

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 25, 2015 10:20 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Confirmation of OPTN Submission

Dear [REDACTED]:

The United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS) operates the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (OPTN) under contract with the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Under that contract, UNOS staff review reported or identified patient safety and/or public health-related concerns associated with organ donation and transplantation occurring within the OPTN.

UNOS' Member Quality Department received your correspondence through the UNetSM Patient Safety Portal concerning the allocation of a kidney from donor [REDACTED]. Specifically, you have raised concerns that the kidney was declined due to cold ischemic time added as a result of transportation/courier issues.

Member Quality staff screen all reports to determine whether the matter suggests a time-sensitive and serious threat to patient safety or public health. If the matter is assessed as both time-sensitive and serious, this department acts quickly to alert OPTN leadership and to work with OPTN member(s) to alleviate the threat. Member Quality staff also screen all reports to determine if there is a possible violation of OPTN/UNOS bylaws, policies, and federal laws (OPTN obligations) associated with the matter. Reports that involve a possible violation of OPTN/UNOS bylaws or policies are referred to the Membership and Professional Standards Committee (MPSC), and in some cases to the OPTN Board of Directors for further review.

The OPTN/UNOS bylaws and policies guide the sequence of allocation and wait listing practices of OPTN members in an effort to assure a balance of fair and equitable organ allocation for transplant. The bylaws and policies also guide safe and effective practice connected to organ transplantation and living donor care. UNOS is responsible for monitoring compliance by OPTN members with OPTN obligations, as well as for processing reports of transplant-related patient safety and living donor safety.

Please be aware that this correspondence and all documents and information requested by UNOS staff, on behalf of the MPSC, are protected by applicable peer review statutes. For this reason, all associated reports, inquiries, deliberations, findings, recommendations, and actions must be kept confidential. This means we will not be able to provide you with the results of our investigation.

If you have any questions or need any additional information about the review process, please feel free to contact me at [REDACTED]. Once again, thank you for bringing this matter to our attention. The transplant community relies on referrals such as yours to improve the OPTN system.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
Safety Analyst



Working together. Saving lives.



CONFIDENTIAL MEDICAL PEER REVIEW CONTENT/CONFIDENTIALITY STATEMENT

This electronic message transmission may include information that is confidential. If you are not the intended recipient, be aware that disclosure, copying, distribution or use of all or any portion of the content of this information is prohibited, except by authority of the sender. If you received this transmission in error, please notify us as soon as possible by e-mail and delete the original message.