

Increasing Organ Transplant Access (IOTA) Model Participant Readiness Roadmap

This document contains suggested actions and resources for IOTA Model participants to successfully prepare for model implementation prior to July 1, 2025.

IOTA MODEL OVERVIEW

The IOTA Model aims to:



Increase access to kidney transplants for individuals with end-stage renal disease (ESRD).



Optimize the use of available kidneys for transplant.



Improve care coordination and patient-centeredness in the kidney transplant process.



Model participation is determined by donation service area (DSA). CMS selected 103 transplant hospitals to participate. Access the list of participating hospitals [here](#) to determine if your hospital was selected to participate.

The model is a six-year mandatory model which will begin on July 1, 2025, and end on June 30, 2031.

The resources and steps outlined in this document are intended to support IOTA Model participants in their preparation for model launch on July 1, 2025.

PRE-IMPLEMENTATION CHECKLIST

1. Review IOTA Model Resources

- ☐ Familiarize yourself with the [final rule](#) and any updates made since the [proposed rule](#).
- ☐ Review the December 18th [Welcome Webinar slides](#) and [transcript](#).
- ☐ View the [IOTA Model Overview Fact Sheet](#) and [IOTA Model FAQs](#).
- ☐ Review the [IOTA Model webpage](#).
- ☐ Sign up for [email updates](#) from the IOTA Model team.

2. Understand Model Performance Metrics

- ☐ Review the IOTA Model's performance metrics.
 - **Note:** CMS will set baseline metrics for each IOTA Model participant for each Performance Year (PY) to measure the IOTA Model participant's progress.

To prepare to achieve or exceed goals based on benchmarks, consider taking the potential actions for each metric below:



Achievement Domain: Number of transplants performed relative to the transplant target*

- ☐ Review data and targets to inform what adjustments may be required to achieve goals.
- ☐ Identify and discuss any operational and strategic adjustments to prepare for the model to meet target goals.



Efficiency Domain: Organ offer acceptance rate ratio

- ☐ Review how the organ offer acceptance rate ratio will be calculated.
- ☐ Review the organ offer acceptance rate achievement point allocation and improvement benchmark rate goals.
- ☐ Review current organ offer filters and discuss opportunity for modifications to reduce organ discard.
- ☐ Review the waitlist status of patients.



Quality Domain: Post-transplant composite graft survival rate

- ☐ Consider methods to optimize long term post-transplant care.
- ☐ Review current coordination of care pathways.

*IOTA Model participants' transplant targets may change each PY due to the calculation methodology.

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3. Communicate Model Requirements Internally

- ☐ Identify key staff/champions who will support the model.
- ☐ Align with leadership on preparations needed to achieve or exceed model expectations.

4. Collaborate with Partners

- ☐ Identify potential collaborators (e.g., nephrology practice, dialysis facility, outpatient facilities).
- ☐ Engage with Medicare providers and suppliers who can support model goals.
- ☐ Formalize partnerships with collaborators through agreements.

5. Engage and Inform Patients and Donors

- ☐ Provide information to patients and potential donors about the model.
- ☐ Develop and distribute patient and donor information brochures.
- ☐ Offer education and support to individuals considering living donation.
- ☐ Create support resources, including counseling and educational workshops.

WHAT'S NEXT

The model performance period begins July 1, 2025. CMS will reach out to IOTA Model participants starting in early 2025. IOTA Model participants will receive access to the 4i platform and the learning system prior to PY1 and will be notified when these components are live. In the meantime, please review the below onboarding guidelines:



4Innovation (4i) Onboarding

- 4i is a web-based application used by participants in certain Innovation Center models to manage their operations, automate model business processes, and enable CMS to manage model participants.
- IOTA Model participants will use 4i to sign the Data Sharing Agreement, manage their organization's user access and contact types, and access reports and pertinent information about the model (including attributed patient data).



Data Sharing

- Once you complete the onboarding process in 4i, you will be able to access your organization's data and reports.
- CMS will share reports with IOTA Model participants, including Claim and Claim Line Feeds (CCLFs), Patient Attribution Lists, Transplant Target, Aggregate Data, Preliminary Performance Assessment & Payment Calculations, and Final Performance Score.



Learning System

- During your participation in the model, the Learning System will be your partner in implementation and learning.
- The IOTA Learning System will disseminate on-demand resources, including case studies and innovation spotlights from top performers. The Learning System will build a peer network to share ongoing lessons learned and support IOTA Model participants in achieving model goals.



Check-ins with CMS

- You may set up an optional check-in with CMS to ask questions and build a plan for success. If you have already met with CMS, further meetings are not mandatory unless additional support is needed.
- Email the IOTA Model team at CMMLtransplant@cms.hhs.gov to set up a check-in.

We welcome your feedback on ways that CMS can better support you as you prepare to implement the model. If you have questions or requests, you may reach out to the IOTA Model team at CMMLtransplant@cms.hhs.gov.