

April 18, 2023

The Honorable Xavier Becerra  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue SW  
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Secretary Becerra:

On behalf of the undersigned organizations representing kidney patients, caregivers, and health professionals, thank you for your leadership regarding the health of the 37 million Americans affected by kidney diseases, including the approximately 90,000 adults and 1,100 children on the kidney waitlist. As you are aware, transplantation is the optimal therapy for most people with kidney failure. Our nation's kidney health ecosystem has made important strides in access to kidney transplant in recent years, but additional opportunities for improvement remain.

Accordingly, our organizations welcome Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Administrator Carole Johnson's recent announcement regarding the Organ Procurement and Transplant Network (OPTN) Modernization Initiative. We also appreciated your affirmation of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) commitment to implementing the important aims of this initiative during your recent Congressional testimony.

Ensuring that both adult and pediatric patients are optimally served by strengthening accountability, equity, and performance in the organ donation and transplantation system through a focus on the five key areas of technology, data transparency, governance, operations, and quality improvement and innovation is a goal the undersigned organizations share with HRSA and HHS. We are grateful these objectives form the central pillars of the OPTN Modernization Initiative. Our organizations stand ready to collaborate with HRSA, HHS, Congress, and other stakeholders to inform and support the forthcoming implementation process of this vital modernization effort.

Again, thank you for your leadership. Should you have any questions or wish to discuss our organizations' support for this initiative, please contact Rachel Meyer at [rmeyer@asn-online.org](mailto:rmeyer@asn-online.org).

Sincerely,

**The aHUS Foundation  
American Kidney Fund  
American Society of Pediatric Nephrology  
American Society of Nephrology  
Atlantic Dialysis Management Services  
Dialysis Patient Citizens  
Evergreen Nephrology  
Federation of American Scientists  
Home Dialyzors United  
IgA Nephropathy Foundation  
Kidney Transplant Collaborative  
NephCure  
Organize  
Oxalosis and Hyperoxaluria Foundation**

**National Kidney Foundation  
Nonprofit Kidney Care Alliance  
Northwest Kidney Centers  
PKD Foundation  
Renal Healthcare Association  
Renal Pathology Society  
Renal Physicians Association  
Renal Support Network  
The Rogosin Institute  
Somatus  
Transplant Recipients International Organization  
Waitlist Zero**

CC: The Honorable Carole Johnson  
The Honorable Larry Bucshon  
The Honorable Bill Cassidy  
The Honorable Chuck Grassley  
The Honorable Robin Kelly  
The Honorable Frank Pallone  
The Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers  
The Honorable Bernie Sanders  
The Honorable Ron Wyden