

Notice of OPTN Policy Changes

Optimizing Usage of Offer Filters

Sponsoring Committee:	Operations and Safety Committee
Policies Affected:	1.2: Definitions 5.3.H: Kidney Offer Filters
Public Comment:	January 19, 2023 – March 18, 2023
Board Approved:	June 26, 2023
Effective Date:	Pending implementation and notice to OPTN members

Purpose of Policy Changes

These changes aim to increase the utilization of the kidney offer filters tool with a default offer filter model. The default offer filters model will utilize model-identified offer filters, which will be generated based on a transplant program's previous kidney offer acceptance behavior. These filters would then be applied automatically to a program every six months. In the default filter model, programs will have the ability to remove ("opt-out of") their model-identified filters if they do not wish to have offer filters applied at their transplant program. Programs will also maintain the ability to modify or remove any program-identified filter.

Proposal History

- Kidney Offer Filters Pilot (Phase I): June 2019
- Kidney Offer Filters Pilot (Phase II): August – December 2020
- The Policy Oversight Committee (POC) tasked the Operations and Safety Committee to address several projects aimed at improving processes and increasing the efficient use of organ offers and acceptances.
- The Match Run Rules Workgroup was developed to discuss potential solutions and further develop the efficiency projects. The Match Run Rules Workgroup was later restructured into two separate Workgroups – one in which was the Mandatory Offer Filters Workgroup.
- National Rollout for voluntary kidney Offer filters tool: January 27, 2022
- The Mandatory Offer Filters Workgroup
- The Optimizing Usage of Kidney Offer Filters concept paper went out for public comment. The concept paper solicited feedback from the community on two proposed offer filter models: a "default" format, wherein a program retains its ability to remove or modify filters, or a mandatory format, in which applied filters cannot be modified by the transplant program.
- The feedback received was in strong support of beginning with a default filter model and informed the Optimizing Offer Filter proposal.

Summary of Changes

The default offer filter model will have the OPTN Computer System automatically enable model-identified filters for kidney transplant programs by default instead of having programs opt-in to enable them.

Kidney transplant programs will have the ability to remove the model-identified offer filter(s) or create and adjust their own program-identified offer filter(s) to meet the needs of their patients and program. Kidney programs will be required to re-evaluate their filters every six months. A new set of model-identified filters will be generated during this re-evaluation period to best reflect the most recent acceptance practices of the kidney transplant program. Programs only performing pediatric transplants will not have offer filters automatically enabled, but these programs may manually apply model-identified filters.

This proposal also includes the addition of a new data field that would allow transplant programs the ability to specify if a candidate would be excluded from all offer filters. The data field would be added to the OPTN Waiting List.

Implementation

Organ procurement organization staff may require education on the impact of offer filters. Additionally, there may be some changes to the OPTN Donor Data and Matching System workflow that OPOs use when making kidney offers. There are no required changes for OPOs.

Transplant hospitals will be required to review, track and manage offer filters. Transplant hospital staff may require education on the impact of offer filters. Transplant programs will not be required to perform any action prior to implementation but will receive more information on implementation deadlines and suggested transition procedures following approval.

Implementation will involve updates to the OPTN Computer System to include adding additional donor criteria and candidate exclusions, applying automatic candidate exclusions on model filters, updating the ability to exclude specific candidates from being included in offer filters, and preventing filters from running on HIV positive donor matches and implementation of a 6-month refresh process. In addition, this effort will require research effort for model-identified filter generation, as well as education, training, and communication efforts about the changes.

Affected Policy Language

New language is underlined (example) and language that is deleted is struck through (~~example~~).

1.2 **Definitions**

Model-identified offer filter

A recommended offer filter generated based on a transplant program's previous organ offer acceptance.

5.3.H **Kidney Offer Filters**

The OPTN generates model-identified offer filters for all kidney transplant programs based off of a program's transplantation behavior within the most recently available 365 days of data. New model-identified filters will be generated and enabled for each transplant program every six

months. A model-identified offer filter is generated for a program if all of the following criteria are met:

- The program declined all kidney offers on at least 20 donors that met the filter criteria,
- The program transplanted 0 donors that met the filter criteria, and
- The kidneys that meet the filter criteria were transplanted elsewhere

All model-identified offer filters will automatically not apply to candidates with any of the following criteria at the time of the match run:

- Greater than 90% CPRA,
- 0-ABDR mismatch,
- in medically urgent status, or
- less than 18 years old

Model-identified offer filters will be applied to all adult kidney transplant programs. Pediatric alone programs may manually apply model-identified filters.

All programs may remove their model-identified filters or modify automatic candidate exclusion criteria of their model-identified filters. Any program may create their own program-identified filters.

Model-identified and program-identified offer filters will not be applied to kidney match runs from an HIV positive donor.

New Data Collection Field:

Data Element	Location	Format
Candidate offer filter exclusion	OPTN Waiting List	Choose an option for this candidate: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Apply kidney offer filters• Do not apply kidney offer filters