**Changing America’s System for Organ Transplants**

**美国将改善器官移植体系**

The United States government recently proposed new rules designed to improve transplant operations.

美国政府最近提出了旨在改善移植手术系统的新规定。

The goal is to ease a severe shortage of kidneys and other organs. The shortage is so severe that more than 113,000 Americans are on the transplant waiting list — and about 20 die each day.

这项新规的目标是缓解肾脏和其他器官移植的严重短缺。由于短缺情况过于严重，导致美国在等待器官移植的患者已达11.3万多位——其中每天大约就有20人死亡。

Part of the problem is this. An Associated Press study recently found some organ collections agencies miss opportunities that could have saved lives. Some of these groups secure donors at half the rate of others.

调查已发现了部分问题所在。美联社近期的一项研究发现，一些器官收集机构因错失良机导致未能及时拯救病人。其中一些机构获得捐赠的几率则仅是其他机构的一半。

The U.S. government currently has little way to directly compare organ collection agencies and force poor performers to improve.

目前，美国政府几乎没有办法直接对器官采购机构进行评比，也没有办法采取措施强制表现较差的机构进行改进提升。

The rules come after President Donald Trump ordered a reworking of care for kidney disease.

继美国总统唐纳德·特朗普下令重构肾脏疾病保健体系后，美国政府出台了这些新规。

**Crackdown on OPO's**

**打击器官采购机构**

Under the proposed rules, Medicare, the national health insurance program, would rate the performance of organ procurement organizations, or OPOs.

根据拟议法规，联邦医疗保险计划(Medicare)将对器官采购机构(OPOs)的表现进行评估。

"No life-saving organ should go to waste," Medicare chief Seema Verma said while announcing the proposals.

“任何能够挽救生命的器官都不应该被浪费掉，”联邦医疗保险首席执行官西玛•维尔马在宣布这些提议时表示。

Organ transplant activists praised the move.

器官移植活动人士对此举表示赞赏。

"Patients are dying, and they deserve better," said Jennifer Erickson about the government campaign targeting OPOs. Erickson worked on transplant policy for the administration of former president Barack Obama.

“有些病人正在生死边缘挣扎，而他们应该得到更好的治疗，”詹妮弗•埃里克森在谈到政府针对器官采购机构发起的整治运动时如是说。埃里克森曾就任于美国前总统巴拉克·奥巴马的政府机构负责器官移植政策工作。

The association that represents the organ collection groups promised to work with Medicare to put the stronger rules into action.

器官采购机构协会承诺将与联邦医疗保险展开合作，将更强有力的规则付诸行动。

The new measures are "an opportunity to drive meaningful changes that will increase the availability of organs for transplant and save more lives," said Kelly Ranum, the association's president. Ranum also heads the state of Louisiana's OPO.

这些新举措是“一项推动有益变革的机遇，这些变革将提升用于移植的器官的有效性，并将拯救更多的生命，” 器官采购机构协会主席凯利·拉南说。拉南同时也是路易斯安那州器官采购机构的负责人。

A 2017 study by University of Pennsylvania researchers estimated that an improved transplant system could get as many as 28,000 more organs for patients.

2017年宾夕法尼亚大学研究人员的一项研究曾预估，提升后的器官移植系统或能为多达2.8万位患者提供可用器官。

**How to Increase the numbers of living donors?**

**如何增加活体捐赠者的数量?**

The Trump administration also aims to increase the numbers of living donors. The idea is that living donors should be reimbursed for lost wages and other costs during their hospital stay and recovery.

特朗普政府还打算增加活体捐赠者的数量。这个构想旨在保障活体捐赠者能够获得他们在住院和康复期间的薪资及其他应得的费用补偿。

Currently, the transplant recipient's insurance company pays the donor's medical costs. But donors are out of work for weeks while they recover. And not all employers permit some form of paid time off.

目前，只有接受移植的患者的保险公司向捐赠者支付医疗费用。然而，捐赠者在恢复期间有数周无法正常工作。而且并非所有的雇主都允许捐赠者带薪休假。

Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar's father received a kidney transplant from a living donor. "When an American wishes to become a living donor, we don't believe their financial situation should limit their generosity," he said.

美国卫生与公众服务部部长亚历克斯·阿扎尔的父亲曾做过一次活体捐赠肾脏移植手术。他说:“当某个美国公民志愿成为活体捐赠者时，我们不应该让他的经济状况限制他的积极性。”

Most transplant organs come from deceased donors. But people lucky enough to receive an organ from a living donor often cut their wait time.

目前大多数移植器官来自已故的捐赠者。但那些能从活体捐者赠者那里获得器官的幸运儿则减少了等待时间。

Yet fewer than 7,000 of the 36,529 transplants performed nationwide last year were from living donors.

然而，去年全国进行的36529例移植手术中，只有不到7000例来自活体捐赠者。

I'm John Russell.

我是约翰·拉塞尔。

**Changing America’s System for Organ Transplants**

The United States government recently proposed new rules designed to improve transplant operations.

The goal is to ease a severe shortage of kidneys and other organs. The shortage is so severe that more than 113,000 Americans are on the transplant waiting list — and about 20 die each day.

Part of the problem is this. An Associated Press study recently found some organ collections agencies miss opportunities that could have saved lives. Some of these groups secure donors at half the rate of others.

The U.S. government currently has little way to directly compare organ collection agencies and force poor performers to improve.

The rules come after President Donald Trump ordered a reworking of care for kidney disease.

Crackdown on OPO's

Under the proposed rules, Medicare, the national health insurance program, would rate the performance of organ procurement organizations, or OPOs.

"No life-saving organ should go to waste," Medicare chief Seema Verma said while announcing the proposals.

Organ transplant activists praised the move.

"Patients are dying, and they deserve better," said Jennifer Erickson about the government campaign targeting OPOs. Erickson worked on transplant policy for the administration of former president Barack Obama.

The association that represents the organ collection groups promised to work with Medicare to put the stronger rules into action.

The new measures are "an opportunity to drive meaningful changes that will increase the availability of organs for transplant and save more lives," said Kelly Ranum, the association's president. Ranum also heads the state of Louisiana's OPO.

A 2017 study by University of Pennsylvania researchers estimated that an improved transplant system could get as many as 28,000 more organs for patients.

How to Increase the numbers of living donors?

The Trump administration also aims to increase the numbers of living donors. The idea is that living donors should be reimbursed for lost wages and other costs during their hospital stay and recovery.

Currently, the transplant recipient's insurance company pays the donor's medical costs. But donors are out of work for weeks while they recover. And not all employers permit some form of paid time off.

Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar's father received a kidney transplant from a living donor. "When an American wishes to become a living donor, we don't believe their financial situation should limit their generosity," he said.

Most transplant organs come from deceased donors. But people lucky enough to receive an organ from a living donor often cut their wait time.

Yet fewer than 7,000 of the 36,529 transplants performed nationwide last year were from living donors.

I'm John Russell.