

**OPTN Ad Hoc Disease Transmission Advisory Committee
COVID-19 Summary of Evidence Workgroup
Meeting Summary
January 12, 2022
Conference Call**

**Ricardo La Hoz, MD, FACP, FAST, FIDSA, Chair
Lara Danziger-Isakov, MD, MPH, Vice Chair**

Introduction

The Ad Hoc Disease Transmission Advisory Committee COVID-19 Summary of Evidence Workgroup met via Citrix GoToMeeting teleconference on 01/12/2022 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Omicron Variant
2. Donor Evaluation Section Updates
3. Long COVID

The following is a summary of the Workgroup's discussions. Members had proposed changes to the sections to the workgroup via email prior to the meeting.

1. Omicron Variant

Workgroup members discussed the addition of a section on the effects of the omicron variant mutations on overall infections, immunity, and molecular testing for SARS-CoV-2. Members were in agreement that a section needed to be added on the omicron variant, and that the section proposed was appropriate. Members were also in agreement that the section on the Delta variant was no longer relevant.

2. Donor Evaluation Section Update

Workgroup members discussed addition of additional information on infection prevention provided by the FDA and CDC due to previous concerns on the level of information for procurement team protection. Members also agreed that the proposed section for impacts of variants/genetic mutations on molecular testing was important to provide for donor screening. Members also emphasized the risk of relying on CT thresholds for potential infectivity, due to the current CDC/FDA recommendations and available evidence.

The workgroup agreed the document should be updated based on the current of donors who have had positive COVID-19 testing as of the last OPTN monitoring report.

Members discussed whether OPOs are currently collecting vaccination status of potential donors. While this does not seem to be happening in practice based on member experience, members agreed that available evidence does support that vaccination status of the donor may impact the potential for transmission to recipients and so the current statement is appropriate and relevant.

3. Long COVID

Members discussed concerns raised by a few group members about how long COVID may be affecting candidates and recipients. Members expressed concern for the potential effects on these patients, but agreed that this was out of scope for a resource document on donor evaluation and testing, as there is

no current evidence suggesting a potential impact for long COVID in donors to increase the potential for disease transmission.

Attendance

- **Workgroup Members**
 - Ann Woolley
 - Charles Marboe
 - Debbie Levine
 - Dong Lee
 - Emily Blumberg
 - Gary Marklin
 - Gerry Berry
 - Helen Te
 - Jason Goldman
 - Lara Danziger-Isakov
 - Meena Rana
 - Nicole Theodoropolous
 - Raymund Razonable
 - Ricardo La Hoz
 - Sam Ho
 - Stephanie Pouch
 - Timothy Pruett
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- **HRSA Representatives**
 - Jim Bowman
 - Marilyn Levi
 - Raelene Skerda
- **CDC Staff**
 - Ian Kracalik
 - Pallavi Annambhotla
 - Rebecca Free
 - Sridhar Basavaraju
- **FDA Staff**
 - Scott Brubaker
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Amelia Devereaux
 - Cole Fox
 - Courtney Jett
 - David Klassen
 - Leah Slife
 - Sandy Bartal
 - Susan Tlusty