

## University of Colorado Hospital Increasing Organ Transplant Access (IOTA) Model

This kidney transplant hospital has been selected by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to participate in the Increasing Organ Transplant Access (IOTA) Model. The IOTA Model aims to increase access to life-saving transplants for patients living with end-stage renal disease (ESRD) and reduce Medicare expenditures.



### How does participation in the IOTA Model work?

- ▶ This model focuses on providing incentives to selected kidney transplant hospitals to increase transplantation and is designed to support greater care coordination, improved patient-centeredness in the process of being waitlisted for and receiving a kidney transplant, and greater access to kidney transplants.
- ▶ Through the IOTA Model payments and policies, CMS aims to increase the care delivery capabilities and efficiency of kidney transplant hospitals selected for participation, with the goal of improving quality of care while reducing unnecessary spending. The IOTA Model only affects payments in Original Medicare and does not affect payments or services for Medicare Advantage Plans, Medicare Prescription Drug Plans, or private health insurance plans.



### How does the IOTA Model affect me, the Medicare patient?

- ▶ **As a patient, the IOTA Model does not change your existing Medicare benefits, choices, or protections.** We cannot limit your choice of health care providers or Medicare-covered medically necessary services or treatment options. You still have the right to visit any doctor, hospital, or other provider that accepts Original Medicare at any time, just like you do now.



### What information will be shared about me?

- ▶ Medicare shares information about your care with your health care providers such as dates and times you visited a health care provider and your medical conditions. Sharing your data helps make sure all the providers involved in your care have access to your health information when and where they need it.
- ▶ **We value your privacy.** IOTA participants must put important safeguards in place to make sure all your health care information is safe. We respect your choice on how your health care information is used for care coordination and quality improvement
- ▶ If you **don't** want Medicare to share your health care data information, **call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**. Tell the representative that your health care provider is part of the IOTA Model, and you don't want Medicare to share your health care information. Beneficiaries who are deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-blind, or have speech disabilities should call 1-877-486-2048.



### How can I make the most of getting care from the IOTA Model?

- ▶ As a Medicare patient, you can choose or change your provider at any time. Your nephrologist is the health care provider responsible for coordinating your overall care for your kidney-related disease. Your nephrologist can help you make informed decisions about your health care, track your treatment, and monitor your health outcomes.



### What if I have concerns about being part of the IOTA Model?

- ▶ If you have questions or concerns about the quality of care or other services you receive from your provider, you can contact **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**. TTY users can call 1-877-486-2048. You may also visit the website:



**For more information on the Increasing Organ Transplant Access (IOTA) Model, visit:**  
**<https://www.cms.gov/priorities/innovation/innovation-models/iota>**

<https://www.Medicare.gov>.

- ▶ If you suspect *Medicare fraud or abuse from your IOTA provider* or any Medicare provider, we encourage you to make a report by contacting the HHS Office of Inspector General (1-800-HHS-TIPS).
- ▶ If you believe your *privacy rights have been violated*, you may file a privacy complaint with CMS (visit [Medicare.gov](https://www.Medicare.gov), or call 1-800-MEDICARE) or with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Office for Civil Rights (visit [hhs.gov/hipaa/filing-a-complaint](https://hhs.gov/hipaa/filing-a-complaint)). Filing a complaint won't affect your coverage under Medicare.

### Original Content from IOTA participant:

Disclaimer: The statements contained below are **solely** those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). The authors assume responsibility for the accuracy and completeness of the information contained below in this document:

Dear Patient,

The University of Colorado Hospital Kidney Transplant Program is proud to share that we have achieved the highest transplant rate in the state of Colorado. This is based on national metrics published on July 8th, by the Scientific Registry of Transplant Recipients ([www.srtr.org](http://www.srtr.org)), which means that the patients at University of Colorado Hospital receive kidney transplants faster than at other transplant centers in Colorado.

Additionally, the University of Colorado Hospital Kidney Transplant Program is the only transplant center in the West that performs robotic kidney transplant surgeries for high Body Mass Index (BMI) patients and offers and integrated Hispanic Transplant Program. We also have the largest living donor program in the state of Colorado.

We are also pleased to share some exciting news with you. Our program has been selected as one of the 103 programs nationwide to participate in Medicare's Increasing Organ Transplant Access (IOTA) model. This innovative model is designed to increase access to kidney transplantation by enhancing care coordination, improving patient-centeredness throughout the waitlisting and transplant process, and expanding access to life-saving kidney transplants. Our inclusion in this model reflects our commitment to delivering exceptional outcomes and ensuring equitable access to transplant services.

Participation in the IOTA model holds us to a higher standard- one that emphasizes not only the acceptance of more donor organs but also the achievement of superior post-transplant outcomes. This opportunity allows us to further our mission of providing compassionate, high-quality care to patients in need of a kidney transplant.

We are honored to be part of this important initiative and look forward to continuing to serve our community with excellence and dedication.

If you have any questions or would like more information about what this means for you or your loved ones, please don't hesitate to send us a message through you My Health Connection Portal or contact us at 720-848-0005.

Sincerely,

The University of Colorado Hospital- Kidney Transplant Program



**For more information on the Increasing Organ Transplant Access (IOTA) Model, visit:**  
**<https://www.cms.gov/priorities/innovation/innovation-models/iota>**