

OPTN Membership and Professional Standards Committee (MPSC) and Member Quality Update

Winter 2024

MPSC Topics and Initiatives

- Regional Meeting Updates and Conference Presentations
- MPSC Resources on the OPTN Website
- MPSC Chair Community Messages
- Performance Metrics Implementation
- Monitoring Activities
- Compliance data

Presentations to the Community

- Regional Meetings
 - Sharing of relevant data to increase transparency in what the MPSC is seeing and reviewing
 - Soliciting community feedback and engagement on MPSC during development
- Professional Conferences
 - Presentations/posters included information on:
 - Tools used to collect patient safety event data, trends seen by the MPSC, and how to effectively respond
 - MPSC analysis and insights on living kidney donor deaths
 - Data driven insights to allocations out of sequence
 - Sharing effective practices to improve post-transplant outcomes
 - MPSC resources and lessons learned

- What is the OPTN ▾
- OPTN membership ▾
- Governance ^
 - Board of directors
 - Committees
 - Regions
 - Regional meetings
 - Review boards

Membership & Professional Standards Committee (MPSC)

The OPTN Membership and Professional Standards Committee (MPSC) is an operating committee of the OPTN. The MPSC maintains membership criteria and monitors OPTN member compliance with OPTN membership criteria, OPTN bylaws and policies, and the OPTN Final Rule. The MPSC takes action or makes recommendations for further action to the OPTN Board of Directors as needed.

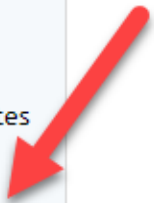
The MPSC, through peer review:

- Reviews events identified as presenting a risk to patient safety, public health or the integrity of the OPTN.
- Evaluates and supports OPTN members by providing feedback on and recommendations to improve members' performance, compliance, and quality systems.
- Reviews applications for membership in the OPTN, approval of designated transplant programs, and changes in OPTN member key personnel.

MPSC resources

Explore Board reports and community updates about key topics.

[MPSC resources](#)



On this page:



[Reports to the Board of Directors](#)

[Regional meeting updates](#)

[Community messages](#)

[Additional monitoring resources](#)

MPSC resources

The OPTN Membership and Professional Standards Committee (MPSC) is a committee of volunteer donation and transplant community clinicians and professions charged with:

- driving member performance improvement through peer review and information exchange
- promoting patient safety
- monitoring [member compliance](#) with OPTN policies

Learn more about the [MPSC](#) and its current projects.

Reports to the Board of Directors

The MPSC gives a thorough annual briefing to the [OPTN Board of Directors](#), with recommendations and other information about continuous improvement efforts. The MPSC also reports on areas of success as well as potential concern.

- [June 2023 MPSC board report](#)
- [December 2022 MPSC board report](#)

MPSC Chair Community Email Themes

- Ensure DCD protocols are up to date and processes are communicated
- Be vigilant when managing multiple organs
- Reduce risk by building and strengthening verification processes, using second verifiers
- Avoid last-minute procurement issues by double verifying resources
- Document pre-transfusion or post-transfusion ABO determination in your records
- Upcoming eGFR deadline
- Standard packaging for kidneys
- Responsibility for reporting third-party vendors

Coming July 2024 – Pre-Transplant Mortality

- Why did the MPSC include this metric?
 - Patients' goal is to gain access to transplants, not just to a program's waiting list
 - A program, by listing a patient, takes on a responsibility to do whatever it can to increase likelihood that patient makes it to transplant alive
 - Encourages improved waiting list management activities and incentivizes more aggressive offer acceptance practices
- Risk Adjusted
 - Model expects relatively healthy, low-risk patients to survive for a longer time on the waiting list and would expect sicker patients to not survive as long
- Criteria – same for adult and pediatric programs
 - 50% probability that the transplant program's pre-transplant mortality rate ratio is greater than 1.75 during a 2-year period

OPTN Performance Metrics Toolkit

Additional Resources added to the OPTN Website

Enhance Transplant Program Performance Monitoring

Toolkit



Background



Bylaws changes



Implementation timeline



Risk-adjustment and performance evaluation



Education and resources

Background

In December 2021, the [OPTN Board of Directors approved bylaw changes](#) that will allow for a more holistic evaluation of transplant programs. [OPTN Bylaws](#) outline membership requirements for organizations and individuals to participate in the U.S. transplant network.

Education and resources

The proposal's [public comment page](#) has information and educational resources about the metrics, including:

- A **video introduction** of the changes outlining what's involved
- A recording of an Aug. 4, 2021, webinar with Rich Formica, M.D., providing a more **detailed analysis**
- A September 2021 recording of MPSC chair, Ian Jamieson, and SRTR director, Jon Snyder, discussing the **four evaluation metrics involved**, including risk-adjustment and frequently asked questions

Instruction

- **Download the PDF:** [Enhanced Transplant Program Performance Metrics](#) provides a quick review about how risk adjustment works for the four metrics used to evaluate performance
- **Download the PDF:** [Effective Practices to Improve Post-transplant Outcomes](#)
- **Download the PDF:** [Effective Practices to Improve Offer Acceptance](#)

[Use this link](#) to access these professional education resources and learning modules:

- **QLT150:** MPSC transplant program performance monitoring
- **QLT151:** MPSC post-transplant outcomes and risk adjustment (confers CEPTC credits)
- **QLT152:** MPSC Offer Acceptance Rate Ratio and Risk Adjustment (confers CEPTC credits)
- **QLT153:** MPSC pre-transplant mortality rate ratio and risk adjustment (confers CEPTC credits)
- **OPTN Offer Acceptance Collaborative Playlist** (confers CEPTC credits)
 - The modules have information about:
 - MPSC transplant program performance monitoring, the offer acceptance rate ratio, and OPTN tools to drive improvement.
 - Effective practices related to offer acceptance and hear lessons learned from previous collaborative participants.

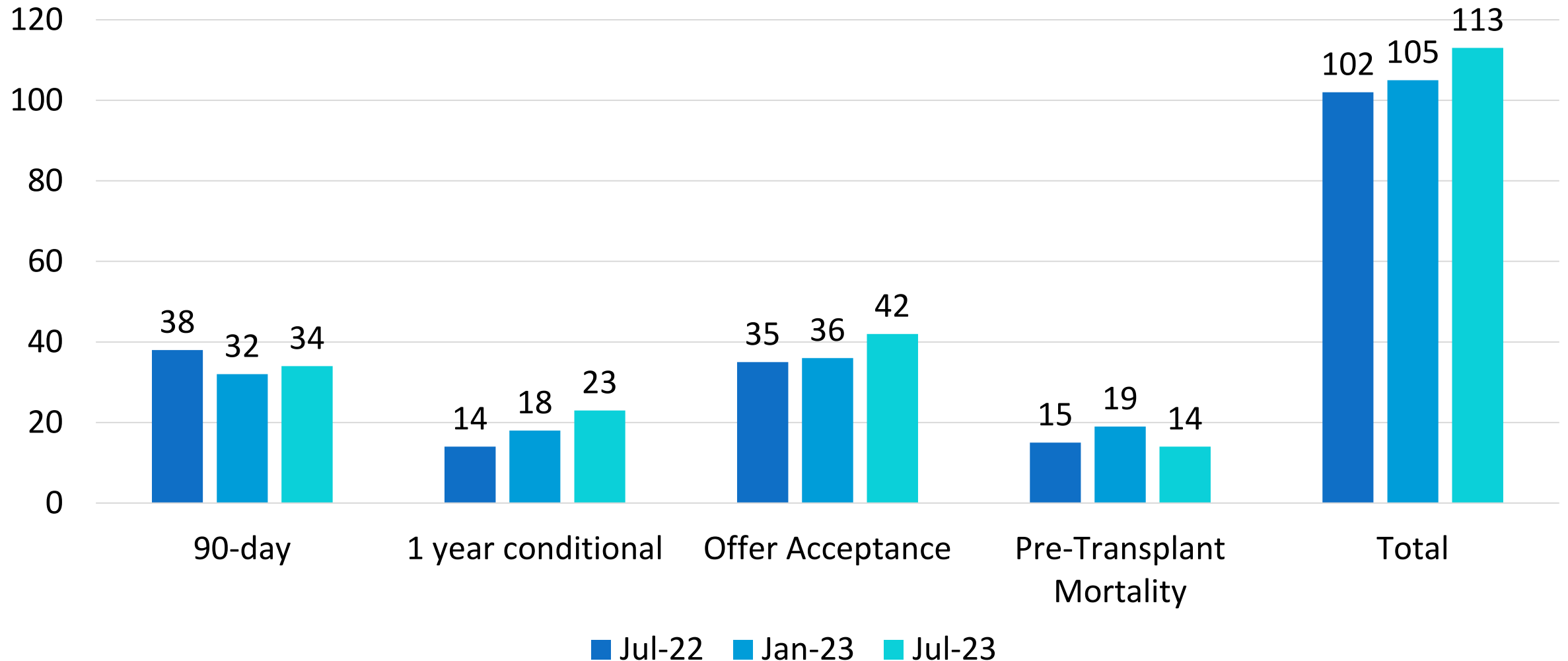
Learn more about monitoring and performance reviews: [What to Expect: Performance Reviews](#)

SRTR reporting

The SRTR has also added information to transplant programs' SRTR secure sites to help you understand whether your program meets the new MPSC performance monitoring criteria. This information is intended to support you as you plan and evaluate your program's performance.

Flags by Metric - Last 3 SRTR Report Cycles

718 Total Programs



OPTN Performance Metrics' Performance Improvement Zone

- Members are notified when their programs are trending towards lower than expected outcomes for each performance metric; in that instance, no interaction with the MPSC required
- The OPTN's Individual Member Focused Improvement (IMFI) initiative provides performance improvement zone support and assistance
 - Members are encouraged to self-evaluate performance and develop performance improvement plans
 - Resources, such as an IMFI engagement, will be offered to members, but the program is not required to engage with the OPTN

What is Individual Member Focused Improvement (IMFI)

Purpose	To help individual members improve through the use of quality improvement tools and engagements custom designed for the member and their unique need.
Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broader deployment of initiative started as of 10/1/2022; IMFI is available to all OPTN members and is entirely voluntary • 10 pilot projects completed (nine transplant programs and one OPO have been completed as of January 2024) • 12 additional projects completed (all transplant programs) • 7 additional projects are underway as of January 2024
Timeframe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discovery occurred during winter 2019/early 2020 • Continue to iterate on what project structure, timeframe, and services work best for the members throughout 2023
<p>If interested in learning more about how to participate in the IMFI initiative, please contact MQFeedback@unos.org</p>	

IMFI

Individual Member Focused Improvement



Allocation Reviews

- Changes in allocation policies
- “Late” declines
- Most cases are closed with no action due to the OPO acting to get the organs placed
- MPSC supports efforts to increase organ utilization and determines, in most instances, individual AOOS seem appropriate to ensure organs are successfully transplanted

Individual Allocation Deviations Reviewed by MPSC

MPSC Review Period	Allocation Deviations
2017 (average per 3 meeting cycles)	125
2018 (average per 3 meeting cycles)	150
2019 (average per 3 meeting cycles)	125
February 2020 Meeting	166
July 2022 Meeting	500
October 2022 Meeting	820
February 2023 Meeting	758
July 2023 Meeting	795
November 2023 Meeting	1529

*The MPSC changed its review processes during the COVID pandemic and numbers associated with reviews during that time are excluded.

Site Survey

- Compliance with policies generally improve after the initial monitoring cycle
- New policies face higher non-compliance risks and often require ongoing monitoring efforts
- Compliance issues can often arise from factors beyond the members' control (EMR updates, payor support, etc.)
- The Site Survey team is now conducting continuous monitoring based on specific triggers in the OPTN Computer System
 - The team is looking to expand the approach while striking a balance between record availability, patient safety, and historical compliance rates

Policy 15.2 and 15.3.C Compliance

- 15.2 has 71% compliance rate to date
 - 129 different programs reviewed
 - 387 records reviewed
- Explanations
 - HIV testing requirements aren't clear. Test based on CDC algorithm outlined in a 68 pg. document.
 - Expedited implementation
 - Pre-implementation notice 1/20/21
 - Policy implementation 3/1/21
 - IT systems take months/years to update
 - Individual provider order sets may not be updated, requiring providers to manually add at candidate admission. Candidates are often admitted same day as transplant.
- 15.3.C has 75% compliance rate to date
 - 108 different programs reviewed
 - 319 records reviewed
- Explanations
 - NAT tests are expensive. Insurance companies are declining coverage and forcing patients/providers to foot the bill.
 - Local labs not performing test requiring shipping and establishing new relationships/SOPs
 - Confusion whether testing required for all transplants or just ones from PHS risk donors
 - Recipients are still in hospital during testing window. However, post transplant coordinators don't assume care until discharge. This caused a disconnect in compliance.
 - Positive Hep B surface antibody test confusion

Investigations

- Reports received through the Safety Situations and Living Donor Event sections of the OPTN Patient Safety Reporting Portal, the Member Reporting line, and other various referrals
- Between January 2023 and October 2023, there was a 26% increase in reports received
- Every report is triaged to assess the potential risk to patient safety/public health and determine if an investigation is needed
 - The MPSC reviews the intake form used to triage cases
- Reports are investigated by sending inquiries and analyzing information already available
 - The investigation seeks to determine whether the report can be substantiated and whether a noncompliance with OPTN obligations, including any risk to patient safety, exists

Compliance Data

- Compliance Reviews 2023

	MPSC Action	Allocation Reviews	Site Surveys	Investigations
Action	Close with no action	58	19	58
	Follow up survey	n/a	4	n/a
	Notice of Noncompliance	14	0	59
	Letter of Warning	0	0	2
	Probation	0	0	0
	Member Not in Good Standing	0	0	0
Interactions	Informal Discussions	1	0	9
	Interviews	0	0	2
	Peer Visit	0	0	6

Feedback or Questions

- If you have feedback or questions on topics covered today, email MQFeedback@unos.org