

Relationship between HHS, HRSA, OPTN, OPTN Contractor and SRTR Contractor

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

- Establishes organ donation regulatory framework according to National Organ Transplant Act (NOTA).



Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)/ Healthcare Systems Bureau (HSB)/Division of Transplantation

- Awards and oversees the contract for the operation of the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (OPTN).
- Oversees the OPTN's adherence to applicable NOTA statutes and regulations.
- Awards and oversees the Scientific Registry of Transplant Recipients (SRTR) contract.
- Oversees SRTR transplant system performance measurement and reporting.
- Funds grants and supports other activities aimed at increasing supply of donated organs and increasing efficiency of transplant system.



Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (OPTN)

- Non-government body, established by law, comprised of volunteers: professionals and other stakeholders involved in the donation and transplant system.
- Operates according to established NOTA statute and regulations.
- Board of Directors establishes and maintains transplant policies and bylaws that govern the OPTN.
- Works to maintain an equitable organ allocation system for patients on the national waitlist through: (1) data-driven organ allocation policy development and implementation; (2) quality improvement; and (3) technology, which is used to match donor organs to transplant candidates.

OPTN contractor

Provides administrative support to OPTN, per NOTA.

SRTR contractor

Conducts special studies and advances statistical analyses of OPTN data, per NOTA

United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS) is the current OPTN contractor.

Hennepin Healthcare Research Institute (HHRI) is the current Scientific Registry of Transplant Recipients (SRTR) contractor.

HRSA acts as a liaison connecting the efforts of both contracts.

Source: Adapted from NASEM's *Realizing the Promise of Equity in the Organ Transplantation System* (Feb. 2022)