

## **OPTN Organ Procurement Organization Committee**

### **Meeting Summary**

**May 11, 2023**

**Conference Call**

**Kurt Shutterly, RN, CPTC Chair**  
**PJ Geraghty, MBA, CPTC Vice-Chair**

### **Introduction**

The OPTN Organ Procurement Organization (OPO) Committee met via Citrix GoToMeeting on 05/11/2023 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Organ Offer Acceptance Limits – Policy Language Review
2. Liver Program Outreach
3. Reminders

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

#### **1. Organ Offer Acceptance Limits – Policy Language Review**

Staff provided a brief overview of this project that aims to reduce the number of primary organ offer acceptances from two to one. This will eliminate the scenario where a transplant program can be primary for offers from two different OPOs and waiting to determine which organ to accept for their candidate. Staff reminded the members about the options considered by the Workgroup as well as the Committee's discussion during its April 21, 2023, meeting.

##### *Option 1*

- Modify existing OPTN *Policy 5.6.C: Organ Offer Acceptance Limit* to only allow a transplant hospital to have one organ offer acceptance for each organ type for any one candidate. Staff noted this would not include a provisional yes acceptance and it does not prevent additional organ offers from being received.

##### *Option 2*

- Add a timeframe (e.g., 4-6 hours) prior to scheduled donor organ recovery to decide on an offer if there is more than one offer for a candidate.

##### *Option 3*

- Medical urgency criteria to determine if candidates with higher statuses should still be allowed to have two concurrent primary acceptances.

Staff noted that these were not stand-alone options, and workgroup members supported a hybrid option that would reduce the number of organ offer acceptances while allowing for exceptions based on one of the options.

The Committee determined that option 1 was the best approach. They noted that transplant programs can still receive organ offers and maintain the ability to decline and accept offers as needed. Additionally, exceptions for higher status candidates would only reduce the number of concurrent

acceptances by 33%. Lastly, the data did not support an exception for DCD donors since only 4.44% (72 of 811) of livers and 11.29% (14 of 62) of lungs with a concurrent acceptance involved DCD donors.

Summary of discussion:

A member asked for clarification about the policy language stating that an “OPO must immediately report transplant hospital organ offer acceptance to the OPTN.” Staff responded that the language, which is currently part of the policy, implies that OPOs enter the acceptances into the OPTN Donor Data and Matching System.

The Committee unanimously approved the following policy language to be distributed for public comment during the Summer 2023 cycle.

**5.6.C Organ Offer Acceptance Limit**

For any one candidate, the transplant hospital can only have one ~~two~~ organ offer acceptances for each organ type. The host OPO must immediately report transplant hospital organ offer acceptances to the OPTN.

**2. Liver Program Outreach**

Staff noted previous discussions to have Committee members reach out to their local liver programs about the proposal prior to public comment. This effort will focus on clearly identifying the goals and purpose of the proposal and to ensure transplant programs that reducing the number of final acceptances will not impact the ability to receive and evaluate additional offers.

Summary of discussion:

A member asked if there was going to be talking points provided for the discussions. Staff responded that slides will be distributed and contain the key components for use during the outreach. This includes the data used to identify the policy solution.

Next Steps:

Committee members will reach out to their local liver programs and the Committee will discuss how the outreach is going during their next meeting.

**Upcoming Meeting**

- June 22, 2023 (Teleconference)

## Attendance

- **Committee Members**
  - Kurt Shutterly
  - PJ Geraghty
  - Bruce Nicely
  - Chad Ezzell
  - Clint Hostetler
  - David Marshman
  - Debra Cooper
  - Donna Smith
  - Erin Halpin
  - Judy Storfjell
  - Larry Suplee
  - Leslie McCloy
  - Meg Rogers
  - Samantha Endicott
  - Sharyn Sawczak
  - Kevin Koomalsingh
- **HRSA Representatives**
  - Jim Bowman
- **SRTR Staff**
  - Katherine Audette
  - Ajay Israni
- **UNOS Staff**
  - Robert Hunter
  - Krissy Laurie