

**OPTN Membership and Professional Standards Committee
OPO Performance Monitoring Enhancement Work Group
Meeting Summary
December 1, 2023
Conference Call**

Rick Hasz, Chair

Introduction

The MPSC OPO Performance Monitoring Enhancement Work Group met in open session virtually via Webex on December 1, 2023, to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Review updates to tool
2. Review concept paper themes and questions for feedback
3. Next Steps

The following is a summary of the Work Group's discussions.

1. Review updates to the tool

The Chair reviewed the updates made to the tool since the last workgroup meeting, including adding Medical Record Review as alternative to referral, date and time for medical record review, and lung-specific rule-out criteria for potential donor after cardiac death (DCD) donors. The Chair answered questions about the reliability of brain death, withdrawal of support, and pronouncement of death date and time data on deaths identified on death record review. He indicated that gathering date and time on brain death declarations is relatively easy but for those patients that appeared to be clinically brain dead but not declared and withdrawal of support and pronouncement of death are more difficult because timing of death following withdrawal of support may not be the time of asystole. For example, support may be withdrawn and the physician goes to see other patients and then returns to pronounce death.

2. Review concept paper themes and questions for feedback

OPTN staff provided a high-level overview of the contents of the concept paper and the concepts that are being proposed and for which the MPSC and Workgroup are requesting feedback.

Summary of Discussion:

Decision #1: The Workgroup provided suggestions for additional content in the concept paper.

Decision #2: The Workgroup recommended that the MPSC release the concept paper for winter 2024 public comment.

Decision #1: The Workgroup provided suggestions for additional content in the concept paper.

The Chair suggested including as an additional benefit in the concept paper that the depth of the data that will be collected will allow for the creation of risk adjustment models that is not possible with the current data available and with the current national metrics. The Workgroup appreciated the inclusion of the data tables to help breakdown the data that would be collected. A Workgroup member asked

whether it was possible to do a mockup of the data capture that could be demonstrated in the public comment video to give people a better understanding of the data collection. The Chair responded it was a good idea but will have to think through how we would do that in the timeframe we have before the video needs to be recorded. The Workgroup member volunteered to put together a simple tool.

Decision #2: The Workgroup recommended that the MPSC release the concept paper for winter 2024 public comment.

Workgroup members suggested that it be made absolutely clear that the only data that would be collected from transplant hospitals will be the deaths and the ICD-10 codes, not any of the other data in the tool and requested that it be emphasized that this is data that the hospitals report to other agencies routinely. No concerns were raised about the concepts and the Workgroup recommended that the MPSC release the concept paper for Winter 2024 public comment.

3. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Request

The Workgroup was informed about a recent request from HRSA for feedback on potential ventilated referral data collection that would be included in an upcoming Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretarial Directive. Chris McLaughlin from HRSA explained that CMS had notified HRSA that referral data collected by the OPTN currently is not sufficient to comply with a CMS OPO Condition for Coverage requiring OPOs to provide referral data to the OPTN. HRSA is requesting input from this Workgroup on the data elements included in a draft form provided by HRSA, namely could this data be collected now, what could be collected with discussion and clarification of the menu options and responses, and what are things that really need further discussion and would need to be included in a phase two or some other activity of the OPTN. The goal is to get additional data collection about donor potential through the OPTN system quickly that is recognized by CMS as objective data that they might be able to use for their quality improvement processes and potentially, in the future, for other metrics. This effort is not intended to derail the work the Workgroup is doing but to collect some data sooner and then expand with the tool developed by the Workgroup.

4. Next Steps

The MPSC will vote on whether to release the concept paper for Winter 2024 public comment at its December 6, 2023, meeting.

The HRSA draft Ventilated Referral Form will be sent to the Workgroup, along with a crosswalk comparison to the tool, and then reconvene shortly to discuss the draft Ventilated Referral Form.

Upcoming Meetings

- MPSC Conference Call, December 6, 2023, 2 – 4 pm ET

Attendance

- **Work Group Members**
 - Richard Hasz, Work Group Chair
 - Kristine Browning
 - Jamie Bucio
 - Ashley Cardenas
 - Anil Chandraker
 - Micah Davis
 - Chad Ezzel
 - Kyle Herber
 - Vicki Hunter
 - Raymond Lee
 - Paul MacLennan
 - Lori Markham
 - Candy Wells
- **HRSA Representatives**
 - Chris McLaughlin
 - Arjun Naik
- **SRTR Staff**
 - Ryo Hirose
 - Jon Miller
 - Jon Snyder
 - Bryn Thompson
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Sally Aungier
 - Robyn DiSalvo
 - Houlder Hudgins
 - Sevgin Hunt
 - Krissy Laurie
 - Eric Messick
 - Amy Minkler
 - Heather Neil
 - Samantha Noreen
 - Melissa Santos
 - Laura Schmitt
 - Sharon Shepherd
 - Betsy Warnick
 - Joe Watson
 - Divya Yalgoori
- **Other Attendees**
 - Danielle Hinchey, Guidehouse
 - Parini Shaw, Guidehouse