

Recognizing Seasonal and Geographically Endemic Infections in Organ Donors: Considerations during Deceased and Living Donor Evaluation

*OPTN Disease Transmission Advisory Committee
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Purpose of Guidance Document

- Deceased and living donor guidance is crucial for endemic diseases as they have high potential for morbidity and mortality
- Policy 14 requires “Each living donor hospital must develop and follow a written protocol for identifying and testing donors at risk for transmissible seasonal or geographically defined endemic disease as part of its medical evaluation”
- This guidance document will help living donor hospitals comply with this policy

Guidance Document

- Consolidates four guidance documents for screening for endemic diseases in living donors
 - Updates to reflect current epidemiology
 - Updates to donor derived infections based on DTAC data
 - Updates to nomenclature and testing
- Adds guidance on screening for endemic diseases for deceased donors
 - Updates to align with implementation of *Improve Deceased Donor Evaluation of Endemic Diseases*

Rationale

- As organ offer patterns continue to change, increased awareness and communication for potential endemic diseases across regions is necessary
- This guidance document aims to:
 - Decrease donor-derived disease transmission from organ transplantation
 - Provide appropriate recommendations for living donor hospitals and OPOs when screening for endemic diseases

Related Proposals

- *Improve Deceased Donor Evaluation of Endemic Diseases*
 - OPTN Board of Directors approval on June 26, 2023
 - Guidance for screening deceased donors for *Strongyloides* and *T. cruzi* will become policy pending implementation

What do you think?

- How can we promote communication between transplant programs and OPOs who may now need to share information about screening for endemic diseases?
- How can transplant programs communicate with patients on screening practices for endemic diseases?
- Are there any additional screening practices that should be incorporated for these diseases?