



ASTS

American Society of
Transplant Surgeons

February 8, 2024

ASTS provides public comment for NASEM project: Principles and Framework to Guide the Development of Protocols and Standard Operating Procedures for Face and Hand Transplants

We enthusiastically support the development of clinical trials and protocols to support ongoing efforts in VCA hand and face transplant. There have been successful clinical outcomes for over a decade for both hand and face transplantation and the development of further clinical trials and transition to standard of care will expand access to the many patients who may benefit from these procedures. We strongly emphasize the importance of prioritizing diversity in the development of these clinical trials. We support the structure and development of these protocols with inclusion of surgical, medical, and Organ Procurement Organization (OPO) stakeholders to support expanded clinical trials and procedures.

Drafted by the ASTS Vascularized Composite Allotransplantation (VCA) Advisory Committee and approved by the ASTS Council on February 8, 2024

<https://www.nationalacademies.org/our-work/principles-and-framework-to-guide-the-development-of-protocols-and-standard-operating-procedures-for-face-and-hand-transplants>