

## Notice of OPTN Policy Change

# Update Multi-Organ Allocation for Continuous Distribution of Lungs

<b>Sponsoring Committee:</b>	OPTN Lung Transplantation Committee
<b>Policies Affected:</b>	<p><b><i>5.10.F: Allocation of Lung-Kidneys</i></b></p> <p><b><i>5.10.G: Allocation of Heart-Liver and Lung-Liver</i></b></p> <p><b><i>6.6.F.i: Allocation of Heart-Lungs from Deceased Donors at Least 18 Years Old</i></b></p> <p><b><i>6.6.F.ii: Allocation of Heart-Lungs from Deceased Donors Less Than 18 Years Old</i></b></p>
<b>Public Comment:</b>	August 3, 2022 – September 28, 2022
<b>Board Approved:</b>	December 5, 2022
<b>Effective Date:</b>	<p><b>March 9, 2023: Changes to Policies <i>5.10.F: Allocation of Lung-Kidneys</i> and <i>5.10.G: Allocation of Heart-Liver and Lung-Liver</i> indicated in this notice implemented in Policy <i>5.10.E: Other Multi-Organ Combinations</i> as part of <i>Establish Continuous Distribution of Lungs</i>,<sup>1</sup> along with <i>6.6.F.i: Allocation of Heart-Lungs from Deceased Donors at Least 18 Years Old</i> and <i>6.6.F.ii: Allocation of Heart-Lungs from Deceased Donors Less Than 18 Years Old</i></b></p>

**Upon implementation of Establish Eligibility Criteria and Safety Net for Heart-Kidney and Lung-Kidney Allocation:<sup>2</sup> Policies: *5.10.F: Allocation of Lung-Kidneys* and *5.10.G: Allocation of Heart-Liver and Lung-Liver***

### Purpose of Policy Change

The purpose of this policy change is to update the lung composite allocation score (CAS) threshold for multi-organ allocation from 28 to 25 to ensure that qualifying lung-liver, lung-kidney, and heart-lung candidates maintain eligibility for required multi-organ shares with the implementation of continuous distribution of lungs.

<sup>1</sup> "Establish Continuous Distribution of Lungs," OPTN, Policy Notice, accessed November 30, 2022, [https://optn.transplant.hrsa.gov/media/b13dlep2/policy-notice\\_lung\\_continuous-distribution.pdf](https://optn.transplant.hrsa.gov/media/b13dlep2/policy-notice_lung_continuous-distribution.pdf).

<sup>2</sup> "Establish Eligibility Criteria and Safety Net for Heart-Kidney and Lung-Kidney Allocation," OPTN, Policy Notice, accessed March 9, 2023, [https://optn.transplant.hrsa.gov/media/erucde2m/policy-notice\\_est-elgblty-crit-and-safety-for-hrt-kid-and-lung-kid-alloc\\_mot.pdf](https://optn.transplant.hrsa.gov/media/erucde2m/policy-notice_est-elgblty-crit-and-safety-for-hrt-kid-and-lung-kid-alloc_mot.pdf).

## Proposal History

In December 2021, the OPTN Board of Directors approved the proposal *Establish Continuous Distribution of Lungs*.<sup>3,4</sup> The OPTN subsequently began implementing the proposal. In spring 2022, further analysis indicated that the composite allocation score threshold of 28 would not preserve eligibility for required shares for as many multi-organ lung candidates as originally expected. Accordingly, the OPTN is updating the composite allocation score threshold to preserve access to multi-organ allocation for about 95% of patients who receive those offers currently.

## Summary of Changes

The OPTN will change the lung CAS threshold for lung-liver, lung-kidney, and heart-lung allocation from 28 to 25, and clarify the policy language for heart-lung allocation.

## Implementation

The OPTN will distribute educational materials related to the new lung allocation system, including the updated CAS threshold for lung multi-organ allocation.

## Affected Policy Language

New language is underlined (example) and language that is deleted is struck through (~~example~~).

### 5.10.F: Allocation of Lung-Kidneys

When an OPO is offering a lung, and a kidney is also available from the same deceased donor, then the OPO must offer the kidney to a potential transplant recipient (PTR) who is registered for a lung and a kidney at the same transplant hospital, and who meets either of the following criteria:

- PTR was less than 18 years old when registered on the lung waiting list, or
- PTR has a Lung Composite Allocation Score of ~~28~~25 or greater, and meets eligibility according to *Table 5-5: Medical Eligibility Criteria for Lung-Kidney Allocation*

If a host OPO is offering a kidney and a lung from the same deceased donor, then before allocating the kidney to kidney-alone candidates, the host OPO must offer the kidney with the lung to candidates who meet either of the eligibility criteria described in Policy 5.10.F.

### 5.10.G Allocation of Heart-Liver and Lung-Liver

When an OPO is offering a heart or lung, and a liver is also available from the same deceased donor, PTRs who meet the criteria in *Table 5-6: When Offering a Heart or Lung and Second Organ Is a Liver* must be offered the liver. When an OPO is offering a heart or lung and two PTRs meet the criteria in *Table 5-6*, the OPO has the discretion to offer the liver to either PTR.

<sup>3</sup> "Establish Continuous Distribution of Lungs," OPTN, Briefing Paper, accessed May 26, 2022, <https://optn.transplant.hrsa.gov/media/esjb4ztn/20211206-bp-lung-establish-cont-dist-lungs.pdf>.

<sup>4</sup> December 6, 2021 Board of Directors Meeting, OPTN, Executive Summary, accessed November 30, 2022, <https://optn.transplant.hrsa.gov/media/g23hdtxk/20211206-optn-bod-summary.pdf>.

**Table 5-6: When Offering a Heart or Lung and Second Organ Is a Liver**

If an OPO is offering a heart or lung, and a PTR is also registered for a liver:	The OPO must offer the liver if the PTR meets the following criteria:
Heart	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Registered at a transplant hospital at or within 500 NM of the donor hospital</li> <li>• Heart Adult Status 1, 2, 3 or any active pediatric status</li> </ul>
Lung	Has a Lung Composite Allocation Score of <u>28</u> or greater

It is permissible for the OPO to offer the liver to other PTRs who do not meet the criteria in Policy 5.10.G.

## 6.6.F. Allocation of Heart-Lungs

### 6.6.F.i Allocation of Heart-Lungs from Deceased Donors at Least 18 Years Old

If a host OPO is offering a heart and lung from the same deceased donor, then the host OPO must offer the heart and lung in the following order:

1. To all heart and heart-lung PTRs in allocation classifications 1 through 4 according to *Policy 6.6.D: Allocation of Hearts from Donors at Least 18 Years Old*
2. To all lung and heart-lung PTRs ~~with a lung composite allocation score of 28 or higher~~ according to *Policy 10.1 Lung Composite Allocation Score* until offers have been made to all heart-lung PTRs with a lung composite allocation score of 25 or higher
3. To heart and heart-lung PTRs in classifications 5 or later according to *Policy 6.6.D: Allocation of Hearts from Donors at Least 18 Years Old*.

The host OPO must follow the order on each match run, including heart-lung, heart, and lung candidates.

### 6.6.F.ii Allocation of Heart-Lungs from Deceased Donors Less Than 18 Years Old

If a host OPO is offering a heart and lung from the same deceased donor, then the host OPO must offer:

1. To all heart and heart-lung PTRs in allocation classifications 1 through 12 according to *Policy 6.6.E: Allocation of Hearts from Donors Less Than 18 Years Old*
2. To all lung and heart-lung PTRs ~~with a lung composite allocation score of 28 or higher~~ according to *Policy 10.1 Lung Composite Allocation Score* until offers have been made to all heart-lung PTRs with a lung composite allocation score of 25 or higher
3. To heart and heart-lung PTRs in classifications 13 or later according to *Policy 6.6.E: Allocation of Hearts from Donors Less Than 18 Years Old*

The host OPO must follow the order on each match run, including heart-lung, heart, and lung candidates.