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[Submitted electronically via: publiccomment@unos.org]

November 17, 2014

Public Comment Coordinator
United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS)
700 North 4th Street
Richmond, VA 23218

Re: Proposal to Address the Requirements Outlined in the HIV Organ Policy
Equity Act

Dear UNOS Colleagues:

The HIV Medicine Association (HIVMA) of the Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA) appreciates the opportunity to comment in support of UNOS' proposed amendments to Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (OPTN) policies to move forward with implementation of the HOPE Act statute (Public Law No: 113-51).

HIVMA represents more than 5,000 medical providers and researchers working on the frontlines of the HIV epidemic across the United States. The Association's mission is to promote access to quality HIV care and to advocate policies that ensure a comprehensive and humane response to the AIDS pandemic informed by science and social justice.

We support the proposed revisions to OPTN regulations that will enable transplant centers to participate in studies to evaluate organ transplantation between HIV-infected donors and recipients with HIV. The proposed criteria for evaluating organ transplants between HIV-infected individuals appear reasonable and appropriate to monitor progress and potential challenges. We understand that the regulations will be subject to modifications based on forthcoming research criteria recommendations developed by the National Institutes of Health and approved by the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS).

Thank you for your work on this important issue, and for your consideration of our views. We strongly support conducting clinical research to expand access to organ transplants to people with HIV from donors with HIV. Please consider us a resource and partner on this issue as it moves forward. If we can provide further information, please feel free to reach us through HIVMA Policy Officer, Kimberly Miller at (703) 740-4957 or via email at kmiller@hivma.org.

Sincerely,



Adaora Adimora, MD, MPH, FIDSA
Chair, HIVMA Board of Directors