



**CONSORT Network Consensus Conference
March 28, 2025**

**National Academy of Sciences Building, Washington, D.C.
2101 Constitution Ave NW
*Please use C Street Entrance***

Join the meeting [HERE](#)
**Meeting ID: 211 080 872 44
Passcode: 4mr6dz9F**

Meeting Overview: To bring together representatives from the CONSORT Clinical Network performing hand or face transplantation to achieve **consensus** on the process, procedures, and protocols across the eight (8) CONSORT Focus Areas. Emphasis will be placed on **standardization of metrics and measures** to define functional, immunologic, psychosocial/quality-of-life, and graft/patient survival outcomes across preoperative, intraoperative, and postoperative phases.

Focus Areas

1. **Inclusion & Exclusion Criteria:** Align criteria with a "whole health" approach
2. **Patient Education:** Develop standardized education toolkit
3. **Surgical Protocols:** Develop universal protocols while allowing site-specific innovation
4. **Immunosuppressive Regimens:** Define common baseline regimen, explore novel agents
5. **Rehabilitation:** Create guidelines for specialized postoperative rehabilitation
6. **Outcome Metrics:** Standardize objective/functional measures
7. **Quality of Life:** Establish consensus on psychosocial and quality-of-life indicators
8. **Data Reporting & VCA-NET Database:** Discuss uniform data collection and reporting requirements

Breakfast available in cafeteria beginning at 7:30 AM

Time	Speaker	Objectives	Participants	Room
9:00-9:05AM 9:05- 9:10AM 9:10-9:15AM (15 mins) 5 minutes introductory message 10mins patient stories	Dr. Bohdan Pomahac Carmen Blandin Tarleton Sheila Advento	Welcome and Introductory Remarks: Provide a high-level overview of the meeting's goals, underscore the importance of consensus on standardized protocols, and outline how the day's sessions will address the 8 CONSORT Focus Areas. 2 Patient Stories: To gain valuable insights from transplant recipients by encouraging them to share their personal experiences. We aim to ground the discussion in the lived realities of transplantation and ensure that patient-centered outcomes are prioritized.	All	Lecture Room
9:15-9:25AM (10 mins)	Omowunmi Afolabi	Participant Introductions [Online and Onsite]	All	Lecture Room
9:25-9:30 AM (5 mins)	Dr. Patrica Henry and Dr. Leslie Beltran	Reconstructive Transplant Research Program (RTRP) General Remarks	All	Lecture Room
9:30-10:00AM (30mins) 20 minutes discussion 10 mins Q& A	Dr. Kenneth Kizer and National Academies Committee on Principles and Framework to Guide the Development of Protocols and Standard Operating Procedures for Face and Hand Transplants	Committee Presentation on Advancing Face and Hand Transplantation: Principles and Framework for Developing Standardized Protocols Present the committee's findings and recommendations. <i>Confirm areas of agreement or identify divergences related to the NASEM report with live poll.</i>	All	Lecture Room
10:00-10:20 AM (20 mins)	BREAK			
10:20-11:20AM (60 mins) 45 minutes for discussion, 15 minutes for presenting	<i>Moderator(s) for discussion: Omowunmi Afolabi</i>	Immunosuppression Common Grounds: Discuss common immunosuppression strategies for both hand and face transplantation Focus Area 4: Immunosuppressive Regimens Define a common baseline immunosuppressive regimen adapted to face transplants' higher acute	All	Lecture Room

consensus and poll		rejection risk. Explore novel agents and standardize monitoring (biopsies, biomarkers) <i>Confirm areas of agreement or identify divergences related to immunosuppression strategies with live poll.</i>		
Time	Speaker	Objectives	Participants	Room
11:20-11:50PM (30 mins) 20 minutes for discussion, 10 minutes for presenting consensus and poll	Breakout Sessions (Hand and Face) <i>Moderators for Hand: Dr. Scott Levin, Dr. Michael Davis, Dr. Vijay Gorantla</i> <i>Moderators for Face: Dr. Bohdan Pomahac, Dr. Samir Mardini, Dr. Francis Papay</i>	Focus Area 1: Inclusion & Exclusion Criteria Discuss parallels and unique considerations for face transplantation (extensive psychosocial screening, major facial defects, socioeconomic stability). Explore how to align these criteria with a “whole health” approach. <i>Confirm areas of agreement or identify divergences related to inclusion and exclusion criteria with live poll.</i>	Breakout Groups	Face = Board Room Hand = Room 125
11:50-12:20PM (30 mins) 20 minutes for discussion, 10 minutes for presenting consensus and poll	Breakout Sessions (Hand and Face) <i>Moderators for Hand: Dr. Scott Levin, Dr. Michael Davis, Dr. Vijay Gorantla</i> <i>Moderators for Face: Dr. Bohdan Pomahac, Dr. Samir Mardini, Dr. Francis Papay</i>	Focus Area 2: Patient Education Develop a standardized, evidence-based patient/caregiver education toolkit addressing visible graft issues, psychological acceptance, and immunosuppression side effects <i>Confirm areas of agreement or identify divergences related to inclusion and exclusion criteria with live poll.</i>	Breakout Groups	Face = Board Room Hand = Room 125
12:20-1:30PM (70 mins) 50 minutes for discussion, 20 minutes for presenting	Breakout Sessions (Hand and Face) <i>Moderators for Hand: Dr. Scott Levin, Dr. Michael Davis, Dr. Vijay Gorantla</i>	Focus Area 3: Surgical Protocols Develop universal face transplant protocols (including imaging, donor selection, exit strategies) while allowing site-specific innovation in complex reconstructive scenarios.	Breakout Groups	Face = Board Room Hand = Room 125

consensus and poll	<i>Moderators for Face: Dr. Bohdan Pomahac, Dr. Samir Mardini, Dr. Francis Papay</i>	<i>Confirm areas of agreement or identify divergences related to patient education and surgical protocols with live poll.</i>		
1:30: 2:00 PM (30 mins)	LUNCH BREAK East Court Cafeteria available			

Time	Speaker	Objectives	Participants	Room
2:00-3:00PM (60 mins) 45 minutes for discussion, 15 minutes for presenting consensus and poll	Breakout Sessions (Hand and Face) <i>Moderators for Hand: Dr. Scott Levin, Dr. Michael Davis, Dr. Vijay Gorantla</i> <i>Moderators for Face: Dr. Bohdan Pomahac, Dr. Samir Mardini, Dr. Francis Papay</i>	Focus Area 5: Rehabilitation Create guidelines for specialized postoperative rehabilitation addressing facial nerve regeneration, speech/swallowing therapy, psychosocial reintegration, and ongoing patient engagement. Verify consensus or highlight remaining gaps in protocols, and rehab strategies with live poll. <i>Confirm areas of agreement or identify divergences related to rehabilitation with live poll.</i>	Breakout Groups	Face = Board Room Hand = Room 125
3:00-4:00PM (60 mins) 45 minutes for discussion, 15 minutes for presenting consensus and poll	Breakout Sessions (Hand and Face) <i>Moderators for Hand: Dr. Scott Levin, Dr. Michael Davis, Dr. Vijay Gorantla</i> <i>Moderators for Face: Dr. Bohdan</i>	Focus Area 6: Outcome Metrics Standardize objective/functional measures (e.g., grip strength, range of motion) and incorporate validated patient-reported outcomes. Focus Area 7: Quality of Life Establish consensus on psychosocial and quality-of-life indicators (mental health, social support, daily functioning)	Breakout Groups	Face = Board Room Hand = Room 125

	<i>Pomahac, Dr. Samir Mardini, Dr. Francis Papay</i>	<i>Confirm areas of agreement or identify divergences related to standardized metrics for functional outcomes, and psychosocial well-being with live poll.</i>		
4:00-4:10pm (10 mins)	BREAK			

Time	Speaker	Objectives	Participants	Room
4:10-5:10pm (60 mins) 45 minutes for discussion, 15 minutes for presenting consensus and poll	Sri Sharma Combined discussion	Focus Area 8: Data Reporting & VCA-NET Database Discuss uniform data collection fields, reporting timelines, and centralized VCA-NET registry requirements to ensure consistent multi-site comparisons Finalize consensus on data fields, frequency of submission, security/privacy standards, and outcomes reporting in a single shared VCA-NET database and registry. <i>Confirm areas of agreement or identify divergences related to reporting and data-sharing frameworks with live poll.</i>	All	Lecture Room
5:10-5:40PM (30 mins)	Dr. Vijay Gorantla & Dr. Brian Moore	Review of Bylaws and IRB Summarize key goals from the CONSORT Network Bylaws, including mission & scope, eligibility & responsibilities, governance & oversight, and compliance & corrective actions.	All	Lecture Room
5:40-5:50 (10 mins)	Dr. Patrica Henry and Dr. Leslie Beltran	Update on RTRP Funding	All	Lecture Room
5:50-5:55 (5 mins)	Dr. Michael Davis	Potential Advocacy Efforts	All	Lecture Room
5:50- 6:00PM (10 mins)	Dr. Bohdan Pomahac	Closing Comments & Next Steps Summarize concordances/discordances identified	All	Lecture Room

		through the day's discussions and Navitas polls. Present a concise roadmap for next steps, confirm working groups for each focus area, and set follow-up meeting dates.		
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