

OPTN Living Donor Committee

Meeting Summary

August 10, 2022

Conference Call

Nahel Elias, MD, Chair

Steve Gonzalez, MD, Vice Chair

Introduction

The OPTN Living Donor Committee (the Committee) met via Citrix GoTo Meeting teleconference on 08/10/2022 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Welcome and Announcements
2. Public Comment Presentation: Update Kidney Paired Donation Policy

The following is a summary of the Committee's discussions.

1. Welcome and Announcements

A member provided a summary of the recent Task 5 Consensus Conference hosted by the Scientific Registry for Transplant Recipients (SRTR).

Summary of discussion:

A member stated there was a focus on long-term outcomes of living donors during the Task 5 Consensus Conference. The member noted the following outcomes of interest:

- Likelihood of organ failure over time for both living liver and kidney donors
- Information regarding life expectancy
- Information regarding life impact of organ donation
- Long-term monitoring
- Information regarding self-care
- Patient reported physical implications of being a living donor
- Quality of life implications from living donation
- Pregnancy outcome implications from living donation

The member noted there was unanimous interest in encouraging the transplant system to support transplant programs in supporting the SRTR Living Donor Collective. Additionally, there was broad recognition that the burden should be shifted from programs, and data collection for living donors should be publicly funded. The member added that in addition to transplant program burden, there was recognition that living donors may also be a barrier due to lack of cooperation regarding follow-up.

A member asked whether the Committee has considered retrospective data collection on living donors in order to gain more insight into long-term outcomes of living donation. An SRTR representative noted that data linkages have aided in retrospective analyses related to long-term kidney failure and mortality. The SRTR representative added that prospective data collection is necessary to commit to ongoing analyses of living donor outcomes.

2. Public Comment Presentation: Update Kidney Paired Donation Policy

The Committee received a presentation on the OPTN Kidney Transplantation Committee's public comment proposal, *Update Kidney Paired Donation Policy*.

Summary of discussion:

A member suggested that policy should clearly state that bridge donors who choose not to continue in a kidney paired donation (KPD) chain may choose instead to donate directly to the deceased donor waitlist, as non-KPD non-director donors do.

The Vice Chair asked if transplant coordinators have given feedback on shortening the deadlines. It was noted that the OPTN Transplant Administrators and Transplant Coordinators Committees have provided general support for the proposed deadlines. A member emphasized that coordinating a KPD exchange is very complicated and there should be a pathway for transplant programs in particular situations to not be held to these deadlines. Another member stated that transplant programs are allowed to request extensions.

A member stated that efficiency may be gained from standardizing clinical KPD donor information. The Chair agreed and suggested donor information should be added when the KPD donor is entered into the system. Another member responded that the current OPTN KPD system does not have the same image upload ability as other systems. The member also stated that the more information that is required upon KPD donor entry, the more time the transplant program would need which conflicts with working towards a more efficient process. The member agreed however that there is a certain level of information that is essential for making a decision on a KPD donor match.

The Chair stated that it would be difficult to standardize an individual's estimated period of willingness to be a bridge donor. The Chair added that the estimated period of willingness could change depending on when the donor is asked.

Next steps:

The Committee's feedback will be summarized and submitted to the OPTN Kidney Transplantation Committee for consideration.

Upcoming Meetings

- September 14, 2022 (teleconference)
- October 12, 2022 (teleconference)
- October 17, 2022 (Chicago, Illinois)

Attendance

- **Committee Members**
 - Alexandra Shingina
 - Aneesha Shetty
 - Camille Rockett
 - Doug Penrod
 - Heather Hunt
 - Henkie Tan
 - Hoylan Fernandez
 - Katey Hellickson
 - Mary Beth Stephens
 - Nahel Elias
 - Nancy Marlin
 - Stevan Gonzalez
 - Tyler Baldes
 - Vineeta Kumar
 - Yee Lee Cheah
- **HRSA Staff**
 - Arjun Naik
 - Jim Bowman
 - Marilyn Levi
 - Raelene Skerda
 - Vanessa Arriola
- **SRTR Staff**
 - Katie Siegert
 - Krista Lentine
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Cole Fox
 - Kayla Temple
 - Kim Uccellini
 - Krissy Laurie
 - Lauren Motley
 - Lindsay Larkin
 - Matt Belton
 - Rachel Hippchen
 - Sam Weiss
 - Terry Cullen