

**OPTN Histocompatibility Committee
Meeting Summary
July 12, 2022
Conference Call**

**John Lunz, PhD, D(ABHI), Chair
Gerald Morris, MD, PhD, Vice Chair**

Introduction

The Histocompatibility Committee (the Committee) met via Citrix GoToMeeting teleconference on 07/12/2022 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Update to Histocompatibility Policies/Guidance

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

1. Update to Histocompatibility Policies/Guidance

- Physical Crossmatching

Committee members reviewed [OPTN Policy 4.6: Crossmatching](#) and [OPTN Guidance](#) (2017). The content examined for needed change or removal is within:

- [Policy 4.6.A: Crossmatching for Kidney Transplants](#)
 - Recommendation: No change.
- [Policy 4.6.B: General Crossmatching Requirements](#)
 - Recommendation: Change *Item 3*, clarify *Item 4*, and add *Item 5*. Specific changes can be seen in the meeting slides.
- [4.6.A Crossmatching for Kidney Transplants](#)
 - Recommendation: No change.
- [Physical Crossmatching](#)
 - Recommendation: Remove or change to: "For deceased donor crossmatching, lymphocytes obtained by negative selection are preferable for increased cell purity and viability."
- [C.2.C #11: The criteria for crossmatching](#)
 - Recommendation: No change.

Summary of discussion:

- [Policy 4.6.A: Crossmatching for Kidney Transplants](#)

There was no further discussion from the Committee.

- [Policy 4.6.B: General Crossmatching Requirements](#)

A committee member stated that the table on the slides was only added for the Committee, and it was added due to labs reporting crossmatches without all relevant information. The Vice Chair stated this is very helpful, but not possible for all labs. This would legislate practice and make it difficult for OPO labs that do not have the antibody testing information. The Vice Chair noted the specimen tested in the crossmatch is not always the specimen that has antibody identification for it. Committee members suggested *Item 5* may work well in a guidance document instead.

A Committee member stated if the Committee attempts to describe every single clinical situation that could arise in a table it would be impossible, so it may be best to leave this policy as is. The member stated the information provided to OPO labs are absolute unacceptable antigens, but there is often an internal list to be weary of as well. The Vice Chair agreed and stated it would be unacceptable to issue a report that is based upon someone else's interpretation of a test that he had never seen. Another member stated this table could be viewed as the HLA lab making the entire risk assessment. The presenting Committee member suggested removing the 'clinical decision' column from the table since that is not the responsibility of the HLA lab. The Committee members agreed that this table and *Item 5* would be best as guidance, and that this recommendation may fall out of the scope of physical crossmatching.

The Chair suggested there is a detrimental effect to patient safety with the striking in *Item 3*. The presenting Committee member stated they thought it was better to include this in *Item 4* for clarity. Another member stated the "increased sensitivity" portion of *Item 4* is too ambiguous. A member stated that the clarification of reducing false-positive and false-negative is not needed. The Vice Chair stated the optimized method does not work well. A committee member stated "increased sensitivity" is irrelevant but stating this as "using sensitivity relevant to make clinical decisions on whether or not to transplant" is sufficient. The Vice Chair suggested the language "use something that is more sensitive than unmodified CDC." The Chair suggested referring to the CLIA requirement and members agreed.

- [4.6.A Crossmatching for Kidney Transplants](#)

There was no further discussion from The Committee.

- [Physical Crossmatching](#)

A Committee member stated the current recommendation is sufficient. The presenting Committee member stated this recommendation seems to be outdated due to the availability of good kits for negative selection. The Committee member noted this change is what is preferable and not mandated. The Vice Chair stated these technical details that dictate practice are a slippery slope, and then the presenting Committee member said removal is the best option. The Committee members agreed and consented to removal.

- [C.2.C #11: The criteria for crossmatching](#)

There was no further discussion from The Committee.

Upcoming Meeting

- August 9th, 2022, 12PM ET, Teleconference

Attendance

Committee members:

- Amber Carriker
- Andres Jaramillo
- Bill Goggins
- Gerald Morris
- Hua Zhu
- John Lunz
- Kelley Hitchman
- Manu Varma
- Marcelo Pando
- Omar Moussa
- Peter Lalli
- Qingyoung Xu
- Reut Hod Dvorai
- Valia Bravo-Egana
- Vikram Pattanayak

SRTR Staff

- Katherine Audette

HRSA Representatives

- Jim Bowman
- Marilyn Levi
- Megan Hayden

UNOS Staff

- Amelia Devereaux
- Courtney Jett
- Kelsi Lindblad
- Sarah Scott
- Susan Tlusty
- Rebecca Brookman
- Taylor Livelli