

Second Quarter 2019

NATCO empowers transplant professionals to achieve their highest potential. NATCO leads the donation and transplant communities by uniting our members, advancing education, and promoting research and advocacy.

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MEMBERSHIP

Procurement and transplant professionals who are committed to the advancement of organ, eye, and tissue donation and transplantation join together to improve outcomes and share best practices.

NATCO promotes and enhances relationships between donation and transplantation. Members improve their skills and competencies through sharing knowledge and best practices.

Membership runs from January 1st through December 31st of each year.

Click [HERE](#) to join or for more information.

MEMBER BENEFITS

NETWORKING: donation

IN THE PRESIDENT'S WORDS

Dear NATCO Family,

It is that time where I must bid a fond farewell as I prepare to pass the torch as your NATCO President, where has the past 18 months gone?

There are so many who contributed to my success as your NATCO President who deserve recognition.

First and foremost to my family, you empowered me to be the best I could, even when I did not think I could after our insurmountable family loss at Christmas. I love each of you for always standing right beside me.

To the amazing NATCO Board, you made being President both fun and exciting. We may have disagreed at times but we always came to the best decisions in the end for the greater good of our members. I certainly could not have succeeded without the support and direction of Donna Dick our Executive Director, along with Karen Libs and Teresa Bristow.

Being the NATCO President took me away at times from my OPO Gift of Life Donor Program in Philadelphia. Thank you to all my colleagues who I work with on a daily basis for your support and understanding when I could not be there, especially Howard Nathan our CEO for supporting the mission of NATCO and my role as President.

Finally to all of the NATCO members. You are part of an amazing professional organization. I will absolutely say the BEST professional organization. It was my honor to serve as your President for the past 18 months. We accomplished so much and have more in store for the future.

In addition, I want to express my sincerest gratitude to the many members that reached out to me with condolences after the sudden loss of our son, brother and husband Ryan on Christmas Day 2018. Many of you who have known me for years heard about my son Ryan and his story and journey through transplant. Thank you for your kind words and encouragement to carry on when I wanted to give up.

It has been quite the ride and one I will never forget. For me my final act as your President will be the Annual Meeting in beautiful Bellevue Washington July 30th-August 2nd. The agenda is outstanding as usual, with plenty of time to engage and interact with all of your colleagues from across the country.



NETWORKING: donation and transplant professionals collaborate to enhance professional development.

EDUCATION: geared specifically to donation and transplant professionals to provide the best patient, donor and family care.

CERTIFICATION: achieve and maintain current certification requirements

RESEARCH & SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION: through NATCO's *Progress in Transplantation* and website. Journal includes CE credit in each issue.

ADVOCACY: helping to advance public policy.

EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

CCTC Review Courses

[For More Information](#)

WEBINARS:

[For More Information](#)

ONLINE LEARNING:

Online version of the Introductory Course for Transplant Professionals

[For More Information](#)

Fundamental Critical Care Support (FCCS) Self-directed Online Course

[For More Information](#)

Clinician's Guide to Donation and Transplantation

[For More Information](#)

With that being said, I wish all of you much success in what you do on a daily basis. Continue to serve the families that wish to donate and change the lives forever for those who wait.

Kindest Regards,

Timothy J. Snyder
NATCO President

NATCO NEWS

2019 - 2020 Election Results

We are pleased to announce the results of our 2019 - 2020 elections:

President-Elect: Gail Stendahl
Treasurer: Erika Demars
Councilor-at-Large: Jennifer Reese and Tania Houle

Did you know? NATCO has a blended selection process for its election of Board Members. We follow a "self-perpetuating" principle for nominations of Executive Board Members; and an "Open" election principle for nominations of Councilor-at-Large Members. The nominating committee is made up of 5 Past NATCO Presidents who have a thorough understanding of the requirements and commitment necessary for candidates to be successful in each of the positions.

Many of you have asked why we do not have a broader slate of candidates for the Executive positions. By following a self-perpetuating process for choosing candidates for the Executive positions, the nomination committee can choose people with several years of NATCO administrative experience. By allowing for the Councilor-at-Large positions to be filled from our membership, we are able to bring in fresh ideas and "new blood" to the existing board. We feel this combination of processes ensures the best oversight for our organization.

If you are interested in becoming a candidate for a future Councilor-at-Large position, NOW is the time to get involved in NATCO! Please contact Donna Dickt at donnad@natco1.org for more information.

NATCO 2019 Education Programs: Mark your Calendars!

NATCO has a robust calendar of programs available for the second half of 2019. We have updated our core courses and per your requests, we have added new programs. There is something available for all levels of experience.

PROCUREMENT PROGRAMS

[INTRODUCTORY COURSE FOR THE PROCUREMENT PROFESSIONAL](#), November 5-8, 2019. The Introductory Course is designed to provide comprehensive, basic level information that will allow the participant to perform the role of procurement coordinator. Registration is opening soon.

[CORE CURRICULUM FOR HOSPITAL DEVELOPMENT](#), November 5-8, 2019. This course offers instruction and skill development in the areas of Communication and Interpersonal Interaction, Hospital Performance and Engagement, Regulations that Guide Excellence, and Best Practices. Registration is opening soon.

NEW! [BEYOND THE FUNDAMENTALS OF AUTHORIZATION PRACTICES](#), November 6-8

NEW: [BEYOND THE FUNDAMENTALS OF AUTHORIZATION TRACKS](#), November 6-8, 2019. It all starts with the YES! Achieve your goal of becoming an expert in approach and authorization by interacting with accomplished professionals in the field. Learn best practices that led to their success. Submerge yourself in NATCO's 2.5 day intense course to prepare you for even the most difficult of situations such as immediate withdrawal and registry opposition. From taking care of others to caring for yourself-we have it covered.

UPDATED: [ADVANCED DONOR MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP](#), October 8-10, 2019. This is a unique learning opportunity that combines the Fundamentals of Critical Care Support (FCCS) online training, with live sessions that include hands-on experiences at multiple skill stations. **New in 2019: Advanced Abdominal Recovery observed in a laboratory setting.**

TRANSPLANT PROGRAMS

[INTRODUCTORY COURSE FOR THE TRANSPLANT PROFESSIONAL](#), November 5-8, 2019. The Introductory Course is designed to provide comprehensive, basic level information that will allow the participant to perform the role of transplant coordinator. Registration is opening soon.

[CCTC REVIEW COURSE: LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY HEALTH](#), September 22-23, 2019. The Certified Clinical Transplant Coordinator (CCTC) Review Course is based on the ABTC Examination detailed content outline. This course provides topical information, resources, exam taking tips and strategies, and helps generate the confidence that potential candidates need to pass the examination the first time! **FINAL COURSE AVAILABLE IN 2019.**

The NATCO Academy



We provide customizable learning opportunities on demand. For more information: click [HERE](#)



NATCO 44th Annual Meeting

Make a Difference Today...by joining us at the NATCO 44th Annual Meeting being held at the Hyatt Regency Bellevue, in Bellevue, WA. Everyone will be focused on making a difference in donation and transplant outcomes. The goal of this meeting is to inspire donation and transplant teams to make a difference as we collaborate and develop improvement processes that will result in more lives saved!



Register [HERE](#)

Registration Brochure Available [HERE](#)



NATCO Transplant Nutrition Conference

The goal of the Transplant Nutrition Conference is to provide state-of-the-art information on the science and practice of transplant nutrition to solid organ transplant dietitians and other transplant professionals.

The conference offers continuing education lectures on current adult and pediatric topics as well as a practice poster session, round-table sessions, and other opportunities for networking and information practice discussions. Back by popular demand is the adult and pediatric specialty breakout sessions, slated for Tuesday, July 30th.

This workshop is appropriate for both the entry level and the advanced practice transplant dietitian and provides content to maintain required competency in transplant nutrition.

Register [HERE](#)

Registration Brochure Available [HERE](#)

DONATE LIFE AMERICA

By: Lida Pieterman, Communications and Outreach Coordinator, Donate Life America



Mark your calendars now and be sure to attend DLA's "Donate Life Update" presentation at NATCO's 2019 Annual Meeting at 9:15 a.m. on Wednesday, July 31. Topics covered will include: an exciting new project to increase living donation, a new partnership with funeral professionals to care for family together, and other opportunities for donation and transplantation professionals.

Also, please be sure to stop by DLA's exhibit at the meeting to pick up your complimentary Donate Life lapel pins, including "Donate Life Coordinator." We look forward to seeing you there!

Save the Date for Donate Life America and NATCO Joint Webinar:

Please plan to join us on Thursday, August 15 from 2:00-3:00 p.m. ET for the DLA-NATCO joint webinar, "Maximizing the Gift - Creating a Culture That Supports First Person Authorization and Ending the Actionless Story." Additional details coming soon!

ADVANCING PUBLIC POLICY

By: Wade Delk



We continue to seek support for The Living Donor Protection Act (H.R. 1224/S. 511, identical bills), that was reintroduced in February. As you know this legislation allows living donors to use life, disability, long-term care insurance, and amends the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) to include organ donation to take time off from work to recover from donation surgery. There are currently 51 co-sponsors in the House and 7 co-sponsors in the Senate. We have seen an increase in co-sponsors in April and May, but there has not been any action in the Committees where the legislation was referred to since introduction. We need to keep pushing for more co-sponsors. This will likely result in action in the Committees of jurisdiction. Please contact your

to keep pushing for more co-sponsors. This will likely result in action in the Committees of jurisdiction. Please contact your Representative and Senators and ask them to support this legislation. To find out if your Members of Congress are already co-sponsors look here for the House:

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/1224/all-info>

and here for the Senate:

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/511/cosponsors> .

In early April, a Proposed Rule was published in the Federal Register that would implement provisions of the Mission Act of 2018, allowing veterans to have the option to choose to have a transplant outside of Veterans Administration Transplant Center. There is some clarity needed as to the role of the Department of Veterans Affairs in approving a veteran's request, but we hope this rule will be advanced, and that decisions approving such transplant will be left up to the primary care provider charged with that veterans care.

On May 10, HHS, Office of Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, released a brief on Assessing the Costs and Benefits of Extending Coverage of Immunosuppressive Drugs Under Medicare. Lifetime coverage of immunosuppressive drugs is something we have supported for many years, and we have advocated for legislation to accomplish this for just as long. The report's findings are that extending Medicare coverage of immunosuppressive drugs beyond three years post-transplant would result in savings to Medicare starting in the fifth year. The analysis only considered Medicare coverage of immunosuppressive drugs and not extending full Medicare coverage. The accumulated ten-year savings was found to be approximately \$73.4 million. This is very good news for our efforts. The complete brief can be found here:

<https://aspe.hhs.gov/pdf-report/assessing-costs-and-benefits-extending-coverage-immunosuppressive-drugs-under-medicare>

Flashback of Success: In February of 2013, the HIV Organ Policy Equity (HOPE) Act was introduced. In the months that followed, NATCO, along with other organizations worked hard to advance it. In November, it became law. The legislation reversed the ban that prevented HIV infected organs to be transplanted to HIV infected patients. Since then, much research has taken place on the transplantation of HIV organs, and many transplants have been performed from HIV positive donors. At the end of March, the first HIV to HIV kidney transplant took place. I share this success with you so that you know what we are doing on the Hill does make a difference. This legislation moved extremely fast through Congress, but others take a while, but all is worthwhile.

We will keep you updated on issues of importance in Congress, or state legislatures that may affect organ donation and transplantation.

If you have questions or would like additional information please contact me at wadebdelk@gmail.com or 202-253-7862.

-Wade

OPTN/UNOS



By: Anne Paschke, UNOS

In March, UNOS combined Transplant Pro and UNOS.org into one easier-to-use website. The most important news is now front and center. Plus, you'll find feature stories that focus on innovation, improvement and insights in transplant that you can use to become more efficient and effective.

As always, everything you need to know about the latest policy and system changes as well and education about them will be included. That is all side by side with in-depth feature story packages.

Most recently we explored how OPOs are increasing the number of transplants nationwide by improving performance. Learn

Most recently, we explored how OPOs are increasing the number of transplants nationwide by improving performance. Learn how one OPO increased the number of donors by 95% in just two years and how another was recognized with the prestigious Baldrige Presidential award.

Speaking of OPOS, seven of them are now sharing high-quality medical images in the first national donor image sharing hub in UNet. Those images are available when transplant centers view organ offers for those donors. The feedback supplied by users during the pilot phase is being used to develop further functionality, training and support that is required before national roll-out around the end of the year.

UNOS Transplant Coordinator Committee

By: Christopher Wholley, M.S.A.

The OPTN Transplant Coordinators Committee (TCC) represents YOU. Consider being a future member.

You may not be aware that the TCC collaborates with other OPTN committees and UNOS staff on important projects with wide ranging impact. Examples of their collaboration includes:

- Partnering with UNOS IT staff on pilot projects and system enhancements.
- Reviewing OPTN policy requirements to ensure that post-recovered donor test results are consistently reported and shared.
- Working with UNOS Professional Education to develop relevant TCC Learning Series module topics.
- Working with the OPTN Ad-hoc Disease Transmission Advisory Committee (DTAC) on future changes to OPTN policies, guidance, and electronic systems as a result of revisions to U.S. Public Health Service Increased Risk criteria.

You don't have to be a member of the committee to be involved or share your opinion. If you are interested in committee updates or have questions or ideas, we encourage you to contact your TCC regional representative below:

- Region 1 - Dawn Freiberger, RN, MSN, CNS
- Region 2 - Cathy McAdams, MSN, PPCMP-BC
- Region 3 - Natalie Santiago-Blackwell, RN, MSN
- Region 4 - Maria Casarella
- Region 5 - Leann Stamos, RN, MSN
- Region 6 - Christine Brenner, RN, CPTC, CCTC
- Region 7 - Debra Walczak
- Region 8 - Douglas Bremers, BA, CPTC
- Region 9 - Erika Venniro, RAPC
- Region 10 - Shannon Thompkins, RN, BSN
- Region 11 - Barbara Jenkins, RN, BSN

You can also visit the TCC committee page on the OPTN website to read all minutes from previous meetings.

These new committee members begin their term July 2019

- Joann Morey
- Lindsay Fessler, CRNP
- Lisa Gallagher, MSN, NP
- Jill Campbell

Additional ways to get involved and stay informed

- UNOS Connect, UNOS' learning management system, contains a vast amount of policy and system training that you can use to supplement your professional development. Two series in particular you should explore are:
 - Transplant Coordinator Learning Series- learn from your fellow clinical coordinators.
 - Intro to Histo Learning Series- learn how to talk to your patients about histocompatibility at a high level and explain why it's necessary in transplantation.

Easy access: If you have a UNet account, you can access UNOS Connect from the resources tab on the UNet homepage. Otherwise, visit UNOSConnect.unos.org to set up an account.

- Check the dates for your fall regional meetings and consider attending, particularly if you've never been in the past

Organ Recovery Systems is committed to delivering exceptional clinical tools and services to preserve and protect donor organs. We support 289 transplant programs in 39 countries with the LifePort® Kidney Transporter and the gold-standard in preservation solutions, UW solution (SPS-1®) and UW machine perfusion solution (KPS-1®). From the start, Organ Recovery Systems' mission has been to support transplant professionals in their service to improve outcomes for their patients. Now over 20 years later, with over 100,000 kidneys preserved in the LifePort Kidney Transporter, we are honored that the organ donation and transplant community continues to give us the opportunity to help save and improve lives.



The LifePort Liver Transporter clinical trial is underway! PILOT™ (Preservation to Improve Liver Outcomes in Transplantation) is a prospective randomized multi-center trial comparing LifePort Liver Transporter system with Vasosol® to static cold storage. This trial is registered with clinicaltrials.gov and has been approved by US Food and Drug Administration (Investigational Device Exemption) and the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). The FDA has approved 8 transplant center study sites and 140 subjects to participate in the trial; 70 patients will be in the study arm and 70 in the control cohort. Patients will be tracked for a year post transplant to accommodate all the outcomes to be measured.

www.organ-recovery.com

Stay Connected



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