
The field of organ transplantation has continued to evolve over the past year. There have been advances in the management of patients with end-organ failure, selection of transplant candidates, utilization of deceased and living donors, and clinical care after transplantation. Over the course of the year, the Scientific Registry of Transplant Recipients (SRTR) has assembled the very most recent data submitted to the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network in order to produce the OPTN/SRTR Annual Report, published each year by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the US Department of Health and Human Services. Part of that effort is directed toward identification of important data trends and analysis of key questions in the field of transplantation. The issue you are now reading, the second annual SRTR Report on the State of Transplantation, represents the product of those efforts.

Using the data tables produced for the OPTN/SRTR Annual Report and additional analyses by the SRTR, we brought together 57 nationally and internationally recognized experts to critically review and explain trends in solid organ transplantation in the United States over the past 10 years. Last year, a special focus article on expanded criteria kidney donors was included in the inaugural SRTR Report on the State of Transplantation. This year’s special focus article explores aspects of the newly implemented liver allocation system, using the Model for End-stage Liver Disease (MELD) and its pediatric counterpart, PELD. The SRTR team plans to offer similar cutting-edge special focus articles in future years.

The SRTR Report on the State of Transplantation is a labor of love. It brings together a large group of people with diverse talents and abilities. As the Guest Editor, I am fortunate to have the opportunity to work with all of them. Dr. Philip Halloran, Editor-in-Chief of the American Journal of Transplantation, continues to support the project enthusiastically and to challenge us to improve its quality and the import of its content. Our other colleagues at the AJT have been extremely helpful, and special thanks are again due to Pamela Publicover and Treena Fennia at the AJT editorial office. Their meticulous oversight of manuscript submission and assignment to reviewers kept the peer-review process moving smoothly. Our colleagues at Blackwell Munksgaard, including Eric Rozario, Neil Blair Christensen, and Pernille Knudsen, have been extremely responsive to the needs of the project in terms of production and distribution.

The Division of Transplantation at HRSA remains very supportive. This year we again received helpful input from many individuals at HRSA. We are grateful to James Burdick, who recently took over as the director of the Division of Transplantation, and Michael Dreis, for their encouragement and advice.

Our 57 authors, representing specialists in every area of clinical transplantation, fulfilled their writing tasks thoughtfully and thoroughly, and were responsive to a very tight timetable. I am indebted to each and every author for making the SRTR Report on the State of Transplantation a priority over the course of the year. I would especially like to commend the lead authors for their excellent job in organizing and integrating their articles.


Special thanks go to several individuals without whom this issue would not have been possible. Charlotte J. Arrington and Sarah N. Miller provided organizational expertise and led the SRTR team working on the project. Their hard work, good judgment, energy, and humor were welcome. With his usual cheer, Craig D. Lake responded to requests for special analyses and prepared the hundreds of reference tables that form the basis for these articles, supplying drafts to authors and incorporating their feedback. Miles P. Finley and Caroline A. Shevin managed the authors’
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contributes, coordinated responses and revisions during the peer-review process among the coauthors of the articles, expertly edited text and graphics, and ensured that a uniform stylistic approach was applied to each manuscript. Their skills and attention to detail were greatly appreciated.

The contents of this issue are a testament to the hard work and insight of many people, and credit for any success of the project goes to each of them. I hope that you will find the information to be interesting and useful.

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