

OPTN Organ Procurement Organization Committee

Meeting Summary

May 16, 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 05/16/2024 to discuss the following agenda items:

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

1. Request for Feedback: Reevaluate Deceased Donor Information
2. OPTN Expedited Task Force Update
3. Update: HRSA Directive to Expand OPTN Data Collection

1. Request for Feedback: Reevaluate Deceased Donor Information

The Committee did not make any decisions.

Summary of Presentation:

The Vice Chair from the Operations and Safety Committee gave a presentation on reevaluating deceased donor information in order to gain feedback from committee members and their respective transplant centers and organ procurement organizations on this issue. The presentation highlighted deceased donor general risk assessment, deceased donor infectious disease testing, additional deceased donor testing, and required information for deceased kidney, liver, heart, and pancreas donations.

Summary of discussion:

The presenter opened the discussion to ask the committee which testing is the most challenging to obtain. Both the Chair and members agreed that constantly changing technology, specifically regarding imaging, is a burden on members because of the number of steps.

A member stated that the subtype unlock feature on patient records is a safety issue when blood types are reported. The presenter asked if the arterial blood gas testing result is in the desired spot for reporting liver and kidney testing results, to which a member replied that this is fine. Staff highlighted that the committee has discussed the burden of repeat testing in the past. Members discussed that asking for biopsy slides can cause issues due to the technology, especially if two slides are needed. A member said that their OPO connects QR codes to allow clearer view of the biopsy slides. The committee discussed the process of digitizing slides.

Next steps:

None

2. OPTN Expedited Task Force Update

The Committee did not make any decisions.

Presentation Summary:

Staff presented the public comment process for the Accelerated Placement of Hard-to-Place Kidneys Expedited Task Force protocol. Staff covered Protocol 1: pre-cross clamp placement of kidney donor profile index 75-100%, which would require OPOs to notify their target list of programs no less than two hours before the donor is in the operating room. Once anatomy and biopsies are in, the OPO has 30 minutes to submit information to transplant programs for two potential transplant recipients. The presenter discussed first round implementation, which included identifying transplant programs with certain criteria near the participating OPOs. The presenter covered metrics for gauging results of this protocol, which can allow the OPTN to stop the protocol if needed.

Summary of Discussion:

A member asked if all the targeted transplant programs will be available to the OPOs, or only certain programs based on geography. Further, the member asked about allocation after declination post-cross clamp. Staff responded that OPOs will have a list of geographically advantageous transplant centers, and after the normal potential donor list is exhausted, then normal rescue pathways can be used.

Next Steps:

None

3. Update: HRSA Directive to Expand OPTN Data Collection

The Committee did not make any decisions.

Presentation Summary:

Staff presented the Removal of DNR Reporting Requirements project from the OPTN Expedited Task Force. The presenter stated that there is no standard definition for late declines, and that this project would gather data on contributing factors, themes, and the prevalence of late declines. This would include a voluntary quality improvement initiative. The presenter stated that contributing OPOs will collect feedback on timing, details, and impact of late declines, as well as information on OPOs use of the OPTN Patient Safety Reporting Portal.

Staff stated that the committee is being asked for feedback on the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services federal register notice and implementation considerations.

Summary of Discussion:

None

Next Steps:

None

Upcoming Meeting

- June 20, 2024

Attendance

- **Committee Members**
 - Theresa Daly
 - Judy Storfjell
 - Stephen Gray
 - Sharyn Sawczak
 - PJ Geraghty
 - Lee Nolen
 - Kevin Koomalsingh
 - Micah Davis
 - Sam Endicott
 - Jim Sharrock
 - Greg Veenendaal
 - Erin Halpin
 - Donna Smith
- **HRSA Representatives**
 - Mesmin Germain
 - Jim Bowman
- **SRTR Staff**
 - Katie Audette
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Robert Hunter
 - Kaitlin Swanner
 - Joann White
 - Jamie Panko
 - Jadia Bruckner
 - Houlder Hudgins
 - Alina Martinez
 - Beth Overacre
 - Kate Breitbeil
 - Kevin Daub
- **Other Attendees**
 - Kim Koontz
 - Shane Oakley
 - Jon Miller