

OPTN Organ Procurement Organization Committee

Meeting Summary

August 15, 2024

Conference Call

PJ Geraghty, MBA, CPTC, Chair

Lori Markham, RN, MSN, CPTC, CCRN, Vice Chair

Introduction

The OPTN Organ Procurement Organization Committee ("Committee,") met via WebEx teleconference on 08/15/2024 to discuss the following agenda items:

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

1. Lung Efficiency: Lung Donor Testing
2. Revise Conditions for Access to the OPTN Computer System
3. Continuous Distribution of Kidneys

1. Lung Efficiency: Lung Donor Testing

The Committee did not make any decisions.

Summary of Presentation:

The purpose of the proposal is to promote efficiency of lung donor testing by proposing changes to the lung donor testing requirements in OPTN *Policy 2.11.D: Required Information for Deceased Lung Donors*, as well as providing guidance on requested deceased lung donor information.

OPOs would be responsible for providing required lung donor testing information. Transplant programs will need to be aware of changes to required testing for lung organ offers.

Summary of Discussion:

Members suggested that right heart catheterization (RHC) may not be necessary for every case and propose standardizing echocardiogram for multi-organ donors. It also highlights concerns about conducting tests in time-constrained situations and availability in certain regions. The text emphasizes the importance of standardizing blood gas measurements and creating an "escape clause" for cases where tests cannot be performed. It also proposes the development of clear guidelines, protocols, and educational materials, along with establishing a regular review process and a system for tracking cases where required tests couldn't be performed. These suggestions aim to ensure comprehensive donor information while being practical and flexible to avoid excluding viable organs due to rigid testing requirements.

Next steps:

None

2. Revise Conditions for Access to the OPTN Computer System

The Committee did not make any decisions.

Presentation Summary:

The proposal's purpose is to enhance the security of the OPTN Computer System by revising access conditions. This would expand accountability for securing the OPTN computer system to business organizations who access the OPTN Computer System. The proposal would require all members with system interconnections to the OPTN Computer System to develop an Interconnection Security Agreement (ISA) with the OPTN.

Summary of Discussion:

The Vice Chair raised the question of how these changes would affect the entities that work with OPOs and transplant hospitals that access donor information via the OPTN Donor Data and Matching System. A member then advised that they would need to apply as a business member to have access to the donor's information through the OPTN data.

Next Steps:

None were discussed.

3. Continuous Distribution of Kidneys

The Committee did not make any decisions.

Presentation Summary:

This proposal is to inform the community on progress to date on Continuous Distribution of Kidneys and share updates on the Committee's work in efficiency.

- Investigating non-use and establishing continuous distribution specific efficiency goals
- Developing a data driven definition of "hard to place"
- Developing a kidney expedited placement pathway
- Updates on modeling and policy optimization, including possibility of modeling non-use

Summary of Discussion:

This discussion highlighted the complex interplay between medical criteria (like KDPI and cold ischemic time), logistical challenges (allocation sequences and IT systems), and the overarching goal of improving organ utilization rates. Members suggested that any changes to the OPTN Computer System should not only address security and access issues but also support more efficient and effective allocation processes, especially for hard-to-place organs.

Next Steps:

None

Upcoming Meeting

- September 19, 2024

Attendance

- **Committee Members**
 - Clint Hostetler
 - Doug Butler
 - Daniel DiSante
 - Donna Smith
 - Greg Veenendaal
 - Jasleen Kukreja
 - Kerri Jones
 - Lee Nolan
 - Lori Markham
 - Micah Davis
 - PJ Geraghty
 - Rachel Markowski
 - Shane Oakley
 - Stephen Gray
 - Judy Storfjell
- **HRSA Representatives**
 - Jim Bowman
 - Mesmin Germain
- **SRTR Staff**
 - Jon Miller
 - Katie Audette
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Alina Martinez
 - Robert Hunter
 - Viktoria Filatova
 - Kayla Temple
 - Kelley Poff
 - Kevin Daub
 - Laura Schmitt
 - Ross Walton
- **Other Attendees**
 - Edward Hollinger
 - Jim Kim
 - Matthew Hartwig