

## **SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL**

The Declaration of Istanbul on Organ Trafficking and Transplant Tourism (<http://www.declarationofistanbul.org>) was adopted at a summit meeting in 2008, in Istanbul (Turkey). It sets forth a framework of ethical principles aligned with World Health Assembly Resolutions that oppose organ trafficking and transplant tourism. In 2010, the leaders of the Declaration's parent organizations, The Transplantation Society (TTS) and the International Society of Nephrology (ISN), created the Declaration of Istanbul Custodian Group (DICG) to promote, sustain, and monitor the implementation of the Declaration worldwide. Led by an Executive Committee, the DICG counts on more than 250 members from countries all over the world. Through ad hoc working groups, the DICG routinely produces policy papers and guidance to assist transplant professionals and authorities to deal with different aspects of organ trafficking and transplant tourism.

In September 2015, with the support of TTS and ISN, the DICG Executive initiated a project to address the ethical aspects of travel for transplantation. An expert working group was convened with wide geographical representation, including experts from all regions defined by the World Health Organization and from both countries of origin and countries of destination of transplant travelers. The participation of experts from diverse professional background was also ensured - transplant professionals and experts in bioethics, law, law enforcement and public health, as well as representatives from international organizations.

In total, 35 experts from 26 socioculturally diverse countries participated in the initiative. Two subgroups were established, each led by two co-chairs and a steering committee. One subgroup addressed the ethical aspects of managing patients who plan to travel for transplantation, and the second subgroup those of patients who receive a transplant abroad and return home for follow-up care. Both subgroups worked in parallel, conferring electronically to prepare work (outlines, working documents, literature reviews, and empirical analysis) and then participated in a 2-day workshop which took place in April 2016, in Madrid (Spain). This workshop was intended to ensure open discussion and achieve agreement on several key issues.

An outline of a document was agreed upon with distribution of the different topics among members of the two subgroups. The result of the preparation of the different topics was shared with all members of the working group prior to the April 2016 workshop. During the workshop, all prepared materials were revised and discussions were held aiming at reaching final agreement and consensus on recommendations produced between all participants.

The present manuscript summarizes the recommendations on the management of patients who return home after transplantation in a foreign destination, which content has been agreed upon by all participants. These recommendations have been presented for discussion outside of the working group at different fora, in particular at meetings of the Committee of Transplantation of the Council of Europe (CD-P-TO). As a result, the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe has recently adopted *Resolution CM/Res(2017)2 on establishing procedures for the management of patients*

*having received an organ transplant abroad upon return to their home country to receive follow-up care, recommending member states to take measures that are aligned with those resulting from this DICG initiative which has inspired such Resolution.*