

Dara Kass MD is an Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine at Columbia University Medical Center in New York. Aside from being an advocate for gender equity in medicine and notable COVID communicator, she is also a living donor to her son, Sammy. In 2012, Dr. Kass donated one third of her liver to her son, whose liver was failing due to a condition known as Alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency. As a member of a transplant family, Dr. Kass has become an advocate in the transplant community both for living donor research and the reform of organ procurement organizations (OPOs), which coordinate organ recovery from deceased donors. As a physician and mother, she understands that transplant patients deserve every chance possible, and that the current system leaves too many behind, especially communities of color, and that the effects of COVID on survivors' organs are an urgent part of COVID response.