

American Society of Transplant Surgeons®

September 27, 2018

The Honorable Alex M. Azar II Secretary of Health and Human Services Hubert H. Humphrey Building 200 Independence Avenue S.W. Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Secretary Azar:

As President of the American Society of Transplant Surgeons, I am writing to express our appreciation that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services is addressing the duplicative regulatory burdens on transplant centers in the Proposed Rule "Medicare and Medicaid Programs; Regulatory Provisions to Promote Program Efficiency, Transparency, and Burden Reduction." We believe the proposed rule is a major step in the right direction.

If we can be of any assistance in this process, please let us know. We look forward to future discussions about streamlining the regulatory process to enable transplant centers to focus more of their resources on the care of their patients.

Sincerely yours,

Dixon B. Kaufman, MD, PhD

ASTS President

cc: The Honorable Seema Verma, Administrator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

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