



## MEDIA ADVISORY

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### **Uterus Transplant Research Trial Offers New Opportunity for Organ Donation**

Last November, the first baby in the United States was born to a woman who received a uterus transplant at Baylor University Medical Center at Dallas, a part of Baylor Scott & White Health. Baylor University Medical Center is home to a world-renowned transplant program with more than 35 years of experience in solid organ transplants. The hospital first announced the start of a uterus transplant clinical trial in 2016, which seeks to offer a treatment option for women with absolute uterine factor infertility. Just over a year later, this birth marks a major milestone for medical research and transplantation. While this uterus transplant was from a living donor, future transplants in this research effort may come from deceased donors as well. Southwest Transplant Alliance, the Dallas-based organ procurement organization, has been working with the team at Baylor Scott & White to coordinate processes for the donation of a uterus from an organ donor.

“This beautiful baby boy born from a donated uterus is such an exciting achievement and gives hope to so many women who are actually born without a uterus,” said Patti Niles, CEO and president of STA. “It has been an incredibly gratifying experience to work with the Baylor team to help in the development of a transplant process as part of this clinical trial.”

STA collaborated with Baylor University Medical Center and Giuliano Testa, MD, principal investigator. STA discussed uterus donation with several donor families.

“Because this is a research study, it is essential that we work with professionals who bring understanding and expertise to the transplant process,” said Dr. Giuliano Testa, the surgeon who performed the transplant. “STA’s collaboration has provided valuable insight to the means of organ procurement, and they act professionally and compassionately in discussions about organ donation with potential donor families.”

“We have learned so much from traditional organ and tissue transplants and this has allowed science to save and improve lives in ever-expanding ways,” said Niles. “Donation creates a legacy of life, and this success will hopefully encourage more people to consider their own legacy and make the decision to donate. We are so grateful for donors and their families.”

Learn more about the uterine transplant clinical trial at [BSWHealth.com/UterusTransplant](https://BSWHealth.com/UterusTransplant). To register your donation decision, go to [donatelifetexas.org](https://donatelifetexas.org).

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### **About Southwest Transplant Alliance**

For more than 40 years, STA has been saving lives by recovering donated organs for individuals awaiting a lifesaving transplant. Recently, STA began recovering eyes and tissue to improve lives. STA is among the largest of 58 federally designated, non-profit organ procurement organizations (OPOs). Founded in 1974, STA has facilitated more than 23,000 organs for recovery and enhanced the lives of tens of thousands of people. STA is a member of the United Network of Organ Sharing (UNOS) and is accredited by the Association of Organ Procurement Organizations (AOPO). The organization serves communities in North Texas, Beaumont, Bryan/College Station, Corpus Christi, El Paso, Galveston, Midland/Odessa, Temple, Wichita Falls and Tyler. For more information, go to [www.organ.org](http://www.organ.org). Sign up to be an organ donor today at [www.DonateLifeTexas.org](http://www.DonateLifeTexas.org).

## **About Baylor Scott & White Health**

Formed from the 2013 merger between Baylor Health Care System and Scott & White Healthcare, the system referred to as Baylor Scott & White Health is the largest not-for-profit healthcare system in the state of Texas. With total assets of \$10.8 billion\* and serving a population larger than the state of Georgia, Baylor Scott & White Health has the vision and resources to provide its patients continued quality care while creating a model system for a dramatically changing healthcare environment. The system now includes 48 hospitals, more than 1,000 access points, 5,500 active physicians, and 44,000 employees, plus the Scott & White Health Plan, Baylor Scott & White Research Institute and Baylor Scott & White Quality Alliance — a network of clinical providers and facilities focused on improving quality, managing the health of patient populations, and reducing the overall cost of care. For more information visit: [bswhealth.com](http://bswhealth.com)

\*based on audited 2016 fiscal year statements