

## OPTN Ad Hoc Disease Transmission Advisory Committee

### Meeting Summary

February 6, 2024

Conference Call

Lara Danziger-Isakov, MD, MPH

Stephanie Pouch, MD, MS

### Introduction

The Ad Hoc Disease Transmission Advisory Committee (the Committee) met via Webex teleconference on 02/06/2024 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Review & Vote: Patient Safety resource documents

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

#### 1. Review & Vote: Patient Safety resource documents

The Committee reviewed updates to the [patient safety resources](#) listed below:

- Summary of Current Evidence and Information – Mpox in Donor Screening and Transmission
- Summary of Current Evidence and Information – Donor SARS-CoV-2 Testing & Organ Recovery from Donors with a History of COVID-19
- Pathogens of Special Interest
  - Associated with [OPTN Policy 15.4.A: Host OPO Requirement for Reporting Post-Procurement Donor Results and Discovery of Potential Disease Transmissions](#)

#### Summary of discussion:

The Committee supported the updated *Summary of Current Evidence and Information – Mpox in Donor Screening and Transmission* document; votes were as follows: 15 support, 0 abstain, 0 opposed.

The Committee supported the updated *Summary of Current Evidence and Information– Donor SARS-CoV-2 Testing & Organ Recovery from Donors with a History of COVID-19* document; votes were as follows: 15 support, 0 abstain, 0 oppose.

The Committee supported the updated *Pathogens of Special Interest* document; votes were as follows: 15 support, 0 abstain, 0 oppose.

#### *Summary of Current Evidence and Information – Mpox in Donor Screening and Transmission*

The Committee discussed the following updates within the document:

- The background section includes the latest numbers of reported monkeypox cases and information on national wastewater surveillance for Mpox.
- Vaccination recommendations were updated to align with current Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance.
- New information was added regarding viral detection prior to symptom onset.

- Language was modified regarding discontinuation of additional donor risk assessment questions for monkeypox, consistent with recent recommendations from the American Association of Tissue Banks (AATB).

Members discussed that there have been no donor-derived transmissions of Mpox reported to the OPTN, which is stated in this document. A member with expertise on the topic commented that all reported cases of Mpox in transplant recipients were naturally acquired.

#### *Summary of Current Evidence and Information – Donor SARS-CoV-2 Testing & Organ Recovery from Donors with a History of COVID-19*

The Committee discussed the following updates within the document:

- The definition of asymptomatic SARS-CoV-2 infection was retained, while definitions of mild/severe/resolved COVID-19 were removed.
- Testing guidance sections were updated to reflect the latest CDC recommendations.
- Data on donor-derived COVID-19 transmission cases were updated, including emphasizing no proven transmissions outside of lung transplantation.
- Guidance on recovery of organs from SARS-CoV-2 positive non-lung and lung donors was updated with the latest evidence.
- Sections on living donor testing, vaccination, and timing of transplant for recipients with COVID-19 history were revised.

#### *Pathogens of Special Interest*

The Committee discussed the following updates within the document:

- *Candida auris* was added as a pathogen of special interest required to be reported if recovered from a potential donor.
- Reporting requirements for *Histoplasma capsulatum* were modified to exclude cases only identified by donor serology.

A CDC representative supported moving *Candida auris* to the Pathogens of Special Interest list and noted that CDC will continue to monitor other *Candida* species. The Chair emphasized that *Candida auris* was added due to its unique disease profile.

#### Next steps:

The OPTN Executive Committee will review and vote on these documents at their February 20, 2024 meeting.

#### **Upcoming Meeting**

- February 26, 2024, teleconference, 12PM ET
- March 26, 2024, Houston, TX, 8:30AM CST

## Attendance

- **Committee Members**
  - Lara Danziger-Isakov
  - Stephanie Pouch
  - Riki Graves
  - Marty Sellers
  - Rachel Miller
  - Charles Marboe
  - Dong Heun Lee
  - R. Patrick Wood
  - Cindy Fisher
  - Gerald Berry
  - Helen Te
  - Michelle Kittleson
  - Sarah Taimur
  - Sam Ho
  - Anna Hughart-Smith
- **CDC Representatives**
  - Sridhar Basavaraju
  - Pallavi Annambhotla
  - Ian Kracalik
- **HRSA Representatives**
  - Marilyn Levi
- **FDA Representatives**
  - Brychan Clark
- **SRTR Staff**
  - n/a
- **UNOS Staff**
  - Tamika Watkins
  - Cole Fox
  - Logan Saxer
  - Leah Nunez
  - Sandy Bartal
  - Sara Langham
  - Susan Tlusty
  - Houlder Hudgins
  - Joel Newman
  - David Klassen
- **Other Attendees**
  - Raymund Razonable
  - Timothy Pruett
  - Melissa Greenwald