

Program Guide



tmmf 2025

33rd annual
unos transplant management forum

may 5-7 ★ san antonio

UNITED NETWORK FOR ORGAN SHARING

UNOS™

UNOS Transplant Management Forum (TMF) is the national conference for transplant administrators. More than 600 people attend TMF each year for its educational sessions and networking opportunities.

Sessions are designed to *increase collaboration* between transplant hospitals and OPOs, and to help participants *expand knowledge* of operations, finances, proven growth strategies, and more.

UNOS is committed to gathering donation and transplantation professionals at TMF for an engaging experience that fosters learning and enhances transplant management skills, regardless of a person's level of experience.

This activity was approved by the American Board for Transplant Certification (ABTC) to award 16 Category I Continuing Education Points for Transplant Coordinators (CEPTCs).

This activity was approved by the Virginia Nurses Association to award 15.75 contact hours. The Virginia Nurses Association is accredited as an approver of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.



Joshua E. Gossett
Chair



Martha Stipsits
Vice Chair

TMF Advisory Group

Joshua E. Gossett, Administrative Director, Transplant, Lucile Salter Packard Children's Hospital Stanford

Martha Stipsits, Director, Transplant Services & Interim Director, Surgical Services, Barnes-Jewish Hospital

Dwana Bailey, Sr. Transplant Financial Coordinator, Ochsner Health

Dana Blayney, Director, Transplant & Dialysis, HCA Healthcare

Celeste Braly, Director, Quality & Compliance, UW Health Transplant Center

Diana Harter, Director, Nursing, Transplant Services, Texas Children's Hospital

Robert Howey, Senior Director, Toyon Associates, Inc.

Vicki Hunter, Director of Nursing, CommonSpirit Health

Linda Irwin, Director, Quality, Compliance & Clinical Education, Massachusetts General Hospital

Adriane Jungbluth, Program Manager, Transplant Quality, Cleveland Clinic

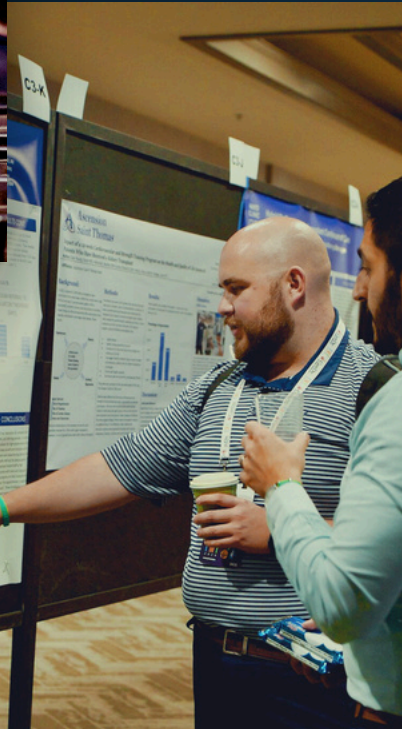
John Martens, Information Analyst, University of Rochester Medical Center

Kristy Mastalarz, Organ Placement Coordinator, Trinity Medical Solutions

Heather Osipowicz, Director, Hospital Services, Nevada Donor Network

Janine Vallen, Director, Transplant Services, Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital

Candy Wells, Director, Organ Utilization, LifeCenter Northwest



See y'all in Texas!

The stars at night are big and bright...deep in the heart of Texas! San Antonio is the 7th largest city in the country, centrally located in Texas, and known for the Alamo, the River Walk, legendary tex-mex cuisine, and its rich colonial heritage.

San Antonio Marriott Rivercenter on the River Walk

Spacious and sophisticated meeting space, endless entertainment options steps away on the River Walk, and newly renovated guestrooms...this much and more to look forward to at our host hotel in San Antonio.



Air travel, transportation, and hotel parking

San Antonio International Airport (SAT) is serviced by all major airlines. Travel by car from SAT to the host hotel in 12 minutes. Receive a 20% parking discount on overnight parking at hotel.

About TMF

TMF Advisory Group, our dedicated volunteers comprised of administrators, coordinators, and quality managers, design TMF content for their peers and the clinical and non-clinical support personnel with whom they work. In recent years, TMF has experienced accelerated growth in meeting attendance to create a more diverse participant pool for our sponsors and exhibitors to network with and meet.



Year	City	Attendance
2024	Louisville, KY	732
2023	Denver, CO	594
2022	Phoenix, AZ	584
2021	Virtual	651
2019	Orlando, FL	584
2018	Austin, TX	587
2017	Indianapolis, IN	563
2015	San Diego, CA	548

About UNOS

United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS) is a nonprofit focused on saving lives. UNOS' portfolio encompasses organ donation and transplantation, as well as broader public health projects, through its work developing new technologies and initiatives, conducting data-driven research and analysis, providing expert consulting services, advocating for patients, and being a leader in bringing the community together to save lives. For more than 40 years, UNOS has helped build a national donation and transplantation system that serves as a model around the world.

Agenda

Agenda is subject to change

Sunday, May 4, 2025

Pre-Conference Events

4:00pm-7:30pm

Time	Session/Event Information
4:00pm-6:00pm Registration Area	Early Registration <i>Sponsored by Stanford Medicine Children's Health.</i>
4:00pm-6:00pm Exhibit Hall	Exhibitor Load-In
6:00pm-7:30pm Conference Room 20-21	Kick Off Reception <i>Presented by NORA</i>

Kick Off Reception

Start your networking early and join us for a special Kick Off Reception the evening before UNOS Tmf commences.

Attendance is free for all registered Tmf attendees.

If you'd like to bring a guest, purchase a guest ticket for \$100 during registration, or contact meetings@unos.org for assistance.



Special thanks to NORA for sponsoring the Kick Off Reception!



Agenda

Agenda is subject to change

Monday, May 5, 2025

7:00 am - 6:30 pm

Time	Session/Event Information
7:00am-4:00pm Registration Area	Registration Desk Open <i>Sponsored by Stanford Medicine Children's Health.</i>
7:00am-8:00am Exhibit Hall	Breakfast with Exhibitors

Plenary Sessions

8:35am-8:20am Salon G-I	Announcements & Welcome Josh Gossett, DNP, MBA, RN, FACHE, CCTC, Director of Pediatric Transplant Center, Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford
8:20am-9:00am Salon G-I	UNOS Leadership Address Andrew Klein, MD, Chief Medical Officer, UNOS Moderator: Josh Gossett, DNP, MBA, RN, FACHE, CCTC, Director of Pediatric Transplant Center, Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford

Time	Session/Event Information
<p>9:00am-9:15am Salon G-I</p>	<p>Connect to Purpose</p> <p>Anna King, Heart Transplant Recipient</p> <p><i>In this session, you will hear the transplant journey of a heart recipient.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Diana Harter, MSN, RN, Director of Nursing, Transplant Services, Texas Children’s Hospital</p>
<p>9:15am-10:00am Salon G-I</p>	<p>Collaborative Leadership in Transplantation: Blending Clinical, Business, and Regulatory Roles</p> <p>Linda Ohler, MSN, RN, CCTC, FAAN, FAST, Author and Editor of Books on Transplantation, Elsevier Publishing</p> <p>Laura Butler, MSN, MMHC, AVP Transplant Services, Montefiore Einstein Center for Transplantation</p> <p>Andrea Tietjen, MBA, CPA, AVP Transplant Administrative Services, Cooperman Barnabas Medical</p> <p><i>This "Ask the Experts" session will explore the role of collaborative leadership in achieving and maintaining success within transplant programs.</i></p> <p><i>Participants will have the opportunity to engage with experts to learn about managing program operations, metrics and financial health as well as collaboratively enhancing patient safety, program quality, and regulatory compliance.</i></p> <p><u>Learn more about Laura Butler’s talk here.</u></p> <p>Moderator: Celeste Braly, MSN, RN, CPHQ, Director, Quality and Compliance, UW Health Transplant Center</p>

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Time	Session/Event Information
10:00am-10:30am Exhibit Hall	Break with Exhibitors & Abstract Poster Viewing <i>This break is sponsored by Elevance Health, Inc.</i>
10:15am-10:30am Product Theater Area outside Exhibit Hall	NEW This Year! Join UNOS for an Exclusive Product Theater Presentation! Don't miss this opportunity to learn how UNOS' innovative solutions can benefit your organization and patients.

Time	Session Information
<p>10:30am-11:30am Salon G-I</p>	<p>Beyond Compliance: Building a Comprehensive Transplant Quality and Safety Team</p> <p>Celeste Braly, MSN, RN, CPHQ, Director, Quality and Compliance, UW Health Transplant Center</p> <p>Ashley Cardenas, MAS, FAST, Transplant Administrator, Renown Health</p> <p>Lindsey Smith, MSN, RN, Director of Quality, Vanderbilt Transplant Center</p> <p><i>Transplant quality is a dynamic and diverse discipline that goes beyond the regulatory requirements of data monitoring and compliance. It encompasses a strategic approach that, when fully leveraged, can significantly improve the efficiency and performance of transplant programs. This panel discussion will provide an overview of the dynamic nature of transplant quality and explore how programs can assess their needs and develop an appropriately sized quality team, including key positions, qualifications, and responsibilities. Participants will also learn strategies for securing institutional support and resources necessary for success. Additionally, we will discuss the development of a competency framework and curriculum tailored to quality staff, along with pathways for professional development and leadership growth in transplant quality. By shifting from minimum compliance to a proactive quality framework, transplant centers can drive long-term improvements and deliver superior patient care.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Kristy Mastalarz, RN, BSN, Organ Procurement Coordinator, Trinity Medical Solutions</p>

Time	Session/Event Information
11:30am-12:30pm	Awards Ceremony
11:30am-12:00pm Salon G-I	<p>Abstract Awards</p> <p>Moderator: Kristy Mastalarz, RN, BSN, Organ Procurement Coordinator, Trinity Medical Solutions</p> <p><i>Sponsored by CareDx, Forvis Mazars, Perfusion Solution, Texas Children's Hospital, Transplant Management Group, and AST Transplant Administration and Quality Management Community of Practice</i></p>
12:00pm-12:30pm Salon G-I	<p>Heckenkemper Leader in Transplant Administration/Quality Award</p> <p>Moderator: Angie Korsun, RN, MSN, MPA, Partner/Consultant, Guidry & East, LLC</p> <p>Sponsored by Guidry & East, LLC.</p>

Heckenkemper Leader in Transplant Administration/Quality Award

In memory of Deedle Heckenkemper

The annual Heckenkemper Award honors the contributions Deedle made in the foundation and development of both the OPTN Transplant Administrators Committee and community as a whole. The UNOS TMF Planning Committee reviews all nominations and selects the winner based on specific criteria.

For information on the Heckenkemper award and past winners, please visit:

unos.org/about/tmf/award/



GUIDRY & EAST, LLC
TRANSPLANT CONSULTING SOLUTIONS
guidryeast.com

Special thanks to Guidry & East for sponsoring the award!

Time	Session/Event Information
12:30pm- 1:30pm Exhibit Hall	<p>Lunch with Exhibitors - Networking with Peers - Abstract Poster Presentations</p> <p><i>This lunch is sponsored by Lung Bio-Engineering.</i></p>
1:00pm-1:30pm Exhibit Hall Hallway	<p>Abstract Poster Presentations</p> <p><i>Enjoy a wonderful lunch and then visit the various abstract authors at their poster board to learn about their abstracts.</i></p>
12:45pm-1:00pm Salon J-K	<p>Lunch & Learn Symposium with CareDx</p>

Lunch & Learn Symposium with CareDx

CareDx is a leading precision medicine solutions company focused on the discovery, development, and commercialization of clinically differentiated, high-value healthcare solutions for transplant patients and caregivers.



Transforming Your Transplant Center: Achieving Volume-Based AND Value-Based Care

Koren Axelrod, Director of Quality, CareDx

Transplantation is growing at an unprecedented pace, with a national goal of 60,000 transplants by 2026. To meet this demand, centers are leveraging new perfusion techniques, expanding organ utilization, and breaking down barriers to access—bringing life-saving transplants to more patients than ever before.

However, expanding access comes at a cost. How can your transplant center scale efficiently without compromising quality or financial sustainability?

Join us for this dynamic 30-minute session, where we'll explore actionable strategies and practical tools to help you increase volume while maintaining quality and controlling costs—so you can open the floodgates without getting swept away.

Breakout Sessions 1-4

****Please note sessions do not repeat****

Time	Session Information
<p>1:30pm-2:30pm Salon L-M</p>	<p>Breakout 1 - Pediatric Session- Delivering Hard News to Families: How Can We Do Better?</p> <p>Kimberly Sawyer, MD, MA, HEC-C, Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics, Texas Children’s Hospital</p> <p><i>Transplant clinicians must often face the challenge of communicating hard decisions to patients and families, such as candidacy for transplant and decision making on organ donation for a child. This session will explore how we can better communicate empathy and be even more effective in conveying difficult ideas to our patients and families, with an emphasis on the pediatric population.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Josh Gossett, DNP, MBA, RN, FACHE, CCTC, Director of Pediatric Transplant Center, Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital Stanford</p>
<p>1:30pm-2:30pm Salon J-K</p>	<p>Breakout 2 - Paired Exchange</p> <p>Cathi Murphey, BS. Ph.D.; Cellular and Molecular Biology, Director - Immunogenetics Lab, Southwest Immunodiagnostics, Inc.</p> <p><i>How to utilize different pairing options to create paired exchanges within your own list. Help identify what living donor/recipient pairs would be good for paired exchanges and how to also look at inserting compatible pairs into paired exchanges to create more opportunity for exchanges to occur.</i></p> <p><u>Learn more about this session here.</u></p> <p>Moderator: Dana Blayney, MSN, RN, Director, Transplant & Dialysis, Clinical Services Group, HCA Healthcare</p>

Breakout Sessions 1-4

****Please note sessions do not repeat****

Time	Session Information
<p>1:30pm-2:30pm Pearl 3</p>	<p>Breakout 3 - Medicare Cost Report Basics</p> <p>Robert Howey, MBA, MHA, CPA,</p> <p><i>This session will cover the basics of standard acquisition costs and include discussion of the Medicare Cost Report, how Medicare reimburses acquisition costs, and the types of cost included and excluded.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Dwana Bailey, CTFC, Sr. Transplant Financial Coordinator, Oshsner Health</p>
<p>1:30pm-2:30pm Pearl 1-2</p>	<p>Breakout 4 - Mergers and Acquisitions: Transplant Programs and OPOs</p> <p>Charlie Alexander, RN, MSN, MBA, CPTC, President & CEO, Infinite Legacy</p> <p>Christine Palms, MS, RN, Senior Vice President, Tertiary Services & Planning, Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes</p> <p><i>This session will explore real-world experiences from a transplant center and organ procurement organization that have undergone mergers. Presenters will share how they navigated the process, discuss key lessons learned, and provide an overview on the impact on organizations involved.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Heather Osipowicz, MBA, MBS, CTBS, Director Hospital Services, Nevada Donor Network</p>

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Time	Session/Event Information
2:30pm-3:00pm Exhibit Hall & Hallway	Break with Exhibitors & Abstract Poster Presentations Visit the various abstract authors at their poster board to learn about their abstracts.

Breakout Sessions 5-8
****Please note sessions do not repeat****

Time	Session Information
3:05pm-4:05pm Salon L-M	Breakout 5 – Pediatric Specific Financial Implications with Medicare Cost Reporting and the National Medicaid Landscape Robert Howey, MBA, MHA, CPA, Sr. Consultant, Transplant Management Group <i>The Medicare Cost Report continues to be a mystery for administrators in pediatric centers due to the lower number of Medicare patients in pediatric transplants. This session will help administrators understand what the ROI could be or not be in the submission of the cost report for this population. It will also provide a broader understanding to administrators on the variation in Medicaid payors across different states.</i> Moderator: Diana Harter, MSN, RN, Director of Nursing, Transplant Services, Texas Children’s Hospital

Time	Session Information
3:05pm-4:05pm Pearl 3	<p data-bbox="272 512 1591 546">Breakout 6 – Transplanting the Untransplantable Organ - Organ and Organ Donor Conditioning</p> <p data-bbox="272 590 1572 661">Justin Steggerda, MD, Assistant Professor Surgery, Transplant Surgeon, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center</p> <p data-bbox="272 709 1591 982"><i>Currently, a significant number of organs procured from deceased donors are discarded due to concerns that they will not function adequately after implantation. However, our ability to accurately determine post-transplant function based upon donor or donor organ attributes is limited. This talk will discuss current and proposed algorithms to quantifiably discriminate donor quality with the goal of reducing organ discards. The talk will also discuss the protocols and strategies being developed to condition organs and or organ donors to improve post-transplant function. The goal of this conditioning is to increase the donor organ pool.</i></p> <p data-bbox="272 1031 1563 1140">Moderator: Victoria Hunter, MSN, MBA, RNC, CCTC, Director of Nursing, Cardio Thoracic Care Unit and Cardio Thoracic Vascular Intermediate Care Unit, CommonSpirit Health, Creighton University Medical Center- Bergan Mercy</p>

Time	Session Information
<p>3:05pm-4:05pm Pearl 1-2</p>	<p>Breakout 7 – Xenotransplantation: Challenges and Opportunities</p> <p>Jay Fishman, MD, Associate Director, MGH Transplant Center; Director Transplant Infectious Disease Program; President Elect, International Xenotransplantation Association Oct 2023-Current</p> <p><i>Dr. Fishman will discuss xenotransplantation along with immunosuppression and infectious risks and unknowns.</i></p> <p>Xenotransplantation - Where are we headed?</p> <p>Jennifer Wainright, PhD, Senior Research Scientist, UNOS</p> <p><i>Provide results from a survey of transplant surgeons, physicians, and transplant administrators, including their attitudes and beliefs about xenotransplantation, acceptance of porcine (pig) organ transplants for their patients, and what they have done or will need to do to prepare for xenotransplantation becoming a clinical reality at their institution. After organ availability is no longer the bottleneck in transplantation, what will be the next bottleneck?</i></p> <p>Moderator: Linda Irwin, RN, MA, ANP, CCTC, Director of Quality, Compliance and Clinical Education, Massachusetts General Hospital</p>

Time	Session Information
<p>3:05pm-4:05pm Salon J-K</p>	<p>Breakout 8 - The Evolving Role of Transplant Coordinators: Driving Excellence and Improving Outcomes in Modern Transplant Care</p> <p>Samantha Ramirez, DNP, FNP-BC, Clinical Operations Manager, Liver Transplant Keck Medicine of USC</p> <p>Megan Bell, MSN, AGACNP-BC, CCTC, Associate Director, Abdominal Transplant, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center</p> <p><i>The role of transplant coordinators has evolved significantly over the years as the field of transplantation has advanced. Historically viewed as logistical managers, transplant coordinators are key players in patient education, care coordination, policy compliance, and improving outcomes. This session will explore how the role has changed over time, with varying models of utilization across different transplant centers.</i></p> <p><i>In addition, the session will highlight how innovative practices implemented by transplant coordinators lead to improved patient outcomes, reduced complications, and streamlined processes. Attendees will gain a deeper understanding of the evolving role of transplant coordinators and practical strategies to enhance their impact.</i></p> <p><u>Learn more about Samantha Ramirez's talk here.</u></p> <p>Moderator: Kristy Mastalarz, RN, BSN, Organ Procurement Coordinator, Trinity Medical Solutions</p> <p><i>This session is sponsored by Trinity Medical Solutions.</i></p>

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Time	Session/Event Information
4:30pm-6:30pm Exhibit Hall	Welcome Reception Presented by ENG Organ Recovery

Welcome Reception with Exhibitors

Join colleagues and exhibitors at the end of a busy day of learning for the Welcome Reception with Exhibitors, presented by ENG Organ Recovery. Back by popular demand is the photo booth, sponsored by Sanofi.

If you'd like to bring a guest, purchase a guest ticket for \$100 during registration or contact meetings@unos.org for assistance.

Special thanks to presenting sponsor ENG Organ Recovery!



Agenda

Agenda is subject to change

Tuesday, May 6, 2025

7:00 am-5:00 pm

Time	Session/Event Information
7:00am-5:00pm Registration Area	Registration Desk Open <i>Sponsored by Stanford Medicine Children's Health.</i>
7:00am-8:00am Exhibit Hall	Breakfast with Exhibitors & Abstract Poster Viewing

Breakout Sessions 9-12 Repeats at 1:05 pm – 2:05 pm

Time	Session Information
8:00am-9:00am Pearl 3	<p>Breakout 9 – Artificial Intelligence in Transplant Medicine</p> <p>Ankit Mathur, MBA, MSIS, Chief Technology Officer, UNOS</p> <p>Jeffrey Orlowski, MS, CPTC, FAST, President & Chief Executive Officer, LifeShare Network</p> <p><i>The session will feature key professionals discussing how artificial intelligence is being leveraged to enhance organ donation and transplantation, providing attendees with valuable insights into emerging and prospective innovations in the field.</i></p> <p><u>Learn more about Ankit Mathur's talk here.</u></p> <p>Moderator: Heather Osipowicz, MBA, MSBS, CTBS, Director Hospital Services, Nevada Donor Network</p> <p><i>This session is sponsored by Statline.</i></p>

Time	Session Information
<p>8:00am-9:00am Salon L-M</p>	<p>Breakout 10 – Future of Transplants: UNOS' Technological Marvels</p> <p>Ace Callwood, Executive Mediator & Facilitator, Envoy</p> <p><i>In this session, participants will gain insights into the latest technological advancements spearheaded by the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS). The focus will be on how these innovations are transforming the field of organ transplantation, enhancing efficiency, and improving patient outcomes.</i></p>
<p>8:00am-9:00am Pearl 1-2</p>	<p>Breakout 11 – The C-Suite’s Roles: Create and Maintain a Healthy Relationship Between Transplant and the C-Suite to Drive Growth and Sustain Outcomes</p> <p>Sara Geatrakas, MSN, RN, Business & Operations Manager, Hackensack University Medical Center</p> <p>Clare Socci, BSN, RN, Director, Organ Transplant & Surgery, Hackensack University Medical Center</p> <p>Martha J. Stipsits, MHA, BSN, RN, Director, Transplant Services, Barnes-Jewish Hospital</p> <p><i>As a transplant center, it is imperative that we remain fiscally responsible while balancing growth and innovation requests. How do you help the C-Suite and Clinical Provider Leadership gain competency in transplant financials to understand the business of transplantation? This session will explain the basics of telling the transplant financial story and key items to consider when assessing the financial viability of requests to drive growth and innovation.</i></p> <p><u>Learn more about this session here.</u></p> <p>Moderator: Josh Gossett, DNP, MBA, RN, FACHE, CCTC, Director of Pediatric Transplant Center, Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital Stanford</p>

Time	Session Information
8:00am-9:00am Salon J-K	<p>Breakout 12 – UNOS Tools and Resources</p> <p>Sarah Taranto, Service Line Lead, UNOS</p> <p>Christina Braun, BS, MS, FNP-BC, SSGB, Manager, Transplant Regulatory, Penn Transplant Institute</p> <p>Colleen O'Donnell Flores, MHA, Director, Quality & Regulatory Affairs, Transplant Institute, Northwell Health</p> <p><i>Join some of the transplant hospital professionals involved in the UNOS tool working group as they discuss two of the UNOS data tools - UNOS Predict and the CARE tool. Hear directly from them how these tools can integrate into your improvement and monitoring projects to maximize the impact on your programs. Additionally, UNOS staff will share details on recent and upcoming enhancements to UNOS tools such as the UNOS RFI, Key Insights Dashboard, and Benchmark reports.</i></p> <p>Moderator: John Martens, MPH, Data and Quality Administrator, University of Rochester Medical Center</p>

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Time	Session/Event Information
9:00am-9:30am Exhibit Hall	Break with Exhibitors & Abstract Poster Viewing <i>This break is sponsored by Veloxis Pharmaceuticals.</i>
9:15am-9:30am Product Theater Area outside Exhibit Hall	NEW This Year! Join Natera for an Exclusive Product Theater Presentation! Leveraging Non-invasive Molecular Insights to Identify Rejection - Even Earlier This talk will enable you to know: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What dd-cfDNA testing is and how it works• Why it has been highlighted as an important part of your monitoring toolkit, from published studies• How it can be implemented in your current workflows Don't miss this opportunity to learn how your organization can benefit from Natera's innovative solutions. Visit us at Booth 108 to explore more and connect with our experts!



2025



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Breakout Sessions 13-16
Repeats at 2:35 pm – 3:35 pm

Time	Session Information
<p>9:40am-10:40am Salon J-K</p>	<p>Breakout 13 – Rapid Multi-Organ Transplant Program Growth: Quality and Resources Management Implications</p> <p>Simona Rossi, MD, Chief of Hepatology, Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital</p> <p>Caroline Rochon, MD, FACS, Director of Hepatobiliary Surgery and Surgical Oncology, Transplant Surgeon, Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital</p> <p><i>Discussion of increased transplant volume from a transplant center's perspective with focus on regulatory quality metrics. Discussing resource management including existing and planning for additions.</i></p> <p><i>The 3 dimensions of growth in transplantation: Quantity, Quality, and Culture</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Quantity 2.Quality 3.Culture <p>Moderator: Janine Vallen, RN, MSN, CCTN, APN-C, AVP of Transplant Services, Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital</p> <p><i>This session is sponsored by ParaFlight Aviation.</i></p>



Time	Session Information
<p>9:40am-10:40am Pearl 1-2</p>	<p>Breakout 14 – Title TBD</p> <p>Jon Snyder, PhD, MS, Director Transplant Epidemiology, Hennepin Healthcare Research Institute</p> <p>Moderator: Adriane Jungbluth, MSLA, CPHQ, Transplant Quality Program Manager, Cleveland Clinic Foundation</p>
<p>9:40am-10:40am Pearl 3</p>	<p>Breakout 15 – Transplant Contracting with Payers</p> <p>Bridget Whaley, MHA, Sr. Director, Managed Care, Stanford Healthcare</p> <p>Kristen Muncy, MHA; Sr. Consultant, Provider Strategy, Nimit Consulting</p> <p>Dirk P. Slaker, MD, Chief Medical Officer, Sonder Health Plans</p> <p><i>This DYNAMIC presentation split will be into two parts, providing attendees with a basic introduction to contracting for transplant services as well as strategies from the payer's perspective on how to achieve successful contracting.</i></p> <p><i>Transplant Contracting with Payers: The Basics</i> <i>This presentation will provide a basic introduction to contracting for transplant services. This includes definitions and terms commonly used, frequently used contract structures, and provide enough knowledge for the attendee to interpret a typical transplant contract.</i></p> <p><i>Transplant Contracting with Payers: Strategies and Surveillance</i> <i>This more advanced presentation about contracting with transplant payers will address strategies in negotiating terms, as well as how to monitor the performance of your contracts. Attendees should leave this session with a global understanding of the 'levers' that can be pulled to help negotiate a beneficial contract.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Celeste Braly MSN, RN, CPHQ, Director Quality and Compliance, UW Health Transplant Center</p>

Time	Session Information
<p>9:40am-10:40am Salon L-M</p>	<p>Breakout 16 – Using UNOS Staffing Survey Data to Drive Improvements</p> <p>Alex Garza, Sr. Business Analyst, UNOS</p> <p>Melanie Arfuso, RN, BSN, Transplant Operations Manager, HCA Florida Largo Hospital</p> <p>Jennifer Kerney, NP, Director of Clinical Operations, Transplant Services, UCSF Health</p> <p><i>This session will be an interactive workshop to look at ways transplant programs can leverage this data. We will provide real scenarios/problems to work through within the tool and provide experts within the community who can share how they have used the tool to help their programs.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Dana Blayney, MSN, RN, Director, Transplant & Dialysis, Clinical Services Group, HCA Healthcare</p>
<p>10:40am-10:55am Exhibit Hall</p>	<p>Break with Exhibitors & Abstract Poster Viewing</p> <p>This break is sponsored by Global Transplant Solutions.</p>

Breakout Sessions 17-20

****Please note these sessions do not repeat in the afternoon****

Time	Session Information
<p>11:00am-12:00pm Salon L-M</p>	<p>Breakout 17 – Mini-Orals - Abstracts</p> <p>2024 Best of the Best Winner – The Case for a Dedicated Transplant Call Team</p> <p>Heather Wertin, BSN, RN, MPH, Transplant Coordinator, Barnes-Jewish Hospital</p> <p>Abstract 2 – A Transplant Center Response to Monitor and Improve Pre-Transplant Waitlist Mortality Utilizing Data and Automation</p> <p>Teresa Ambrosino, BBIS, Lead Business Intelligence Analyst, Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center</p> <p>Abstract 3 – Matching the Future: Leveraging AI and Machine Learning to Optimize Organ Allocation</p> <p>Margaret Coakley, MBA, MSN, RN, Operations Manager, Transplant Surgery, Northwestern Memorial Hospital</p> <p>Abstract 4 – Accelerating Kidney Transplants: An Innovative Referral Screening Tool</p> <p>Molly Maxwell, MSN, RN, CCTC, Nurse Manager, Ohio State University</p> <p>Moderator: Kristy Mastalarz, RN, BSN, Organ Procurement Coordinator, Trinity Medical Solutions</p>

Time	Session Information
<p>11:00am-12:00pm Pearl 3</p>	<p>Breakout 18 – Medicare Cost Report Advanced</p> <p>Robert Howey, MBA, MHA, CPA, Sr. Consultant, Transplant Management Group</p> <p>Kara Hovatter, BS, CTFC, Director of Transplant Finance and Regulatory Compliance, Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital</p> <p><i>This session will cover the importance of properly reporting organ acquisition items within the Medicare Cost Report to include pre-transplant charges, living donor services, Medicare/Total usable organs, and the Medicare Secondary Payer rule. The session will also discuss the important relationship between the Transplant programs and its Managed Care Contracting Department.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Janine Vallen, RN, MSN, CCTN, APN-C, AVP of Transplant Services, Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital</p> <p><i>This session is sponsored by Krystal Ball Technologies.</i></p>
<p>11:00am-12:00pm Pearl 1-2</p>	<p>Breakout 19 – Disaster Preparedness - Are you Ready?</p> <p>Operating a Transplant Program During an Extended EMR Downtime</p> <p>Susan Bourgeois, MSN, RN, CCRN, CPHQ, CCTN, CENP, VP Transplant, Baylor St. Luke’s Medical Center</p> <p>Hurricane Milton’s Wrath</p> <p>Melanie Arfuso, BSN, RN, Transplant Operations Manager, HCA Florida Largo Hospital</p> <p><i>In 2021, CMS updated Emergency Preparedness requirements for hospital and transplant programs. If your program was put to the test, would your emergency preparedness plan be sufficient? Learn from transplant programs and OPOs who experienced emergencies and how they maintained services for patients in need.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Martha J. Stipsits, MHA, BSN, RN, Director, Transplant Services, Barnes-Jewish Hospital</p>

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Time	Session Information
11:00am-12:00pm Salon J-K	<p>Breakout 20 – Across the Pond: International Transplantation</p> <p>Scott Wayne, Director, Envoy</p> <p>Jeffrey Orlowski, MS, CPTC, FAST, President & Chief Executive Officer, LifeShare Network</p> <p><i>Presentations and highlights from UNOS work internationally - what does organ transplant look like in other countries? Where are they in the process of developing an organ transplantation system? How might it influence processes in the United States? Update on UNOS collaboration with other countries.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Adriane Jungbluth, MSLA, CPHQ, Transplant Quality Program Manager, Cleveland Clinic Foundation</p>

Time	Session/Event Information
12:30pm- 1:30pm Exhibit Hall	Lunch with Exhibitors - Networking with Peers - Abstract Poster Viewing
12:15pm-1:00pm Salon J-K	Lunch & Learn Symposium with TransMedics

Lunch & Learn Symposium with TransMedics

TransMedics' mission is to help save more patients' lives by increasing the number of viable organs available for transplant, all while improving patient outcomes. For more information, please visit: www.transmedics.com.



How to Help Your Program Increase Transplant Volume and Improve Patient Outcomes with NMP

Kimberly Nicoll, BSN, MPH, VP for Transplant Reimbursement, TransMedics with guest speakers from user centers

This presentation will discuss current aspects of TransMedics' National OCS program and its impact on transplant programs. Learn about centers' experience with accessing more organs, allowing them to transplant more patients, more quickly, with excellent patient outcomes and improved resource utilization.



Breakout Sessions 9 - 12

Repeated from morning sessions.

****Please note some sessions may not repeat from the morning sessions****

Time	Session Information
<p>1:05pm-2:05pm Pearl 3</p>	<p>Breakout 9 – Artificial Intelligence in Transplant Medicine</p> <p>Ankit Mathur, MBA, MSIS, Chief Technology Officer, UNOS</p> <p>Jeffrey Orlowski, MS, CPTC, FAST, President & Chief Executive Officer, LifeShare Network</p> <p><i>The session will feature key professionals discussing how artificial intelligence is being leveraged to enhance organ donation and transplantation, providing attendees with valuable insights into emerging and prospective innovations in the field.</i></p> <p>Learn more about Ankit Mathur’s session here.</p> <p>Moderator: Heather Osipowicz, MBA, MSBS, CTBS, Director Hospital Services, Nevada Donor Network</p> <p><i>This session is sponsored by Statline.</i></p>
<p>1:05pm-2:05pm Salon L-M</p>	<p>Breakout 10 – Social Connection and Healthcare Workers</p> <p>Candace Nicolls, Director, Envoy</p> <p>Alan Dow, MD, MSHA, Hospital Medicine Physician and Expert Consultant, Envoy</p> <p><i>Within the broader societal epidemic of loneliness, healthcare workers are particularly vulnerable to feeling isolated and burnt out because of the challenging nature of their work. In this session, we discuss the importance of connection to resilience and provide tools to help individuals and units become more connected and resilient.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Dana Blayney, MSN, RN, Director, Transplant & Dialysis Clinical Services Group, HCA Healthcare</p>

Time	Session Information
1:05pm-2:05pm Pearl 1-2	<p>Breakout 11 – The C-Suite’s Roles: Create and Maintain a Healthy Relationship Between Transplant and the C-Suite to Drive Growth and Sustain Outcomes</p> <p>Sara Geatrakas, MSN, RN, Business & Operations Manager, Hackensack University Medical Center</p> <p>Clare Socci, BSN, RN, Director, Organ Transplant & Surgery, Hackensack University Medical Center</p> <p>Martha J. Stipsits, MHA, BSN, RN, Director, Transplant Services, Barnes-Jewish Hospital</p> <p><i>As a transplant center, it is imperative that we remain fiscally responsible while balancing growth and innovation requests. How do you help the C-Suite and Clinical Provider Leadership gain competency in transplant financials to understand the business of transplantation? This session will explain the basics of telling the transplant financial story and key items to consider when assessing the financial viability of requests to drive growth and innovation.</i></p> <p><u>Learn more about this session here.</u></p> <p>Moderator: Josh Gossett, DNP, MBA, RN, FACHE, CCTC, Director of Pediatric Transplant Center, Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital Stanford</p>

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Time	Session Information
<p>1:05pm-2:05pm Salon J-K</p>	<p>Breakout 12 – UNOS Tools and Resources</p> <p>Sarah Taranto, Service Line Lead, UNOS</p> <p>Christina Braun, BS, MS, FNP-BC, SSGB, Manager, Transplant Regulatory, Penn Transplant Institute</p> <p>Colleen O’Donnell Flores, MHA, Director, Quality & Regulatory Affairs, Transplant Institute, Northwell Health</p> <p><i>Join some of the transplant hospital professionals involved in the UNOS tool working group as they discuss two of the UNOS data tools - UNOS Predict and the CARE tool. Hear directly from them how these tools can integrate into your improvement and monitoring projects to maximize the impact on your programs. Additionally, UNOS staff will share details on recent and upcoming enhancements to UNOS tools such as the UNOS RFI, Key Insights Dashboard, and Benchmark reports.</i></p> <p>Moderator: John Martens, MPH, Data and Quality Administrator, University of Rochester Medical Center</p>
<p>2:05pm-2:30pm Exhibit Hall</p>	<p>Break with Exhibitors & Abstract Poster Viewing</p> <p><i>This break is sponsored by DTH Expeditors, Inc.</i></p>

**Breakout Sessions 13-16
Repeated from morning sessions.**

Time	Session Information
<p>2:35pm-3:35pm Salon J-K</p>	<p>Breakout 13 – Rapid Multi-Organ Transplant Program Growth: Quality and Resources Management Implications</p> <p>Simona Rossi, MD, Chief of Hepatology, Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital</p> <p>Caroline Rochon, MD, FACS, Director of Hepatobiliary Surgery and Surgical Oncology, Transplant Surgeon, Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital</p> <p><i>Discussion of increased transplant volume from a transplant center's perspective with focus on regulatory quality metrics. Discussing resource management including existing and planning for additions.</i></p> <p><i>The 3 dimensions of growth in transplantation: Quantity, Quality, and Culture</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Quantity 2. Quality 3. Culture <p>Moderator: Janine Vallen, RN, MSN, CCTN, APN-C, AVP of Transplant Services, Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital</p> <p><i>This session is sponsored by ParaFlight Aviation.</i></p>

Time	Session Information
<p>2:35pm-3:35pm Pearl 1-2</p>	<p>Breakout 14 – Title TBD</p> <p>Jon Snyder, PhD, MS, Director Transplant Epidemiology, Hennepin Healthcare Research Institute</p> <p>Moderator: Adriane Jungbluth, MSLA, CPHQ, Transplant Quality Program Manager, Cleveland Clinic Foundation</p>
<p>2:35pm-3:35pm Pearl 3</p>	<p>Breakout 15 – Transplant Contracting with Payers</p> <p>Bridget Whaley, MHA, Sr. Director, Managed Care, Stanford Healthcare</p> <p>Kristen Muncy, MHA; Sr. Consultant, Provider Strategy, Nimitt Consulting</p> <p>Dirk P. Slaker, MD, Chief Medical Officer, Sonder Health Plans</p> <p><i>This DYNAMIC presentation split will be into two parts, providing attendees with a basic introduction to contracting for transplant services as well as strategies from the payer's perspective on how to achieve successful contracting.</i></p> <p><i>Transplant Contracting with Payers: The Basics</i> <i>This presentation will provide a basic introduction to contracting for transplant services. This includes definitions and terms commonly used, frequently used contract structures, and provide enough knowledge for the attendee to interpret a typical transplant contract.</i></p> <p><i>Transplant Contracting with Payers: Strategies and Surveillance</i> <i>This more advanced presentation about contracting with transplant payers will address strategies in negotiating terms, as well as how to monitor the performance of your contracts. Attendees should leave this session with a global understanding of the 'levers' that can be pulled to help negotiate a beneficial contract.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Celeste Braly MSN, RN, CPHQ, Director Quality and Compliance, UW Health Transplant Center</p>

Time	Session Information
<p>2:35pm-3:35pm Salon L-M</p>	<p>Breakout 16 – Using UNOS Staffing Survey Data to Drive Improvements</p> <p>Alex Garza, Sr. Business Analyst, UNOS</p> <p>Melanie Arfuso, RN, BSN, Transplant Operations Manager, HCA Florida Largo Hospital</p> <p>Jennifer Kerney, NP, Director of Clinical Operations, Transplant Services, UCSF Health</p> <p><i>This session will be an interactive workshop to look at ways transplant programs can leverage this data. We will provide real scenarios/problems to work through within the tool and provide experts within the community who can share how they have used the tool to help their programs.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Dana Blayney, MSN, RN, Director, Transplant & Dialysis, Clinical Services Group, HCA Healthcare</p>
<p>3:35pm-3:55pm Exhibit Hall</p>	<p>Break with Exhibitors & Scavenger Hunt Prize Winner Announced</p>

Network & Learn Sessions

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

	Session Information
Pearl 3	<p>Quality Opportunity for quality colleagues to network and discuss all things quality.</p> <p>Moderators: Celeste Braly, MSN, RN, CPHQ, Director, Quality and Compliance, UW Health Transplant Center</p>
Pearl 1-2	<p>Finance Opportunity for finance colleagues to network and discuss all things finance.</p> <p>Moderators: Robert Howey, MBA, MHA, CPA, Sr. Consultant, Transplant Management Group</p> <p>Dwana Bailey, CTFC, Sr. Transplant Financial Coordinator, Ochsner Health</p>
Conference Room 16-17	<p>OPO Opportunity to discuss innovations and network with peers.</p> <p>Moderators: Heather Osipowicz, MBS, BA, Director Hospital Services, Nevada Donor Network</p> <p>Candy Wells, BSN, MM, Director, Organ Utilization, LifeCenter Northwest</p>
Salon J-K	<p>New Administrator Opportunity for new transplant administrators to network with each other.</p> <p>Moderators: Dana Blayney, MSN, RN, Director, Transplant & Dialysis Clinical Services Group, HCA Healthcare</p> <p>Janine Vallen, RN, MSN, CCTN, APN-C, AVP of Transplant Services, Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital</p>

	Session Information
Conference Room 14	<p>Pediatrics Opportunity for Pediatric colleagues to network and discuss all things Peds.</p> <p>Moderators: Josh Gossett, DNP, MBA, RN, FACHE, CCTC, Director of Pediatric Transplant Center, Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital Stanford</p> <p>Diana Harter, MSN, RN, Director of Nursing, Transplant Services, Texas Children’s Hospital</p>
Salon L-M	<p>UNOS Opportunity to meet with various UNOS staff to network and learn more about UNOS.</p> <p>Moderators: Ace Callwood, Executive Mediator & Facilitator, Envoy Stinson Mundy, Head of Strategic Initiatives, UNOS Sarah Taranto, Service Line Lead, UNOS</p>



Agenda

Agenda is subject to change

Wednesday, May 7, 2025

7:00 am - 12:00 pm

Time	Session/Event Information
7:00am-12:00pm Registration Area	Registration Desk Open Sponsored by Stanford Medicine Children’s Health.
7:00am-8:00am Exhibit Hall Foyer	Breakfast & Networking with Peers

Plenary Sessions

8:00am-9:00am Salon G-I	<p>Negotiating Skills for Health Professionals</p> <p>Benjamin Cirka, Executive Director & Founder, Community Hospitality Healthcare Services</p> <p>Stacey Lee, JD, Professor of Practice, Johns Hopkins Carey Business School</p> <p><i>The art and science of negotiation, although pivotal elements of business training, are oft neglected areas for healthcare professionals. These skills are critical for successful team building, project development, goal setting, conflict resolution, and many other functions. Moreover, effective leadership demands sound negotiating skills. The talk will be from the perspective of an individual with extensive experience and expertise as a successful negotiator.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Martha J. Stipsits, MHA, BSN, RN, Director, Transplant Services, Barnes-Jewish Hospital</p>
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Time	Session Information
<p>9:00am-9:30am Salon G-I</p>	<p>Managing Burnout and Building Resiliency: A Pathway to Psychological Safety</p> <p>Nikashia Franklin, MSN, RN, NEA-BC, Assistant Clinical Director, Palliative Care, Texas Children’s Hospital</p> <p><i>This session is designed for professionals in transplant management and organ procurement organizations, addressing the complex stressors inherent in their high-stakes, mission-driven work. We will explore practical strategies to identify and combat burnout, build resilience, and foster psychological safety within teams. Emphasis will be placed on how these efforts impact personal well-being, as well as patient outcomes and experiences. Key topics include developing emotional intelligence, prioritizing self-care, creating a culture of trust, and implementing sustainable frameworks to enhance team well-being and performance. Attendees will leave with actionable insights to create environments where both individuals and patients can thrive.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Diana Harter, MSN, RN, Director of Nursing, Transplant Services, Texas Children’s Hospital</p>
<p>9:30am-10:15am Salon G-I</p>	<p>A Mother and Son’s Transplant Story</p> <p>Brittany Clayborne, PsyD, MS, Founder & Executive Director, Heart Transplant Recipient, Brittany Speaks, Inc.</p> <p>Micah Clayborne, Heart Recipient</p> <p><i>Join Dr. Brittany Clayborne, a heart transplant recipient as she shares her remarkable journey alongside her son, Micah—who recently received his own heart transplant. In this inspiring session, Brittany and Micah will provide a unique perspective on the transplant experience from both adult and pediatric viewpoints.</i></p> <p>Moderator: John Martens, MPH, Data and Quality Administrator, University of Rochester Medical Center</p>

Time	Session Information
10:15am-10:30pm	Short Break
10:am-12:00pm Salon G-I	<p>Advancing Organ Perfusion Strategies: Optimizing Utilization and Patient Outcomes Perfusion Panel</p> <p>Amit Mathur, MD, MS, FACS, Consultant, Division of Transplant Surgery, Professor of Surgery, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine & Science, Surgical Director, Liver Transplantation, Mayo Clinic Arizona</p> <p>Mark Kearns, MD, FRCSC, Cardiothoracic Surgeon, Assistant Professor of Surgery, UCSD Health</p> <p>Nathan L. Fine, BSN, RN, CPTC, CCTC, CTBS, Transplant Partnership Manager, Donor Network of Arizona</p> <p><i>This session will explore how transplant centers and OPOs are managing emerging and complex organ perfusion strategies, including Normothermic Regional Perfusion (NRP), Normothermic Machine Perfusion (NMP), and Hypothermic Machine Perfusion (HMP). These advanced techniques, particularly NRP, require enhanced coordination and expertise during procurement to optimize organ utilization.</i></p> <p><i>Dr. Amit Mathur from Mayo Clinic Arizona will discuss liver organ preservation strategies, addressing key decision points in selecting the appropriate modality and the resulting patient outcomes.</i></p> <p><i>Nathan Fine from Donor Network of Arizona will provide insights into their OPO-driven NRP program, sharing lessons learned, early successes, and key considerations for implementation.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Candy Wells, BSN, MM, Director, Organ Utilization, LifeCenter Northwest</p> <p><i>This session is sponsored by Bridge to Life.</i></p>
12:00pm	<p>Conference Concludes</p> <p>Thank you for attending the 2025 UNOS Transplant Management Forum! Don't forget to submit your evaluations to obtain your CEUs.</p>

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AWARDS

Heckenkemper Leader in Transplant Administration/Quality Award

Established in memory of Deedle Heckenkemper, this award honors the contributions he made in the foundation and development of the OPTN Transplant Administrators Committee and the donation and transplantation community. The UNOS TMF Planning Committee reviews all nominations and selects the winner based on specific criteria.

Abstract Awards

- **Category 1:** Financial Operations
- **Category 2:** QAPI, Safety and Regulatory
- **Category 3:** Clinical Operations
- **Category 4:** Strategy/Marketing/Leadership
- **Category 5:** Advancing Organ Donation
- **Best of the Best**

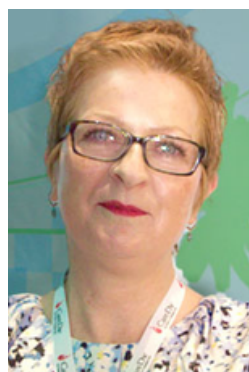
Past Heckenkemper Award Winners

Heckenkemper Award is sponsored by



2024

Nancy Metzler



2023

Marian O'Rourke, RN,
CCTC



2022

Jennifer Milton, BSN,
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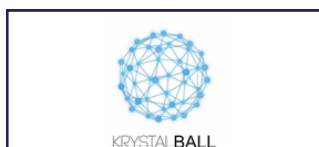
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Lunch and Learn

Monday, May 5, 12–12:30pm
Salon J - K

Transforming Your Transplant Center: Achieving Volume-Based AND Value-Based Care

Session Summary:

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Speaker:
Koren Axelrod
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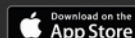
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dan noreen

manager, community affairs & philanthropy

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