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The European Society for Organ Transplantation (ESOT) is deeply committed to upholding the utmost ethical standards within the realm of organ donation and transplantation. Our organisation tirelessly endeavours to propel the field forward through rigorous research, educational initiatives, and collaborative efforts, all while prioritising the dignity and well-being of both donors and recipients.

ESOT reiterates its unequivocal denouncement of unethical organ harvesting and any accompanying unethical methodologies. Our partnerships and collaborations are firmly rooted in the open exchange of academic knowledge aimed at advancing transplantation science, best clinical care and enhancing patient outcomes, as well as promoting our core principles for ethical practices in the field. We vehemently oppose all activities associated with organ trafficking, coercion, or exploitation. In alignment with international declarations and guidelines, ESOT stands in solidarity against unethical practices in organ transplantation.

We wholeheartedly endorse the principles outlined in the Declaration of Istanbul, which underscore the critical importance of transparency, equity, and the protection of human rights in organ donation and transplantation and through our educational activities we promote their dissemination globally. Furthermore, we actively support the endeavours of organisations such as the European Directorate for the Quality of Medicines and Healthcare (EDQM) in their efforts to combat organ trafficking and uphold ethical standards on a global scale and consider that education is one of the key solutions to change such practices.

Furthermore, ESOT is an active participant to the CD-T-PO, the mission of which is precisely to "actively promotes the non-commercialisation of organ donation, the fight against organ trafficking and the development of ethical, quality and safety standards in the field of organ, tissue and cell transplantation" (<https://www.edqm.eu/en/organisation-work-programme-organs-tissues-cells>)

Our collaborative efforts are guided by an unwavering commitment to facilitate an open dialogue and cooperation, adhering strictly to ethical principles and respecting the rights of every individual involved. We are acutely aware of the intricate challenges inherent in international partnerships and interactions and remain steadfast in our vigilance to ensure that all our activities uphold the most stringent ethical standards.

ESOT remains resolute in its dedication to promote ethical practices and drive advancements in the field of organ transplantation, maintaining the integrity of the transplantation community and prioritising the protection of the rights and dignity of donors and recipients worldwide.

In addition to our stance against unethical practices, ESOT recognises the importance of establishing robust preventive measures. To this end, we are implementing stringent protocols, such as rigorously reviewing abstracts submitted for presentation at our events and ensuring that all publications have received appropriate ethics approval. Furthermore, we are actively exploring additional prevention models to fortify our efforts in safeguarding against any inadvertent support of illegal and unethical organ, tissue and cell harvesting or related procedures.

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