

OPTN Lung Transplantation Committee

Meeting Summary

July 11, 2024

Conference Call

Matthew Hartwig, MD, Chair

Dennis Lyu, MD, Vice Chair

Introduction

The Lung Transplantation Committee (Committee) met via Webex teleconference on 7/11/2024 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Predicted Total Lung Capacity (pTLC)
2. Modify Organ Offer Acceptance Limit
3. Open Forum

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

1. Predicted Total Lung Capacity

On July 9, 2024, the Promote Efficiency of Lung Allocation Workgroup (the Workgroup) considered several options, shown in the table below, for pTLC functionality in the OPTN Computer System (the System). The center column shows proposed changes on the donor side in the System, while the right side shows proposed changes on the candidate side. Workgroup members agreed functionality should include the ability to match screens based on Donor Acceptance Criteria – eliminating option 1. Some expressed a preference for options 3 and 4 as the ability to calculate and display candidate pTLC or actual TLC would increase efficiency of organ offer evaluation.

Option 1	1. Calculate and display pTLC for all donors once inputs are entered by OPO	No Changes
Option 2	1. Calculate and display pTLC for all donors once inputs are entered by OPO 2. Match screens based on Donor Acceptance Criteria acceptable range for pTLC	1. Update Lung candidate Donor Acceptance Criteria to allow for acceptable range for pTLC (not required field)
Option 3	1. Calculate and display pTLC for all donors once inputs are entered by OPO 2. Match screens based on Donor Acceptance Criteria acceptable range or ratio for pTLC	1. Calculate and display pTLC for candidate 2. Update Lung Candidate Donor Acceptance Criteria to allow for acceptable range (raw values) or ratio based on candidate pTLC (not required field)
Option 4	1. Calculate and display pTLC for all donors once inputs are entered by OPO 2. Match screens based on Donor Acceptance Criteria acceptable range or ratio for pTLC	1. Collect actual TLC for candidate 2. Update Lung candidate Donor Acceptance Criteria to allow for acceptable range (raw values) or ratio based on candidate actual TLC (not required field)

Summary of discussion:

The Committee recommended using pTLC, as actual TLC may not be available for all candidates. The Committee recommended option 2: Calculating and displaying pTLC on the donor side and updating Lung Donor Acceptance Criteria to allow for a range of acceptable TLC values.

The Committee recommended calculating and displaying pTLC on the donor side and updating Lung Donor Acceptance Criteria to allow for a range of acceptable TLC values. Members reported that actual TLC values may not be available, particularly for critically ill candidates. Additionally, a lung transplant surgeon explained that pTLC does not account for candidates' unique sizing needs by chest cavity dimensions or disease type (ie. Obstructive vs. Restrictive). The utility of an option to screen matches using a ratio based on calculated pTLC and actual TLC was discussed. Due to variation in size-matching practices and the limitations of both TLC measurements, the flexibility to choose whether to base their acceptable range of values on predicted or actual TLC may best accommodate community needs. A pediatric clinician stated that pTLC is not often used for size-matching in pediatric lung transplant; volumetric measurements from computed tomography (CT) scans are more widely used.

2. The Workgroup will review the Committee's recommendations at an upcoming meeting. Modify Organ Offer Acceptance Limit

[Modify Organ Offer Acceptance Limit](#) was implemented on May 29, 2024. This proposal was developed to address concerns from the OPO community regarding the practice of transplant programs holding two primary organ offer acceptances for a single candidate and then subsequently declining one late in the process. The Committee submitted [feedback](#) on this proposal during the Winter 2023 public comment period.

Summary of discussion:

No decisions were made.

The Committee discussed continued concerns surrounding the impact of this implementation on lung transplant candidates. The Committee recommended carve-outs for the most medically urgent lung candidates, such as those on extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO), particularly if they are accepting DCD donor offers. Members were interested in exploring options for monitoring the impact on medically urgent lung candidates, perhaps by looking at refusal code entries.

Next steps

The Committee may re-visit this topic at future meetings.

3. Open Forum

There were no open forum speakers.

Upcoming Meetings

- August 8, 2024, teleconference, 5PM ET

Attendance

- **Committee Members**
 - Matthew Hartwig
 - Jackie Russe
 - Wayne Tsuang
 - Brian Keller
 - Brian Armstrong
 - Sid Kapnadak
 - David Erasmus
 - Dennis Lyu
 - Ed Cantu
 - Gary Schwartz
 - Heather Strah
 - Jordan Hoffman
 - Joseph Tusa
 - Lara Schaheen
 - Ernestina Melicoff
- **HRSA Representatives**
 - James Bowman
- **SRTR Staff**
 - David Schladt
 - Katie Audette
 - Maryam Valapour
 - Nick Wood
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Kelley Poff
 - Kaitlin Swanner
 - Leah Nunez
 - Chelsea Hawkins
 - Holly Sobczak
 - Samantha Weiss
 - Houlder Hudgins
 - Susan Tlusty