

Response to Reviewer Comments:

Surgical Damage during Deceased Donor Organ Procurement in the United States  
Manuscript Number 24643

Reviewer 00504150

- a) Anatomic descriptions are incorrect: The degree of injury, as stated, was reviewed by the medical director of the OPO as well as the transplanting surgeon. As this paper focused on class 3 injuries, the degree of injury was such as the organ was not transplantable by the surgical team. The concern about underreporting of class 1 and 2 is discussed in the paper.
- b) Superficial level of analysis: As the paper states, the degree of data collection was relatively minimal as the intent of the paper was to establish a baseline of organ damage seen during procurement. While we agree that the type of donor, level of training, site of procurement, etc. is important to determine causes of this damage, that was not the intent of the paper. This is also stated in the manuscript.

Reviewer 00504828

- a) Increase details of statistical analysis: A sentence naming the statistical software was added.
- b) IRB issues with the study: A paragraph describing why this study is IRB exempt was added.
- c) Potential cause of organ injury: Two sentences describing the potential causes of procurement injury (surgical; related to cause-of-death) were added.

Reviewer 00005191

- a) No issues.

Reviewer 00504754

- a) No issues.