

## **OPTN Liver and Intestinal Organ Transplantation Committee**

### **Meeting Summary**

**April 4, 2025**

**Conference Call**

**Scott Biggins, MD, Chair**

**Shimul Shah, MD, MHCM, Vice Chair**

### **Introduction**

The OPTN Liver and Intestinal Organ Transplantation Committee (the Committee) met via WebEx teleconference on 04/04/2025 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Special Public Comment Proposal: Revisions to Human Immunodeficiency (HIV) Policies to Align with Federal Regulatory Updates
2. Public Comment Review & Vote: Updates to NLRB Guidance & Further Alignment with LI-RADS

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

### **1. Special Public Comment Proposal: Revisions to Human Immunodeficiency (HIV) Policies to Align with Federal Regulatory Updates**

The OPTN Ad Hoc Disease Transmission Advisory Committee presented their proposal submitted for a special public comment period, *Revisions to Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Policies to Align with Federal Regulatory Updates*.

#### Summary of discussion:

The Chair recommended that the definition of a transplant physician be clarified and include transplant infectious disease physicians as well as other transplant providers such as Advanced Practice Providers. A member also recommended that the definition of a HIV positive be clarified for donors in order for organ procurement organizations to operationalize the same criteria.

#### Next steps:

The Committee will submit their feed to the OPTN Ad Hoc Disease Transmission Advisory Committee for consideration.

### **2. Public Comment Review & Vote: Updates to NLRB Guidance & Further Alignment with LI-RADS**

The Committee review public comment feedback received on their proposal *Updated to NLRB Guidance & Further Alignment with LI-RADS* and discussed post-public comment changes.

#### Summary of discussion:

A high-level overview of public comment:

- Support of modifications and additions of score recommendations within NLRB guidance
- Recommendation to modify HEHE guidance to state that extrahepatic disease is not a contraindication
- Support of incorporation of CEUS and LI-RADS into HCC policy and guidance

- Suggestions that CEUS should be an independent diagnostic tool for HCC
- Recommendation to remove the 90-calendar day timeframe for when a CEUS should be performed in relation to a CT or MRI
- No feedback received regarding NLRB Operational Guidelines modifications

The Committee agreed to correct the HEHE guidance section to state that extrahepatic disease is not a contraindication. A member reminded the Committee that this was the original intent of the guidance but an older version of the drafted guidance was mistakenly included in the proposal. The Committee agreed to address minor changes in the guidance for purposes of consistency.

The Vice Chair noted that other feedback received on the NLRB guidance document changes did not result in any major themes. The Chair agreed.

The Committee agreed to incorporate post-public comment changes to allow CEUS to be used as an independent diagnostic tool for HCC. Additionally, they acknowledged that the 90-calendar day timeframe is not necessary with CEUS as an independent diagnostic tool and therefore removed that language from the proposed policy changes.

The Committee voted in support of submitting their proposal, *Updated to NLRB Guidance & Further Alignment with LI-RADS* to the OPTN Board of Directors for consideration.

- Yes: 14
- Abstain: 0
- No: 0

#### Next steps:

The proposal will be submitted for OPTN Board of Directors for consideration during their June 2025 meeting.

#### **Upcoming Meetings**

- April 18, 2025 at 2 pm ET (teleconference)
- May 2, 2025 at 2 pm ET (teleconference)

## Attendance

- **Committee Members**
  - Aaron Ahearn
  - Allison Kwong
  - Christine Radolovic
  - Chris Sonnenday
  - Jim Pomposelli
  - Joseph DiNorcia
  - Kathy Campbell
  - Lloyd Brown
  - Neil Shah
  - Michael Kriss
  - Omer Junaidi
  - Scott Biggins
  - Shimul Shah
  - Vanessa Pucciarelli
- **SRTR Staff**
  - Jack Lake
  - Katie Siegert
  - Nick Wood
  - Ryo Hirose
- **UNOS Staff**
  - Alina Martinez
  - Benjamin Schumacher
  - Betsy Gans
  - Cole Fox
  - Matt Cafarella
  - Meghan McDermott
  - Niyati Updahyay
  - Tamika Watkins
- **Other Attendees**
  - Rachel Miller