

Urgency of need for improvement in recovery of deceased organ donors



EMORY
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Conflict of Interest statement

I have received research support from Mid-America Transplant Foundation

I have provided uncompensated consultation on process improvement initiatives for multiple OPOs

Misconceptions in understanding donation reform

1. It's not needed.
2. It's not possible.
3. It's not safe.

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Defining success in organ donation

VIEWPOINT

Success of Opt-In Organ Donation Policy in the United States

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New England Donor Services, Waltham, Massachusetts.

Thomas Mone, MS

OneLegacy, Los Angeles, California.

Organ donation in the United States is governed by state law through the Uniform Anatomical Gift Act (UAGA) based on gift law rather than informed consent principles (donation presents neither risks nor benefits to the deceased donor). This allows a legally binding transfer of a gifted organ from donor to recipient based on donative intent, transfer, and acceptance. The UAGA state laws align with US opt-in prac-

Proposals to Consider Opt-Out Organ Donation Policies

With the continued shortage of organs for transplant in the United States, the call to adopt opt-out “presumed consent” donation policies has been made repeatedly in the past several years with proposed legislation in the UAGA state laws in California, Connecticut, Delaware, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New

Does the US have “one of the best donation rates in the world?”

Donor potential in the US vs. other areas

Patterns of death in the US vs. Major Western Countries

2.53x odds ratio for transport deaths

1.22x odds ratio for suicide

9.33x odds ratio for homicide

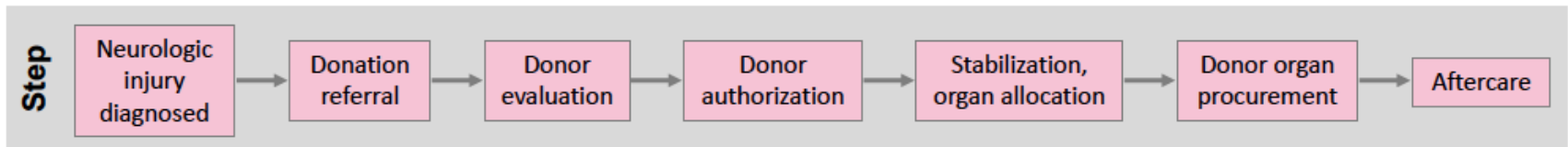
Opioid epidemic created a wave of overdose deaths in the US

European OD death rate, age 15-64, 2018: 22.3 per million population

United States OD death rate, age 15-64, 2018: 207 per million population

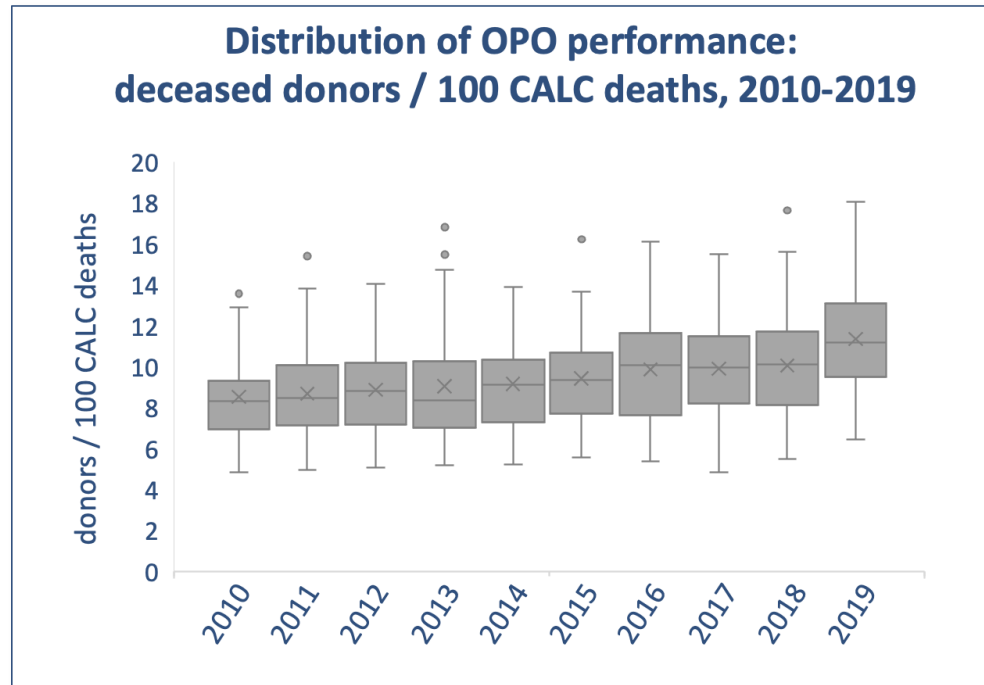
Donor potential comparisons require comparable data

How effectively is donor potential realized?



Full sharing of process data enables full understanding of donation

Successful systems are systematically successful



***Unchecked variation in performance
signifies failure of regulatory process***

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Why focus on OPOs?

PERFORMANCE

We've got the best organ donation and transplant system in the world.

Here's how to make it even better.

Sep 15, 2020 | Blog, Performance

By Brian Shepard, CEO, UNOS

OPINION

Regarding America's world-beating national organ transplant system: If it ain't broke, don't fix it

Collaboration is the key to success.



EDITORIAL

OPO performance improvement and increasing organ transplantation: Metrics are necessary but not sufficient

Why focus on OPOs?

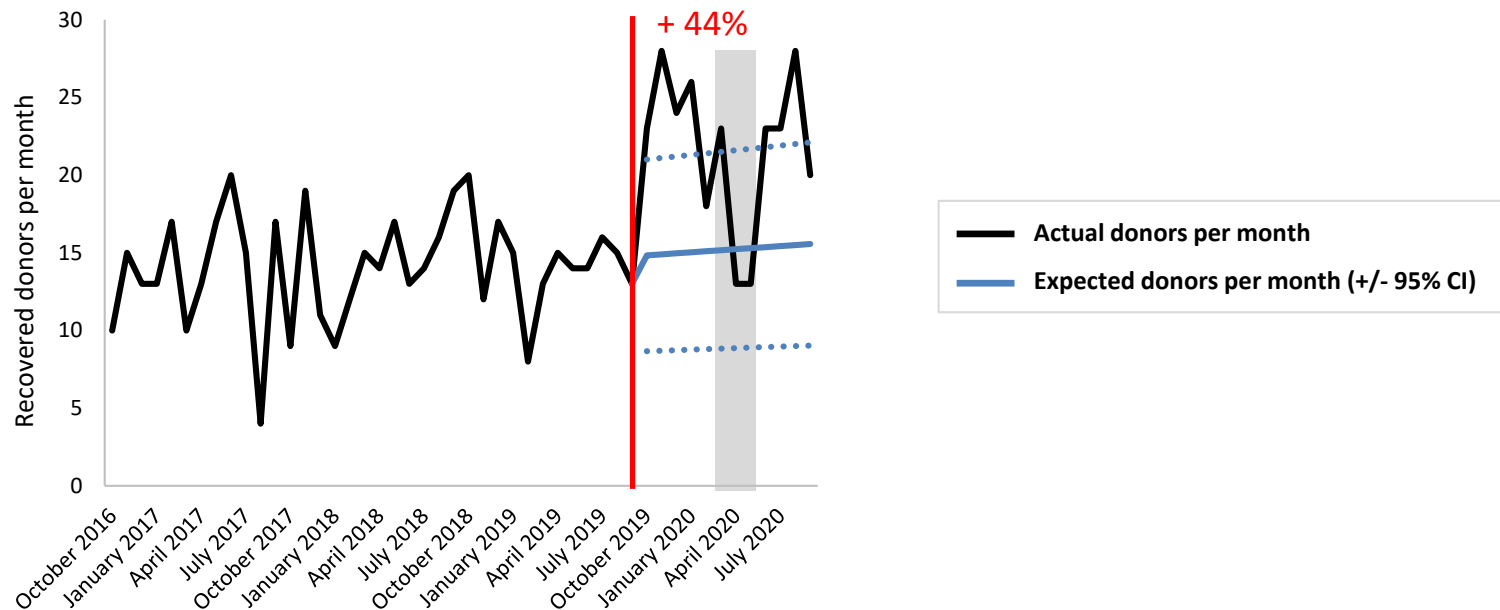
Every transplant begins with a donor

Can't utilize organs from an unrecovered donor

Emphasis on center (utilization) effects is paradoxically a product of good center metrics in comparison to those for OPOs

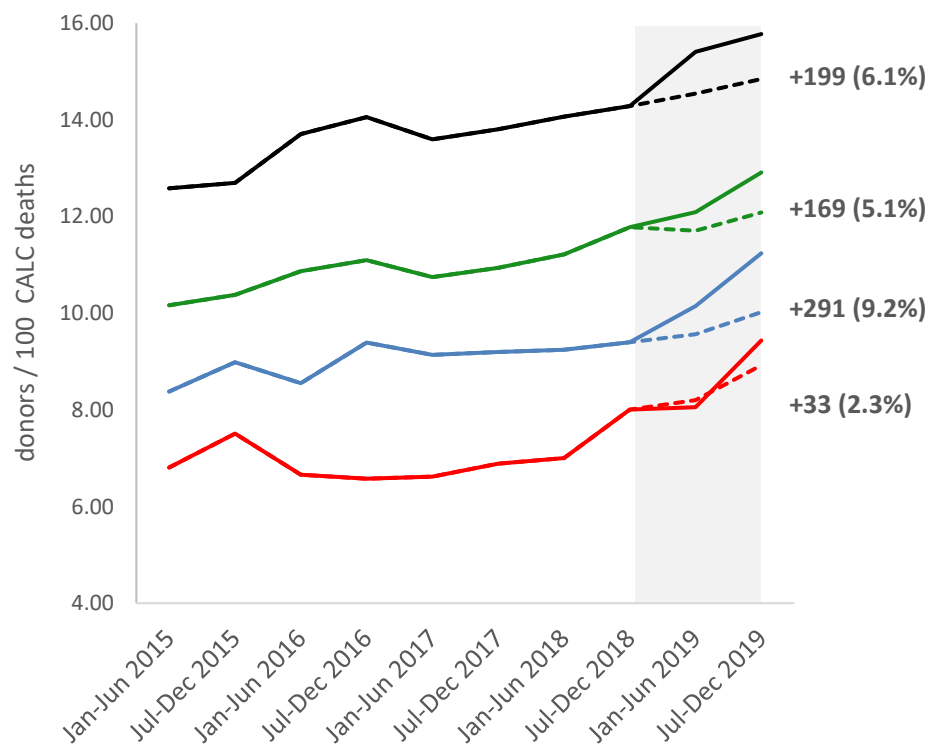
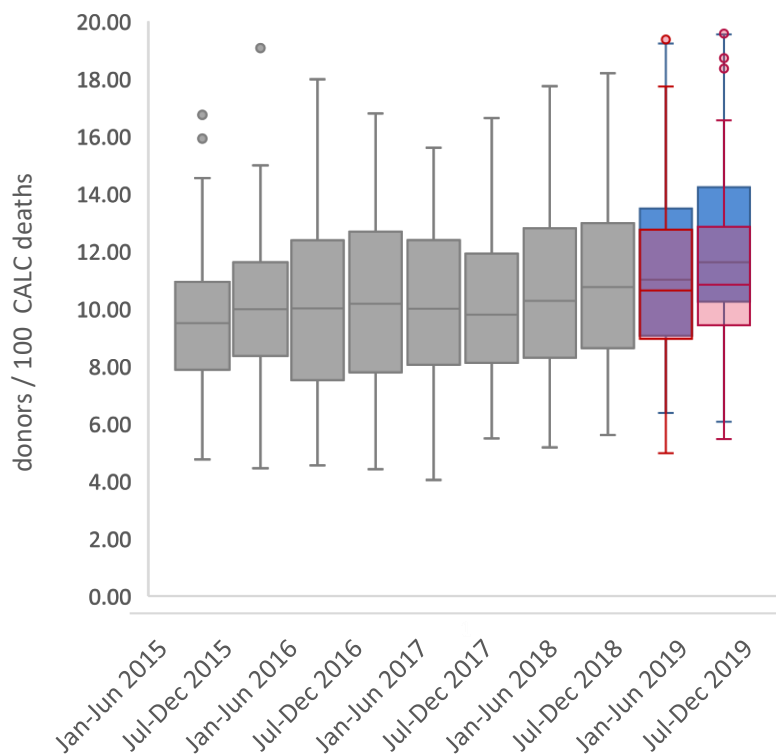
OPO performance deficits are correctable

Change in performance of Indiana Donor Network following CALC-directed quality improvement initiative



OPO performance deficits are correctable

OPO performance increased during a period of heightened public scrutiny



Why focus on OPOs?

All utilized organs must first be recovered from a donor

OPOs have monopoly authority for donation in their DSAs

We are just beginning to see the benefits of OPO improvement

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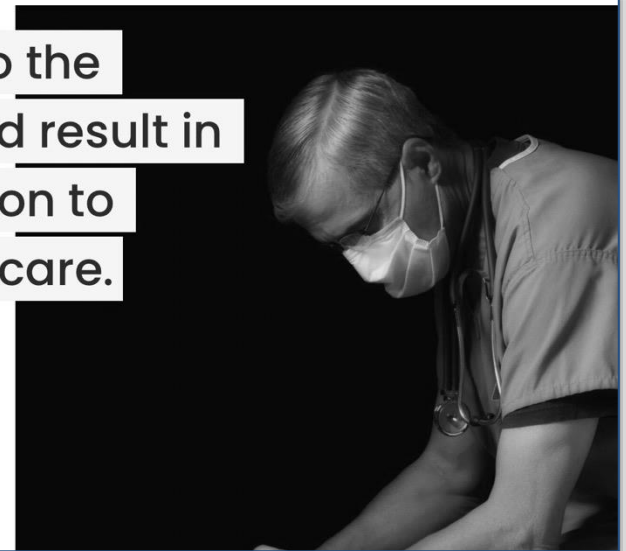
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Is it safe to intervene in the organ donation system?

Radical changes to the donor system could result in significant disruption to critical life-saving care.

The Trump administration's last-minute rule changes have very little to do with the science of procurement and transplantation and are based on misguided beliefs and unverified metrics and



FIRST OPINION

CMS's new rules on organ donation and transplantation 'will bring chaos'

By David C. Mulligan Nov. 23, 2020

[Reprint](#)

Myth: CMS is proposing a “hunger games” model

UNOS Ambassador

February 2021

UNOS Ambassadors are United Network for Organ Sharing community volunteers and advocates who are raising awareness and educating the public about organ donation and transplantation, organ matching and how UNOS runs the nation's transplant system.

Make your voice heard in the final rule for transplantation and organ donation

Here's some background:

There's a [new rule being considered at the federal level](#) that will drastically change the way organ procurement organization's (OPOs) performance is measured. [As written the rule would decertify more than half of OPOs](#) nationwide with no transition plan to ensure patient services go interrupted. This new rule would destabilize our organ donation system as we currently know it. Before the rule is implemented, there's an [opportunity for the public to comment](#) by March 4, 2021.

The truth is, as the highest volume, highest performing system in the world, UNOS is the first to say we can always do better; but an approach that disrupts the system without a plan for ensuring donation services will continue is dangerous and will ultimately harm patients waiting for transplant.

The volunteer opportunity:

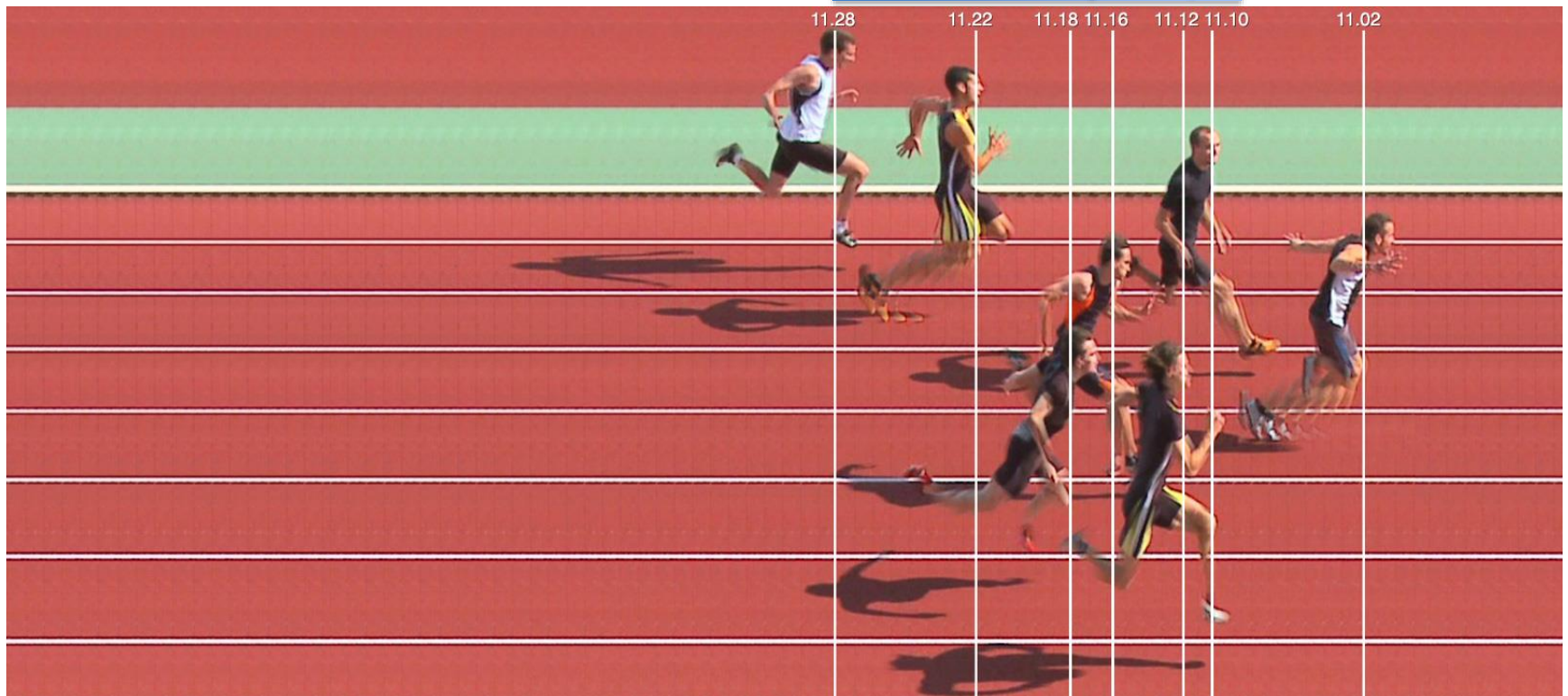
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Reality: consistent performance with narrow range across country means even low-ranking OPOs can be Tier 1

Runner's 95% CI crosses the 25th percentile –
this runner is in the Tier 1 pack

25th percentile

Median



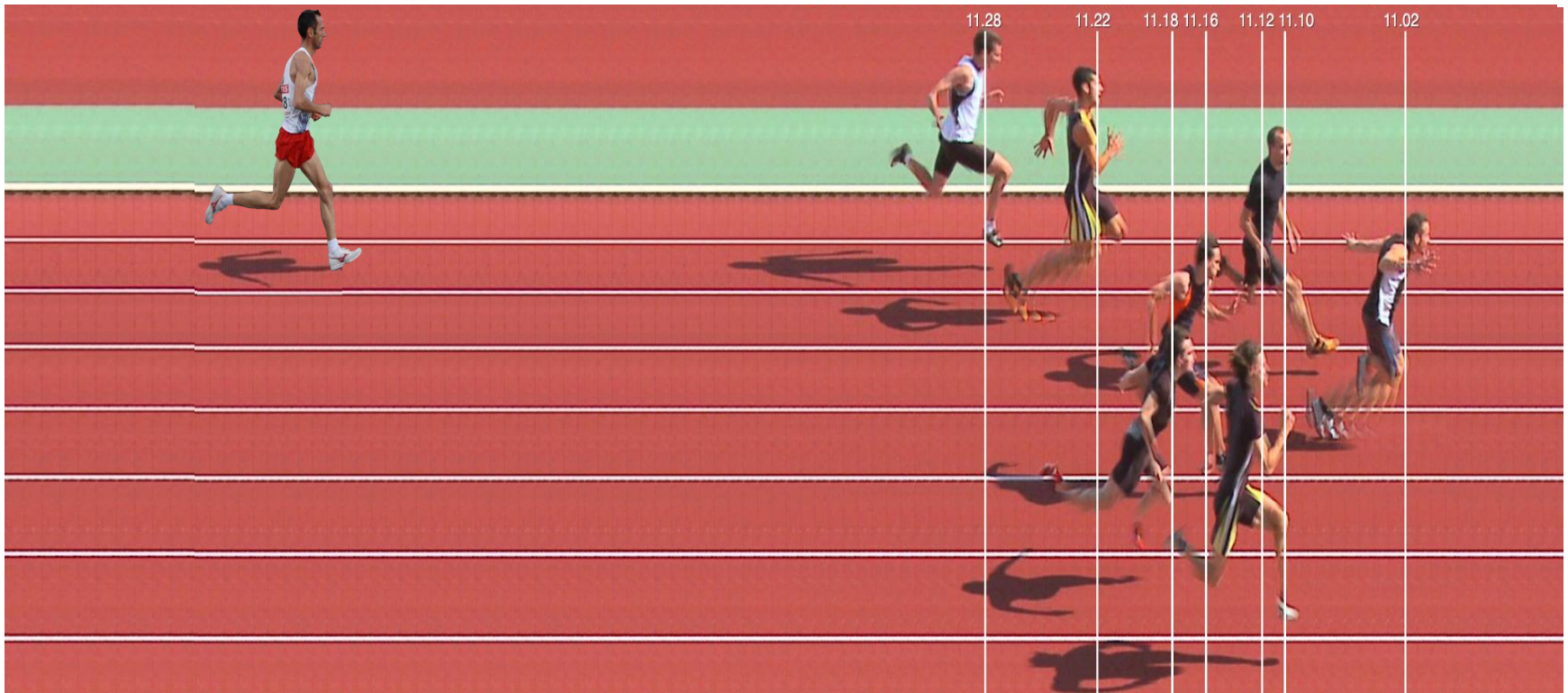
It is unsafe to not intervene on underperformance

Runner's 95% CI is below the median –
this runner is in Tier 3

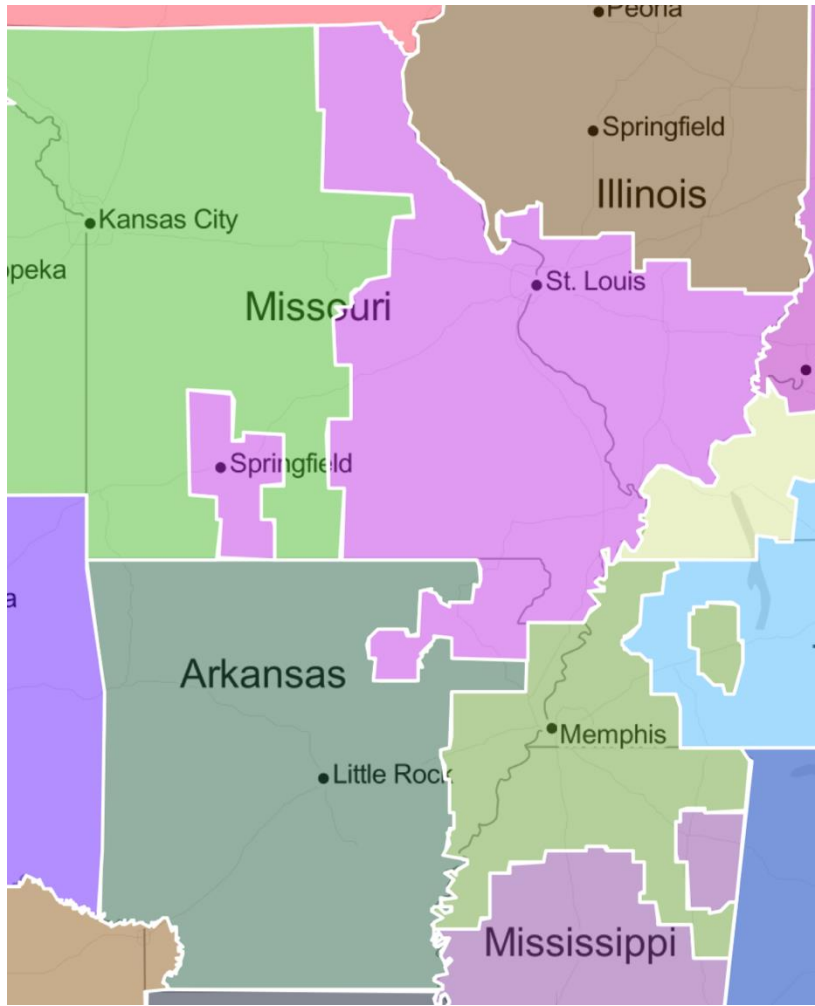


25th percentile

Median



It is unsafe to not intervene on underperformance



If AROR had matched MOMA performance from 2009-2018 . . .

- *487 more donors expected*
- *664 more kidneys expected*
- *enough kidneys to provide one to every Arkansas kidney candidate who died or was delisted (too sick) and still have 316 additional kidneys to export*

Overview of donation reform

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Improving organ donation offers immediate and critically needed benefits to transplant patients