

**OPTN Ad Hoc Disease Transmission Committee**  
**Standardize the Patient Safety Contact and Duplicate Reporting Workgroup**  
**Meeting Summary**  
**September 18, 2023**  
**Conference Call**

**Lara Danziger-Isakov, MD, MPH, Chair**  
**Stephanie Pouch, MD, MS, Vice Chair**

## **Introduction**

The OPTN Standardize the Patient Safety Contact Workgroup (the Workgroup) met via Citrix Webex teleconference on 09/18/2023 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. PDTE Process Map
2. Patient Safety Contact Policy and Duplicate Reporting Discussion

The following is a summary of the Committee's discussions.

### **1. PDTE Process Map**

The Workgroup reviewed the potential disease transmission event reporting process. The process map identifies the steps taken when a potential disease transmission event is reported to the OPTN.

#### Summary of discussion:

Decision: There was no decision made by the Workgroup.

A member asked what determines the cases the Centers for Disease Control and Control Preventions (CDC) reviews. Staff replied that the CDC reviews the case emails and determines which cases they will investigate.

### **2. Patient Safety Contact and Duplicate Reporting Discussion**

The workgroup reviewed potential policy revisions for the patient safety contact, which include:

- Requiring a transplant program's or organ procurement organization's (OPO) patient safety contact work at the transplant program or OPO.
- Requiring a backup contact for the patient safety contact.
- Requiring acknowledgment and confirmation of recipient through a OPTN Computer System enhancement for deceased donor and recipient patient safety events.

The enhancement will be incorporated into the OPTN Computer System for deceased donors, which allows the OPO to upload test results. The transplant program can acknowledge and confirm receipt of these results. However, this is not an option for living donors. The Workgroup was asked how the confirmation of receipt method of communication should look for living donor hospitals that have a potential disease transmission event.

The workgroup also reviewed potential policy revisions for the duplicate reporting of infectious disease results to the OPTN, which include:

- Eliminate the need for OPO to report recipient illness to the OPTN.
- OPO is still required to report recipient illness to other transplant programs.
- OPO is still required to fill out the potential disease transmission report.

Summary of discussion:

Decision #1: The Workgroup decided the Committee should move forward with these potential policy revisions for the Patient Safety Contact and infectious disease reporting.

A member noted that the current policy should not change for living donors. She explained that if the policy changes, then it would cause confusion. The Chair pointed out that this topic will be discussed with the OPTN Living Donor Committee because it is essential to have relevant committees with experience with living donation to weigh in on this topic.

**Upcoming Meeting**

- October 16, 2023

## Attendance

- **Workgroup Members**
  - Anna Hughart- Smith
  - Stephanie Pouch
  - Lara Danziger-Isakov
  - Maheen Abidi
  - Emily Blumberg
  - Michael Ison
  - Sara Geatrakas
  - Victoria Hunter
  - Theresa Daly
  - Riki Graves
  - Megan Fairbank
  - Greg Veenendaal
- **HRSA Representatives**
  - Marilyn Levi
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- **UNOS Staff**
  - Taylor Livelli
  - Tamika Watkins
  - Logan Saxer
  - Sandy Bartal
  - Laura Schmitt
  - Sharon Shepard