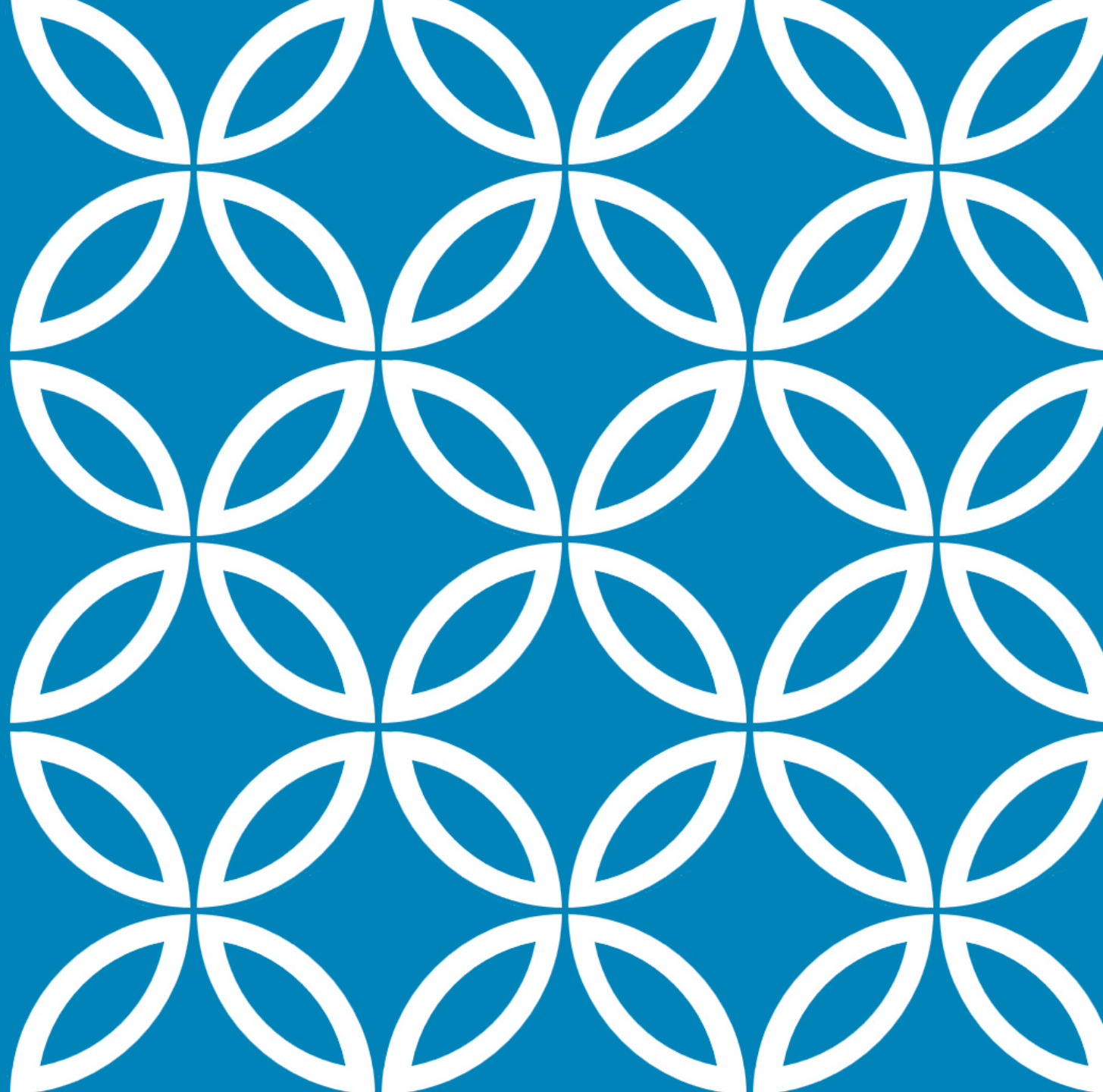


# THE OPO PERSPECTIVE ON VCA

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Alexandra K Glazier, JD MPH  
President & CEO, New England Donor Services  
Assist. Professor, Brown University  
Secretary of the Board, American Society of  
Reconstructive Transplant (ASRT)



# Transplantation starts with the Donor

# An OPO's Mission and Vision

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To save and heal lives through donation and transplantation

# Pioneering Innovation: OPO Opportunity

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- It was 2008
- VCAs were not yet an “organ” under OPTN
- Face transplant protocol approved at the BWH
- One patient waiting



# the match






COMPLETE STRANGERS,  
A MIRACLE FACE TRANSPLANT,  
TWO LIVES TRANSFORMED

susan whitman helfgot  
with william novak

## 'Boston Med' catches face transplant story

By Associated Press

Monday, June 21, 2010 - Updated 2 years ago

 E-mail  Print  (0) Comments  Text size  Share

NEW YORK — ABC's remarkable program bringing together the recipient of the nation's second face transplant and the donor's family may someday stand as a bittersweet reminder of what broadcast news divisions can do at their best.

The story of James Maki and Joseph Helfgot is contained within "Boston Med," an workings of three hospitals. It premieres similar limited-run series that producer the past decade, beginning at the Johns



Photo by AP (File)

In this 2009 publicity image released by ABC News, James Maki is shown with his daughter are shown after Maki underwent a face transplant procedure at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston.

# New England Historic Experience

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- In the first 8 years a lot of firsts
- Brigham and Women's Hospital
  - 3 Partial Face Transplant
  - 3 Full Face Transplants
  - 1 Full Face w/Bilateral Upper Extremity Transplant
  - 3 Bilateral Upper Extremity Transplant
- Massachusetts General Hospital
  - 1 Unilateral Upper Extremity Transplant
  - 1 Penis transplant

# OPO Perspective on the Progression of Perceived Barriers with VCAs

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- Regulatory
- Authorization
- Hospital and Transplant Stakeholder Collaboration
- Logistics
- Push pull

# Approach and Family Interactions

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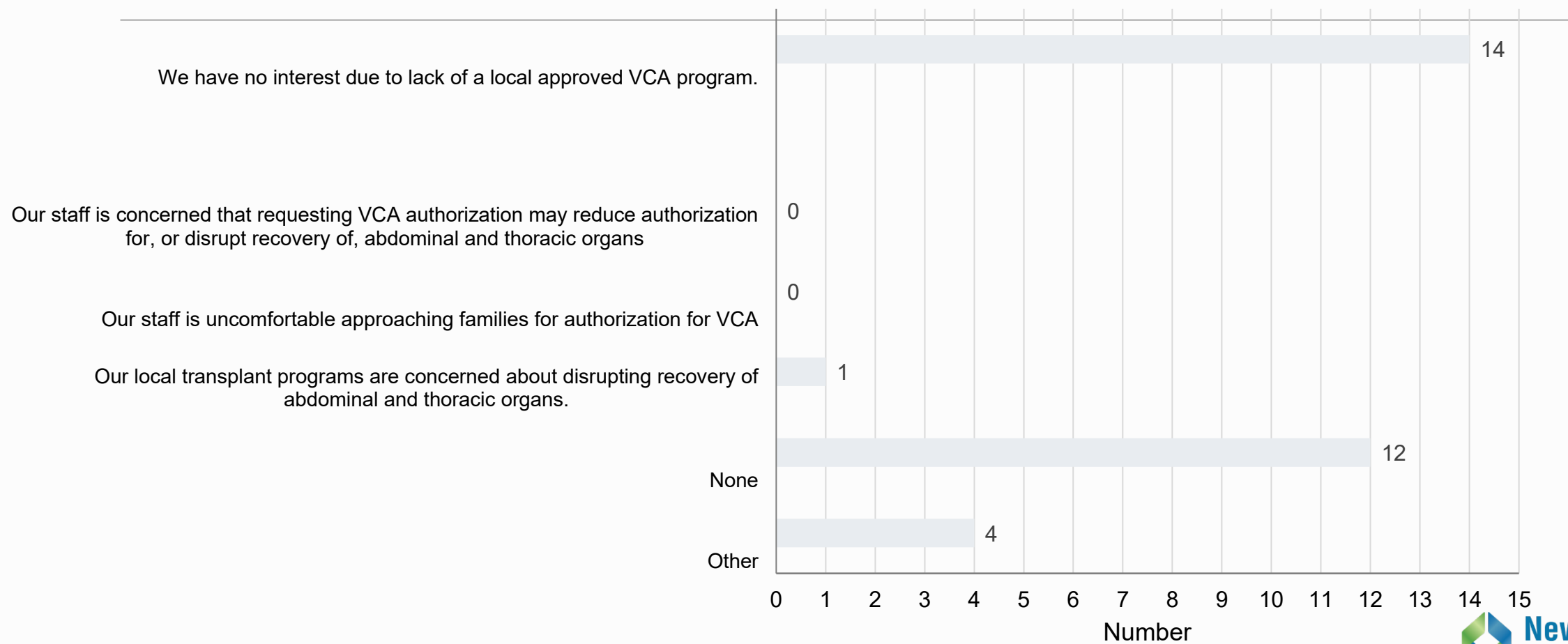
- Initially targeted approaches to certain families
- Fear of vital organ donation authorization being rescinded
- Projecting our own concerns or reluctance
- The OPO should not make assumptions

# Progression of Perceived Barriers

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PUSH-PULL

## What are the barriers you have encountered in establishing a written VCA authorization and recovery protocol? (Select all that apply) \*

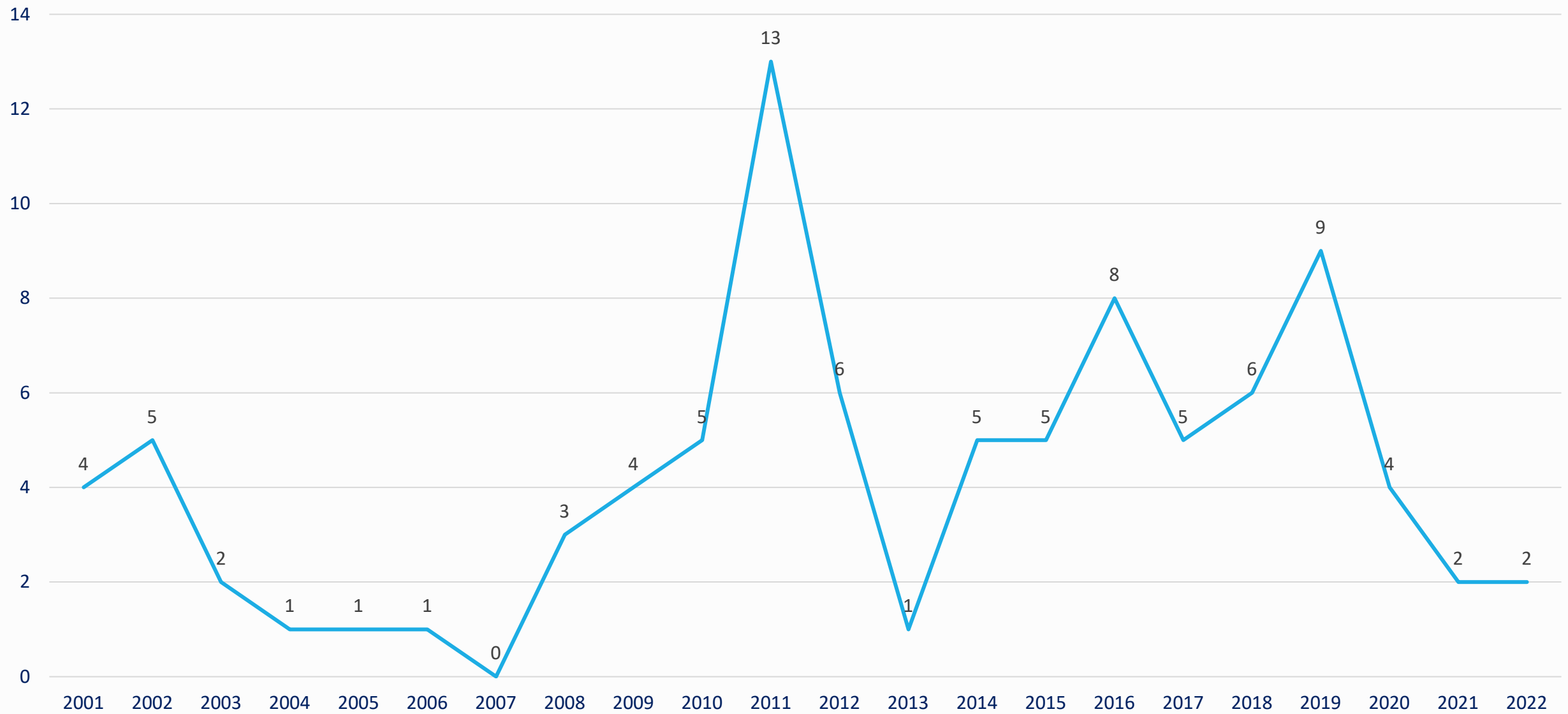


# OPPORTUNITY

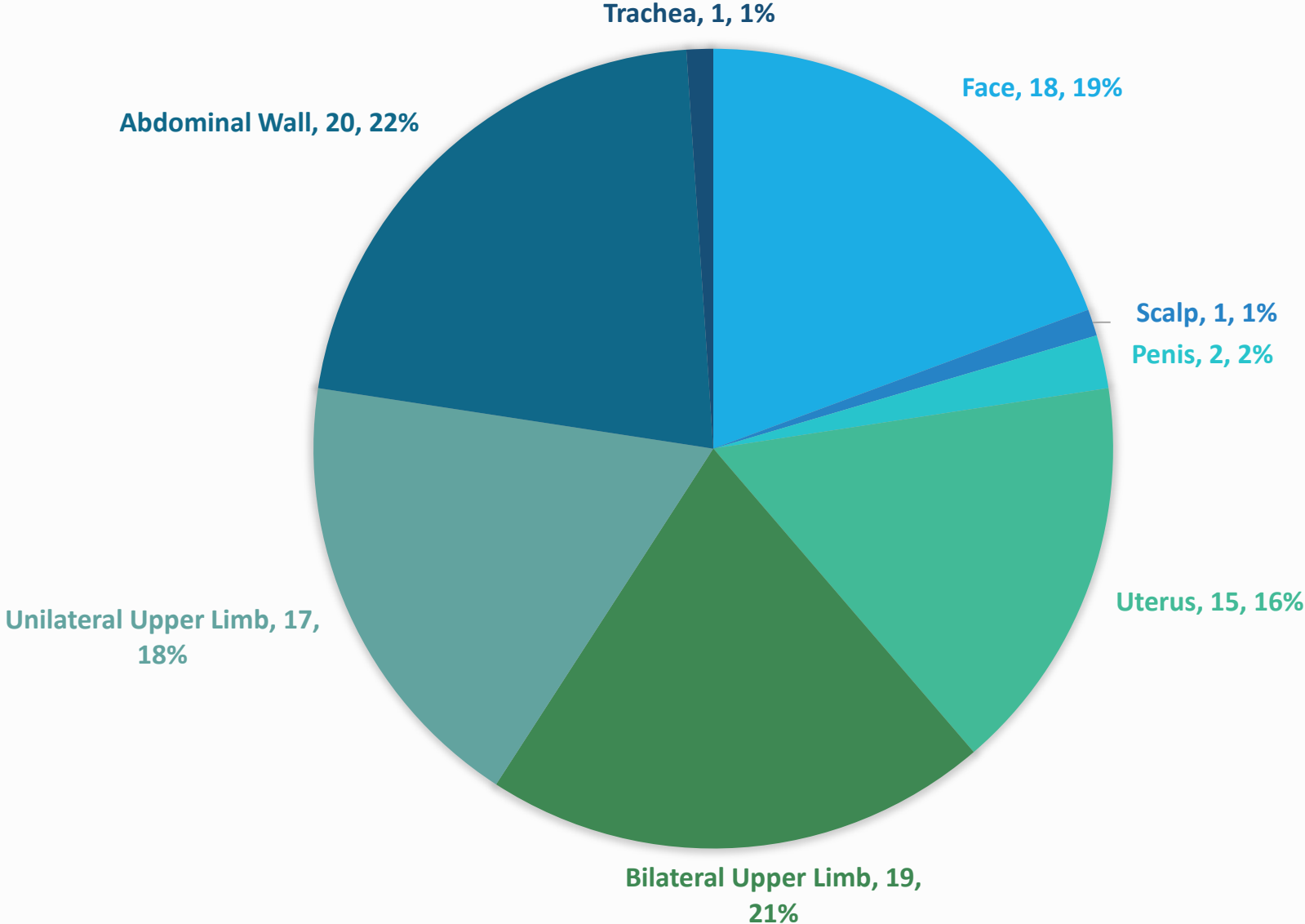
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- There are not significant real or perceived barriers from the OPO perspective
- The ability to implement a VCA protocol in 2024 is significantly eased by years of experience and resolve of previous perceived barriers

Total Number of U.S. VCA Transplants (all types) 2001-2022



# TOTAL NUMBER OF VCA ORGANS TRANSPLANTED 2001-2022



VCA Transplant activity by Transplant Center

The map displays the following states and territories with labels: Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, New Hampshire, Vermont, Maine, Massachusetts, New York, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia, Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada, Utah, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Tennessee, Florida, Alaska, and Hawaii.

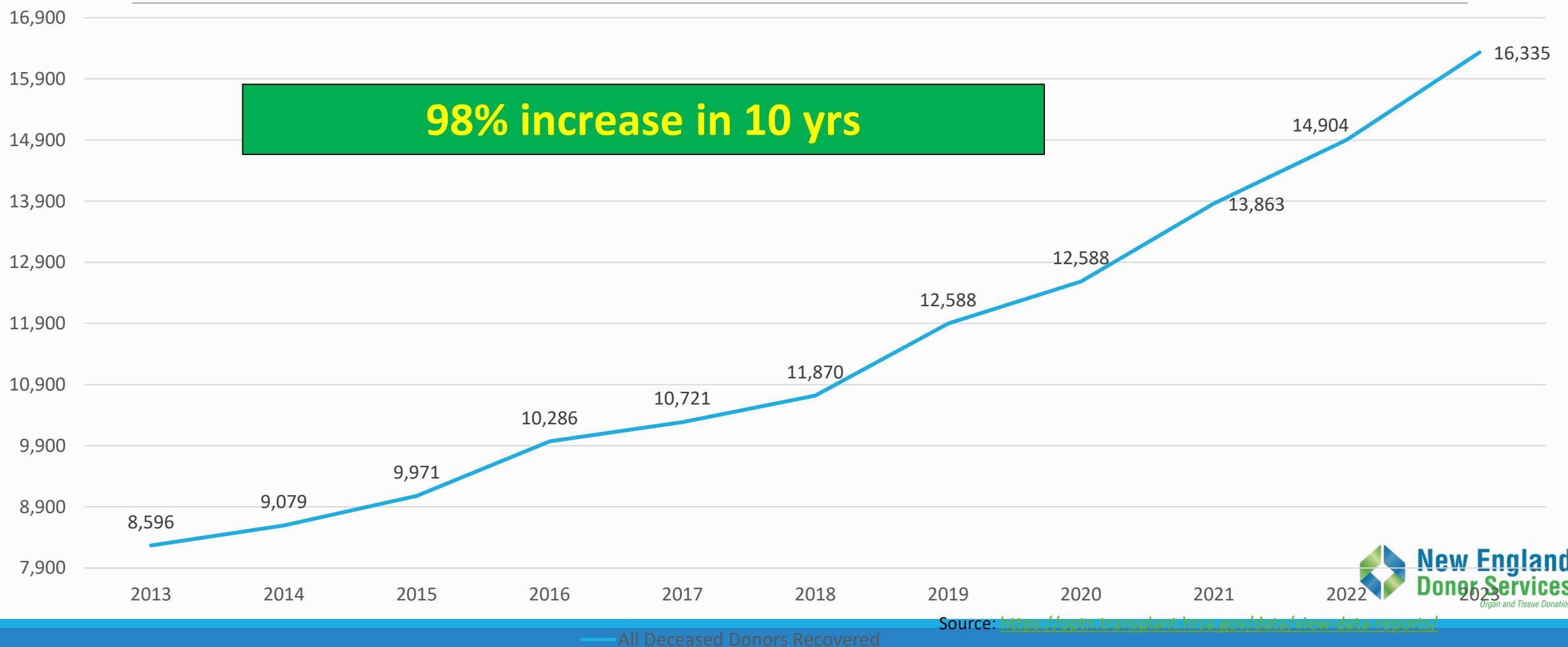
Blue circles indicating transplant activity are located in the following states: California, Minnesota, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, Connecticut, New Jersey, Maryland, North Carolina, Texas, and Florida.

(less than 10% of transplant centers are active in VCA)

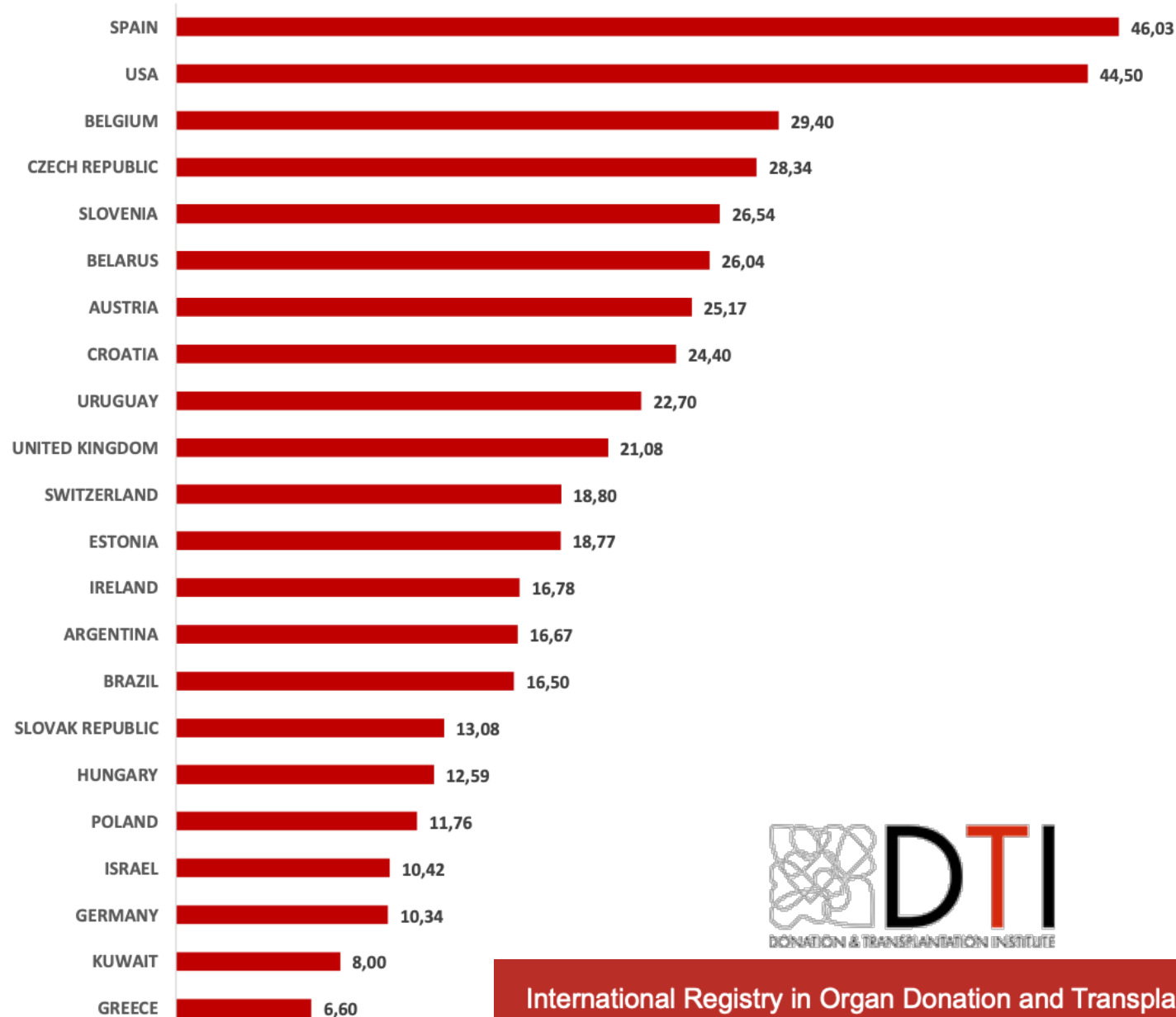




# U.S. DECEASED ORGAN DONORS over the past decade 2013-2023



## WORLDWIDE ACTUAL DECEASED ORGAN DONORS RATE 2022 (pmp)



USA had the 2nd highest rate of deceased organ donation in the world in 2022



# The OPO's Role in Facilitating Innovation in Transplantation

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- Organ Donors as Research Subjects
  - VCA
  - Xenotransplantation
- Opportunity to further medical innovation
- Aligned with mission
  - But not aligned with CMS regulatory performance metrics

# WHAT OPO STAFF WANT TO KNOW

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- General information about the recipient
- For will skin tone match be involved and what will be process
- Protocol elements for matching / clinical information

# WHAT OPO STAFF WANT THE TRANSPLANT COMMUNITY TO KNOW

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- Confidentiality considerations for the donor family given likely media attention on recipient
- Donor families in facing loss want to help make someone whole
- We can do this



**Organ Donation is about community and human connection**