

The ESOT-Lancet Commission on Transplantation

A new vision for Sustainability, Innovation, and Equity in Global Transplant Health.

The ESOT-Lancet Commission on Transplantation brings together leading global experts to chart a new course for transplantation in the 21st century. Our goal is to reposition transplantation not as a niche intervention, but as a strategic health system function aligned with global goals on non-communicable diseases, climate resilience, and pandemic preparedness.

Why this Commission?

Solid organ transplantation saves and transforms lives, yet only 10% of the global need is currently met. Demand is rising due to non-communicable diseases (NCDs), cancer indications, and ageing populations. Barriers include organ shortages, inequities in healthcare, and a lack of political prioritisation.

Dialysis alone consumes more than \$100 billion annually worldwide but is palliative and not curative.

The WHO estimates that only 10% of the global need for transplantation is met, despite transplantation being the most cost-effective treatment for end-stage organ failure. Dialysis costs healthcare systems more than \$100 billion annually, but remains a palliative—not curative—solution. Revolutionary developments such as machine perfusion, xenotransplantation, stem cell research, and AI-driven monitoring could transform transplantation, but risk worsening global inequalities if access is not addressed.

WHAT WE AIM TO ACHIEVE

The Commission will deliver **evidence-based, actionable recommendations** across four pillars:

1

Defining the Transplant Journey

– policy guidance from donor to long-term survivorship.

2

Evaluating Innovations

– integrating technologies (xenotransplantation, AI, organ repair, remote monitoring) with a focus on equity.

3

Reducing Global Disparities

– capacity building, partnerships, and sustainable models for LMICs.

4

Cross-Border Access & Ethics

– mapping care patterns and developing ethical frameworks.

The Commission

WHO WE ARE

The Commission unites experts in clinical care, health systems, epidemiology, bioethics, technology, and policy, alongside patient voices, to ensure recommendations are globally relevant and equitable.

Co-chairs:

Prof. Elmi Muller (Stellenbosch University, South Africa)

Prof. Gabriel Oniscu (Karolinska Institutet, Sweden)

And 20+ Commissioners from Europe, North America, Latin America, Africa, and Asia, including clinicians, policymakers, ethicists, and patient voices.

Supported by The Lancet and ESOT.

PLANNED OUTPUTS



- Interim Report (2025–2026) and a Final Lancet Commission Report.
- Global Transplant Health Forum (GTHF) to ensure uptake and implementation.

WHY SUPPORT US?



Your support will help us:

- Conduct data collection, case studies, and global consultations.
- Convene meetings.
- Publish and disseminate findings widely.
- Build a sustainable Global Transplant Health agenda beyond the Commission.

HOW YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE



- Financial support for research, meetings, and dissemination.
- Partnerships for regional outreach and innovation pilots.
- Tailored opportunities for governmental agencies, foundations, and private sector partners.

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