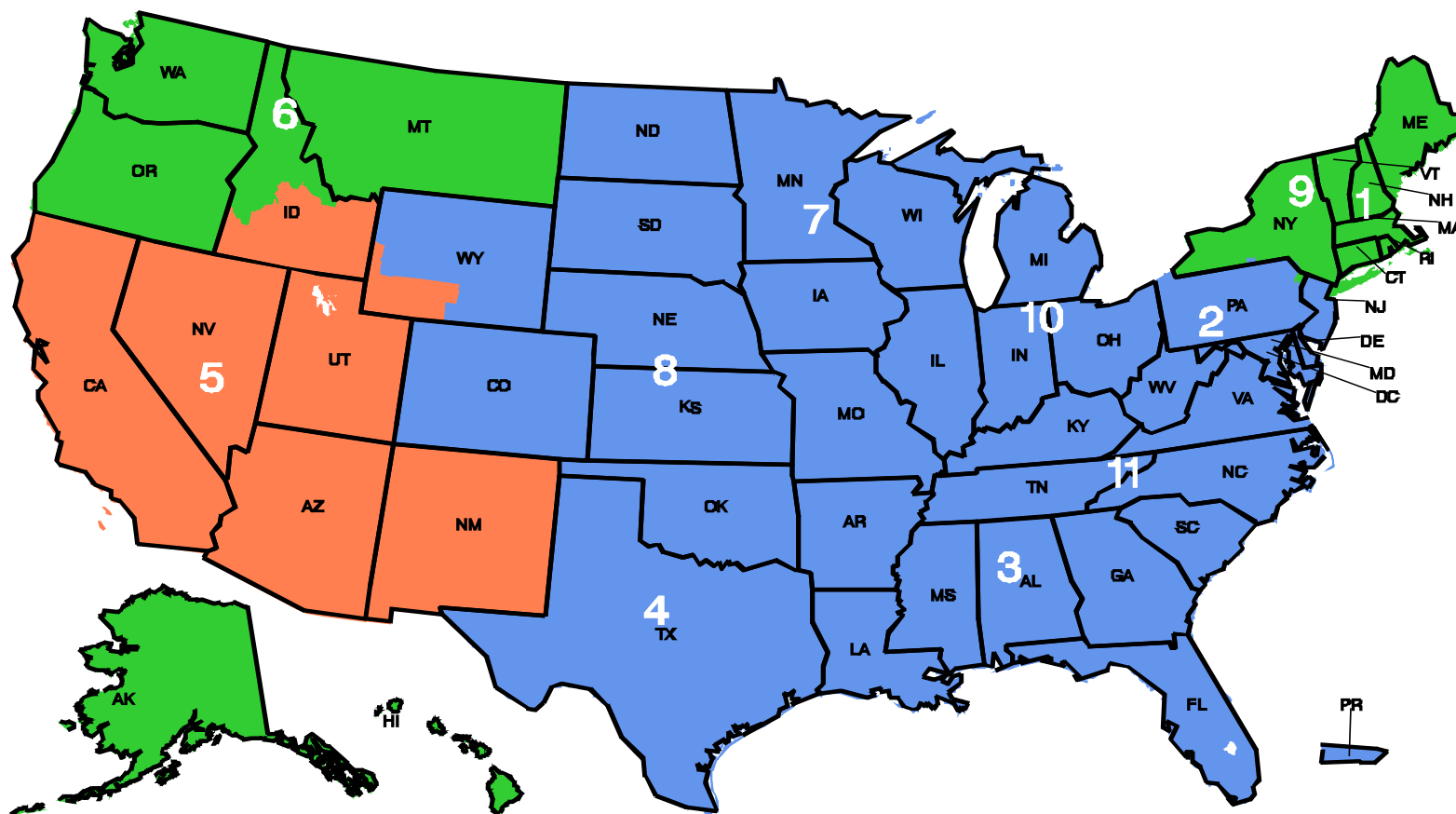
IRC Report of Non-US Resident Transplant Activity



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IRC Report of Non-US Resident Transplant Activity



Percent of Additions ■ <1% ■ 1-2% ■ 2-3%

Path Forward

Continue to evaluate impact of transplantation of non-US residents on US system

Add country of residence to future reports

Educate transplant community on new data collection categories

Approved Committee Projects

- Define “Exhausting the Match Run”
- Review of Deceased Donor Import Policy

Define “Exhausting the Match Run”

The Problem:

Current policy is unclear regarding OPO level of effort required for national placement before offering organs to foreign entities for transplant.

Attempting to literally “exhaust the match run” may cause an organ to become non-viable for many candidates and increase discards.

Define “Exhausting the Match Run”

- Joint subcommittee convened to identify specific circumstances when allocation cannot reasonably be completed in the US and organs may be offered outside of the US.
- Subcommittee data request:
 - At what point on the match are organs rarely accepted by US programs?
 - How far down the match were offers documented for exported organs?

Review of Deceased Donor Import Policy

The Problem:

Conflicting OPTN policy and practice with regard to allocation of ad hoc foreign organ imports.

Background:

- OPTN policy gives the OPTN Member (Host OPO) responsibility for allocating deceased donor organs.
- Current practice assigns the OPTN (UNOS Organ Center) the responsibility for facilitating placement of deceased donor organs recovered outside of the US without a formal agreement (ad hoc organ exchanges).
- Although this placement process is not codified in OPTN policy, it does not appear to be prohibited by either NOTA or the Final Rule.

Consequences:

Process does not allow for enforcement or monitoring of OPTN requirements; presenting a potential patient safety risk.

Process is not well known by the transplant community; lacks transparency.

Process consumes considerable UNOS Organ Center resources, though the organ yield is low.

Status

- IRC requested and received Executive Committee endorsement of a policy development path to better align policy with OPTN practice.
- IRC joint subcommittee will revise OPTN Policy 17 (International Organ Transplantation) to:
 - Codify OPTN authority to serve in the role of OPO in ad hoc foreign organ placements;
 - Address patient safety concerns; and
 - Vet the current placement process for transparency and efficiency.
- Goal to increase utilization of these organs for US candidates.

Questions?

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