

OPTN Heart Transplantation Committee

Meeting Summary

October 18, 2022

Conference Call

Rocky Daly, MD, Chair

JD Menteer, MD, Vice Chair

Introduction

The Heart Transplantation Committee met via Citrix GoToMeeting teleconference on 10/18/2022 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Review updated ABOi Offers policy proposal
2. Committee vote to approve ABOi Offers policy proposal

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

1. Review updated ABOi Offers policy proposal

Following the presentation to the OPTN Lung Transplantation Committee, the Committee reviewed the updated ABOi Offers policy proposal.

Summary of discussion:

The Vice Chair stated that during his presentation, Lung Committee members indicated that lung transplants involving ABO-incompatible lungs are uncommon. The Vice Chair said that the Lung Committee members also reported similar experiences to heart in terms of ABO-incompatible transplants; which is, that if titers are low, then pediatric patients can safely undergo lung transplants across blood types. The Vice Chair told the Heart Committee members that including the lung eligibility policy change with the Committee's ABO-incompatible proposal is a minor change, and maintaining the alignment between heart and lung ABO-incompatible policy avoids potential programming issues related to the heart-lung match runs.

A Heart Committee member asked if there have been any concerns expressed about heart-lung transplants involving ABO-intended incompatible donor organs? Have any potential negative impacts been identified that could be substantiated with data? The Vice Chair responded that the problem is that there is very little experience with such transplants. He added that it is not clear that all heart-lung programs are overly enthusiastic about transplanting across blood type incompatibility, especially at older ages. He also added that the policy allows the practice to occur if and when the transplant program deems it appropriate. Finally, the Vice Chair reminded the Committee members that the proposal will be submitted for public comment and the community will be asked to provide information about potential safety issues. The Committee hopes to gather more feedback about the alignment between heart and lung policy during public comment.

2. Committee vote to approve ABOi Offers policy proposal

There was a motion to call the vote and a second. The Committee was asked *'Does the Heart Committee recommend submitting the proposed policy changes to the Executive Committee for approval to send to public comment during January-March 2023?'* The Committee voted unanimously in support with 12 votes in favor, 0 in opposition, and 0 members abstaining.

Upcoming Meeting

- November 15, 2022
- December 20, 2022
- January 17, 2023
- February 21, 2023
- March 21, 2023
- March 29, 2023
- April 18, 2023
- May 16, 2023
- June 20, 2023

Attendance

- **Committee Members**
 - Adam Schneider
 - Dmitry Yaranov
 - Fawwaz Shaw
 - Glen Kelley
 - JD Menteer
 - Jennifer Carapelluci
 - Jennifer Cowger
 - Jonah Odum
 - John Nigro
 - Martha Tankersly
 - Shelley Hall
 - Timothy Gong
- **HRSA Representatives**
 - Jim Bowman
- **SRTR Staff**
 - Katie Audette
 - Yoon Son Ahn
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Alina Martinez
 - Betsy Gans
 - Eric Messick
 - Janis Rosenberg
 - Kelsi Linbald
 - Krissy Laurie
 - Laura Schmitt
 - Susan Tlusty
- **Other Attendees**
 - John Yip