

Clarifications to Requirements for Candidate Registrations on the Waiting List

Sponsoring Committee: Living Donor

Policy Affected: 3.4: Definitions

Public Comment: Fall 2013

Effective Date: April 14, 2016

Problem Statement

In late 2013, the Living Donor Committee sent a policy proposal entitled Require UNetsm Registration of all Living Donor Candidates Prior to Transplant for public comment. The proposal required that all candidates for living donor transplants be registered on the waiting list prior to their transplant. The proposal included data from 2012 which revealed 9.4% of living donor organ recipients were not registered on the waiting list at the time of their transplant. The proposal identified numerous safety issues and other potential benefits that would be addressed if all living donor organ recipients were registered in UNetsm prior to transplant. This proposal was supported during public comment and was subsequently approved the Board of Directors in June 2014.

In December 2015, UNOS staff reviewed a living kidney donor transplant where the recipient had been registered on the waiting list prior to transplant at a transplant hospital, but not at the hospital where the transplant was performed. This led staff to consider if a living donor transplant candidate must be registered on the waiting list by the transplant hospital that performs the transplant.

The Committee verified that the original intent of the policy was to require that the transplant hospital performing the living donor transplant also be responsible for the registration of the transplant candidate on the waiting list prior to transplant. Further discussion concluded that this requirement should apply to all candidates, not just living donor candidates. The Committee determined that there is ambiguity in the current policy language and the modified policy language clarifies these requirements for transplant hospitals.

Summary of Changes

These clarifications will reduce the ambiguity in current policy language regarding whether transplant candidates need to be registered on the waiting list prior to transplant at the transplant hospital that performs the transplant.

What Members Need to Do

Transplant candidates must be registered on the waiting list prior to transplant at the transplant hospital that performs the transplant.

Affected Policy/Bylaw Language:

New language is underlined and language that will be deleted is ~~struck through~~.

3.4.C Candidate Registrations

~~Recipients of deceased and living donor organs must be registered as candidates on the waiting list prior to their transplant, including recipients receiving directed donations from deceased donors. All multi-organ candidates must be registered on the waiting list for each required organ.~~

~~Transplant programs must complete all candidate registrations, modifications, and removals in the waiting list.~~

Transplant programs must:

1. Register all recipients as candidates on the waiting list prior to transplant at the program that performs the organ transplant.
2. Complete all candidate registrations, modifications, and removals in the waiting list.
3. Register all multi-organ candidates on the waiting list for each required organ.

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