



On-Demand Recordings in [UNOS Connect](#)

Presentations not available in the UNOS Connect On-Demand library are indicated below

Plenary Sessions

President's Address

Matthew Cooper, MD, FACS, UNOS President, Director, Kidney and Pancreas Transplantation, Medical Director, Transplant QAPI, Medstar Georgetown Transplant Institute, Washington, DC

Moderator: Nancy Metzler, Transplant Administrator, University of Rochester Medical Center/Strong Memorial Hospital, NY

Keynote - Uterine Transplantation: The Gift of Experiencing Pregnancy

Gregory McKenna, MD, FRCS(C), FACS, Abdominal Transplant Surgeon, Uterus Transplant Program, Baylor University Medical Center, TX

Becoming a mother is a monumental moment. Through the donation of a uterus, a previously infertile woman can experience pregnancy and childbirth. Uterus transplantation is the newest organ transplant and the first life-creating transplant. Hear about the incredible journey of uterus transplant from a physician and a patient view.

Moderator: Heidi Wagenhauser, BS, Manager, Transplant Center and Partner Development Southwest Transplant Alliance, TX

COVID-19 Vaccine Mandates: Theory and Practice

Recording of Olivia Kates, MD presentation available only

Dorry Segev, MD, PhD, Professor of Surgery & Population Health, Vice Chair for Research, Department of Surgery, Director, Center for Surgical and Transplant Applied Research (C-STAR), NYU Grossman School of Medicine, NYU Langone Health, NY

Olivia Kates, MD, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Infectious Diseases Transplant & Oncology Infectious Diseases Attending MA Bioethics, Johns Hopkins University, MD (remote presenter)

In this session, Drs. Segev and Kates will address current controversies in COVID-19 vaccine mandates through a series of case-based discussions. For each scenario, relevant data and data gaps, ethical reasoning, and practical challenges will be addressed. The session will provide a broad factual and ethical foundation for understanding vaccine mandates, while also exploring the nuances and obstacles encountered when transplant centers bring mandates from theory into practice.

Moderator: Deonna Taylor, PhD, MSN, ACNP, Associate Nursing Officer, Vanderbilt Transplant Center & Vanderbilt Lung Institute, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, TN

Keynote - Mission-Driven Innovation Driving the Patient-Centered Future of Health Care

Richard J. Gray, MD, CEO, Vice President Mayo Clinic in Arizona, AZ

Dr. Gray will discuss trends in health care and Mayo Clinic's approach to innovation while remaining true to its mission and values.

Moderators: David Mulligan, MD, FACS, Professor and Chief, Section of Transplantation and Immunology/Director, Yale New Haven Hospital, CT and

Derek Ginos, Transplant Administrator, Intermountain Healthcare, UT

All-In or Out: An All or Nothing Proposition to Save Lives

Jennifer Milton, BSN, CCTC, MBA, Executive Director, University Hospital, University of Texas Health Science Center, TX

David Fleming, Executive Director, Donate Life America, VA

The transplant community should (and does) continuously look at mechanisms to boost organ supply including calls to change America's donor registration system from Opt-In to Opt-Out. This session will explore this long-lived debate by comparing international approaches, contemporary performance, and potential. Guidance to transplant leaders on how to drive "local" improvements in donation will showcase the ROI for your center from doing so, in lives saved, revenue, and morale.

Moderator: Susan Zylicz, MHA, BSN, CCTC, Director, Transplant Administration, Houston Methodist Hospital, TX

The Future of Organ Allocation: How Continuous Distributions Changes How we Allocate Organs and How we Develop Organ Allocation Policies.

James Alcorn, JD, Senior Policy Strategist, UNOS, VA

The OPTN Board of Directors approved the continuous distribution of lungs in December 2021. The OPTN is now working on the continuous distribution of kidneys, pancreata, liver, and intestine. Join this session to learn more about what this means for how organs are allocated and how you can help develop these innovative systems.

Moderator: Susan Zylicz, MHA, BSN, CCTC, Director, Transplant Administration, Houston Methodist Hospital, TX

SRTR Updates & Hot Topics

Jon Snyder, PhD, MS, Director, Transplant Epidemiology, SRTR, Hennepin Healthcare Research Institute (HHRI), MN

In this session, you will learn about SRTR's Task 5 initiative, transplant metrics at a conceptual level, the work the SRTR is doing to engage the community in this process, and preview the consensus conference.

Moderator: Jason Huff, MSN, RN, FNKF, Senior Director, Transplant Services, Children's Hospital Medical Center, OH

Disparities to Access in Transplantation

Presentation recording not available

Nicole Turgeon, MD, FACS, Professor, Department of Surgery and Perioperative Care, Division Chief, Transplant Surgery, UT Health, TX

Disparities in transplantation are widespread, well documented, and contribute to inequity in both access and outcomes. This presentation will discuss policy and systems-based approaches to the problem, with an eye toward achieving future equity in transplantation.

Moderator: Amy Peele, RN, Author, TMF Emcee, CA



Breakout 1 - Battling Burnout – Keeping Life Balance

Nona Dawson-Land, MSW, LSW, CSSW, CGT, Social Worker, Virtua Health, NJ

In this session, the following topics will be discussed:

- *5 Stages of Burnout*
- *Stress vs. Depression*
- *Stress vs. Burnout*
- *Male vs. Female Burnout, is there a difference?*
- *Burnout Questionnaire*
- *Fixing the workplace, not the worker*
- *Tips for stress management*
- *Self-care, You are important*

Moderator: Christine Palms, MS, RN, CCTC, CPTC, Vice President Transplant Service Line, Virtua Health, NJ

Breakout 2 - Communication & Operations with OPO/Transplant Centers to Improve Efficiency in Allocation and Increase Transplantation

Matthew Cooper, MD, FACS, UNOS President, Director, Kidney and Pancreas Transplantation, Medical Director, Transplant QAPI, Medstar Georgetown Transplant Institute, Washington, DC



Rolf Barth, MD, Professor of Surgery, Director, Liver, Kidney and Pancreas Transplantation, Associate Director, Transplant Institute, University of Chicago Medicine, IL

PJ Geraghty, MBA, CPTC, Vice President of Clinical Services, Donor Network of Arizona, AZ

Bilal Mahmood, MBBS, MBA, CPTC, Director of Clinical Services, Finger Lakes Donor Recovery Network, NY

OPTN launched the new Kidney, Pancreas, Kidney-Pancreas, and Islets Allocation System changes that took effect in March of 2021. “Local” is no longer “local” anymore. The need to be more proactive to adopt best practices and improve communication between out of state OPOs and Transplant Centers has become/proven vital for everyone.

Moderator: Bilal Mahmood, MBBS, MBA, CPTC, Director of Clinical Services, Finger Lakes Donor Recovery Network, NY

Breakout 3 - Pediatrics - Analyzing Racial, Ethnic, and Psychosocial Disparities in Pediatric Transplant Listing Decisions

Brendan Kimball, MBA, Transplant Manager, Boston Children’s Hospital Pediatric Transplant Center, MA

Dawn Freiburger, MSN, CCTC, Lung Transplant Coordinator, Boston Children’s Hospital Pediatric Transplant Center, MA



Laura O’Melia, CPNP, CCTC, Director of Nursing/Patient Care Operations, Boston Children’s Hospital Pediatric Transplant Center, MA

A multidisciplinary panel from Boston Children’s Hospital will share their experience in forming a Transplant Listing Advisory Committee to study potential racial, ethnic, and psychosocial disparities in listing practices across their five organ programs. Discussion to follow with interventions and ideas on how to reduce racial/ethnic disparities in pediatric transplant populations.

Moderator: Megan Bisek, MA, Clinical Program Manager, Solid Organ Transplant, Children’s Hospital Colorado, CO

Breakout 4 - Optimizing Living Donor Follow-Up in Contemporary Practice: Overcoming Barriers with Innovative Solutions

Krista L. Lentine, MD, PhD, Professor of Medicine, Medical Director, Living Kidney Donation Co-Director, Clinical Research, Saint Louis University Medicine Center for Transplantation, MO

Jon Snyder, PhD, MS, Director, Transplant Epidemiology, SRTR, Hennepin Healthcare Research Institute (HHRI), MN

In this session, the following topics will be discussed:

- 1. Barriers to living donor follow-up at the patient and system level
Review of trends in follow-up, including center-level variations*
- 2. Innovations in follow-up: The Living Donor Collective
Provide details of how the LD Collective works, innovations in progress to include drawing registration data, and direct from patient data opportunities*

Moderator: Deonna Taylor, PhD, MSN, ACNP, Associate Nursing Officer, Vanderbilt Transplant Center & Vanderbilt Lung Institute, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, TN

Breakout 5 - Mini-oral- Abstracts (presentations are 30 minutes each)

2 Abstract presentations at 30 minutes each

Abstract 1: 2021 Best of the Best Winner – Monitoring Transformation: Minimizing Financial Costs Associated with Surveillance Protocol for HCV+ Kidney Transplant Recipients *This abstract was also presented at the 2021 UNOS TMF Virtual conference

Andrea Tietjen, MBA, CPA, AVP, Transplant Administrative Services, Saint Barnabas Medical Center, NJ

Abstract 2: Reducing Financial Burden for Living Donors: A Single Center Experience of Increased NLDAC Utilization

Kaitlin Throgmorton, LMSW, Transplant Social Worker, University Health System San Antonio, TX

Moderator: Jamie Bucio, EMT-P, CPTC, Thoracic Organ Procurement Coordinator, University of Chicago Medicine, IL

Breakout 6 - Keeping on Track with the UNOS Train: Keeping Your Center Current with Evolving OPTN Policies and Best Practices

Jenn Muriett, Chief Operating Officer, Donor Alliance, CO

Kelly Dunn, Transplant Referral Nurse, Yale New Haven Hospital, CT

Mitzi Barker, MHA, BSN, RN, CCTC, CPHQ, Clinical Program Manager, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, OH

As OPTN policies continue to evolve, staying abreast of the changes and determining how to successfully implement them in our OPS & Transplant centers can be challenging. This session involves strategies and tools that can help with operationalizing policy changes, including tracking and logistics. Additionally, we will review how the OPTN reviews transplant program resources necessary to support new policy so you can ensure successful implementation!

Moderator: Michelle James, MS, RN, CNS, CCTN, Director, Solid Organ Transplant Service Line, M Health Fairview, MN



Breakout 7 - Overcoming Barriers to Transplant Evaluation: Leveraging Partnerships, Process and Technology to Improve Access to Care for Transplant Recipients and Living Donors

Amanda Weichold, RN, VP of Transplant, Methodist Specialty and Transplant Hospital, TX

Maura Kapp, RN, Transplant Coordinator, Methodist Specialty and Transplant Hospital, TX

A common goal of transplant centers is to improve access to care while providing timely and efficient evaluations. This session will provide an overview of common barriers transplant centers face with evaluations for both recipients and living kidney donors. We will explore strategies to improve referral rates and intake processing, while offering a more efficient and timely evaluation. We will also identify useful tools and key partnerships that can better serve the patients while providing an exceptional experience.

Moderator: Jason Huff, MSN, RN, FNKF, Senior Director, Transplant Services, Children's Hospital Medical Center, OH

Breakout 8 - Exposing Our Unconscious Biases in Transplant

Presentation recording not available

Tanjala S. Purnell, PhD, MPH, Assistant Professor of Epidemiology, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, MD

This session will identify biases in listing practices and how to overcome barriers to equitable access to transplantation.

Moderator: Katie Dokus, MPH, Quality Manager, University of Rochester Medical Center/Strong Memorial Hospital, NY

Breakout 9 - UNOS Tools in Action

Sarah Taranto, Transplant Analytics Service Line Leader, UNOS, VA

Neelam Singh, Manager, Business Intelligence and Data Products, UNOS, VA

Yvette Chapman, RN, BSN, VP of Business Partner Development, Southwest Transplant Alliance, TX

Derek Ginos, Transplant Director, Intermountain Medical Center, UT

Laurie Loza, RN, Manager of Clinical Operations, Houston Methodist Hospital, TX

Transplant professionals will talk about three of the most popular UNOS data tools: OUT, Transplant Program Dashboard, and CARE. Hear their firsthand experiences comprising "how they first learned to best use these tools" to "how they are now integrating them with their improvement projects and maximizing the impact on their programs."

Moderator: Heidi Wagenhauser, BS, Manager, Transplant Center and Partner Development, Southwest Transplant Alliance, TX

Breakout 10 - Minimizing the System to Maximize Medicare Claimable Costs

Kristen McQuone, Data Coordinator, The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, OH

We will describe the development of system algorithms and custom programming leveraging Epic Clarity to sort Pre-Transplant Medicare Claimable costs, utilizing a dashboard that parallels the Revenue Cycle Medicare work queue for pre-transplant evaluation charges. This dashboard separates the charges into a "yes" group and a "no" group based off specific criteria. This eliminates time reviewing known pre-transplant charges and allows for review of only those charges that are questionable reducing the time needed to review the charges by about 75% and results in more accurate submission for Medicare cost reimbursement.

Moderator: Michelle James, MS, RN, CNS, CCTN, Director, Solid Organ Transplant Service Line, M Health Fairview, MN

Breakout 11 - Changing the Trajectory: How a Strong Foundation in Quality Can Lead to Culture Change and Performance Improvement in Transplantation

Presentation recording not available

Kamyar Afshar, DO, Medical Director, Lung Transplant Program, University of California San Diego Health, CA

Between 2015-2016, the liver and lung programs at CASD experienced significant outcomes issues, which surfaced publicly in 2017. Narrowly avoiding decertification, both programs sought out to rebuild from the ground up with quality as the catalyst for cultural change. In 2021, both programs experienced tremendous growth and maintained excellent graft and patient survival, earning COE for insurers that previously refused even emergent contracting.

Moderator: Josh Gossett, DNP, MBA, RN, FACHE, CCTC, Director of Pediatric Transplant Center, Stanford Children's Health, CA



Breakout 12 - Billing for Living Kidney Donor Care: Balancing Cost Recovery, Regulatory Compliance, and Minimized Donor Burden

Andrea Tietjen, MBA, CPA, AVP, Transplant Administrative Services, Saint Barnabas Medical Center, NJ

Gwen E. McNatt, PhD, FNP-BC, FAAN, Chief Administrative Officer, Organ Transplant Center, University of Iowa Health Care, IA

Robert Howey, MBA, MHA, CPA, Senior Director, Toyon Associates, FL

Panel discussion on strategies to consistently and appropriately obtain reimbursement via the Medicare Cost Report by utilizing organ acquisition; coordinate available coverage for living donor pretesting, evaluation, hospitalization, follow-up care, and complications; coordinate charges in kidney paired donation; and maximize coverage through private insurance contracting. Based on published article

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31214485/>.

Moderator: Deonna Taylor, PhD, MSN, ACNP, Associate Nursing Officer, Vanderbilt Transplant Center & Vanderbilt Lung Institute, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, TN



Breakout 13 - Mini-oral- Abstracts (presentations are 30 minutes each)

Abstract 1 - Leveraging the EHR to Optimize Program Staffing Models: Developing Metrics and Dashboards to Visualize Work Effort Indicators

Speaker: Katharine Trychel, MBA, Management Engineer, Duke Health, NC

Abstract 2 – Hospital Administration Considerations for Implementation of Normothermic Regional Perfusion DCD Heart Transplant Program

Speaker: Amanda Cole, RN, BSN, MPH, Assistant Nurse Manager, UC San Diego Health, CA

Moderator: Katie Dokus, MPH, Quality Manager, University of Rochester Medical Center/Strong Memorial Hospital, NY

Breakout 14 - Medicare Cost Report Basics - A Discussion of the Essential Components for Medicare Reimbursement

Robert Howey, MBA, MHA, CPA, Senior Director, Toyon Associates, FL

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.

Moderator: Susan Zylicz, MHA, BSN, CCTC, Director, Transplant Administration, Houston Methodist Hospital, TX

Breakout 15 - The Transplant Workforce: Methods to Address Staffing Challenges and Strategies to Recruit, Retain, and Develop Staff

Deonna Taylor, PhD, MSN, ACNP, Associate Nursing Officer, Vanderbilt Transplant Center & Vanderbilt Lung Institute, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, TN

Ian Jamieson, MBA, MHA, Vice President, Duke Transplant Center, Duke University Hospital, NC



This session will:

- *Evaluate lessons learned in new position justification requests and compensation adjustment reviews*
- *Discuss strategies to address staffing challenges, such as workforce pipelines and alternative staffing models*
- *Review recruitment strategies for specialized transplant roles, including onboarding success and career pathways*
- *Improve staff retention and professional development, including implementation of clinical ladders, alternative work arrangements, educational opportunities, research, and presentation training*

Moderator: Nancy Metzler, Transplant Administrator, University of Rochester Medical Center/Strong Memorial Hospital, NY

Breakout 16 - New Era of Transplant Program Evaluation Metrics

Jon Snyder, PhD, MS, Director, Transplant Epidemiology, SRTR, Hennepin Healthcare Research Institute (HHRI), MN

Steven Potter, MD, Transplant Surgeon, Scott and White Memorial Hospital, TX

This session will review the changes and explain the metrics, how metrics are calculated, how hospitals can be proactive in managing these metrics for their program, and predict future SRTR data release on new metrics. Additionally, hear from a member of the MPSC about the plans for implementation of these new performance measures.

Moderator: Jason Huff, MSN, RN, FNKF, Senior Director, Transplant Services, Children's Hospital Medical Center, OH

Breakout 14 - Medicare Cost Report Advanced – Overview of the New CMS Organ Acquisition Payment Policies

Robert Howey, MBA, MHA, CPA, Senior Director, Toyon Associates, FL

This session will discuss the December 27, 2021, Final Rule from CMS that codifies into Medicare regulations some long standing Medicare organ acquisition payment policies, adds clarity to previous guidelines, and adds new organ acquisition payment policies affecting transplant hospitals and organ procurement organizations. The session will also cover key implementation dates and action items for the Medicare cost report.

Moderator: Susan Zylicz, MHA, BSN, CCTC, Director, Transplant Administration, Houston Methodist Hospital, TX

Diamond:



Platinum:



Gold:



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Transplant Coordinators of America (TCOA)

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Paragonix Technologies

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