

July 6, 2020

Robert R. Redfield, MD, Director
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road
Atlanta, GA 30329-4027

RE: Assessing Solid Organ Donors and Monitoring Transplant Recipients for Human Immunodeficiency Virus, Hepatitis B Virus, and Hepatitis C Virus Infection — U.S. Public Health Service Guideline, 2020

Dear Director Redfield:

On behalf of the American Society of Transplant Surgeons (ASTS), I write to thank you for the recently released “Assessing Solid Organ Donors and Monitoring Transplant Recipients for Human Immunodeficiency Virus, Hepatitis B Virus, and Hepatitis C Virus Infection — U.S. Public Health Service Guideline, 2020.” The guidelines are well thought out, based on evidence, and provide balanced guidance to the transplant community.

We believe the new guidelines will increase organ utilization for transplantation and thereby help a vulnerable patient population at risk for pre-mature death. We are certain the community of transplant candidates are grateful for this opportunity and that transplant professionals are also appreciative of this change. We thank the CDC for taking into consideration the progress made in disease screening technology and medical therapeutics and removing the label “increased risk donor,” which produces needless anxiety for recipients and may lead to refusals.

If we can be of assistance in any future efforts regarding organ transplantation, please feel free to call upon us at any time.

Sincerely,



Marwan S. Abouljoud, MD, CPE, MMM
President
ASTS

President

Marwan S. Abouljoud, MD, CPE, MMM
Henry Ford Transplant Institute

President-Elect

A. Osama Gaber, MD
Houston Methodist Hospital

Secretary

Ginny L. Bumgardner, MD, PhD
The Ohio State University

Treasurer

William C. Chapman, MD
Washington University

Immediate Past President

Lloyd E. Ratner, MD, MPH
Columbia University

Past President

Dixon B. Kaufman, MD, PhD
University of Wisconsin

Councilors-at-Large

Michael J. Englesbe, MD
Julie K. Heimbach, MD
Debra L. Sudan, MD
Matthew Cooper, MD
Ryutaro Hirose, MD
Kenneth Washburn, MD
Kenneth A. Andreoni, MD
Devin E. Eckhoff, MD
Irene K. Kim, MD
Ashley H. Seawright, DNP, ACNP-BC

Executive Director

Daniel D. Garrett, CAE
daniel.garrett@asts.org

National Office

1401 S. Clark St.
Suite 1120
Arlington, VA 22202
703-414-7870
asts@asts.org
ASTS.org

American Transplant Congress

June 5-9, 2021
Seattle, Washington