

Redefining Provisional Yes and the Approach to Organ Offers

OPTN Operations and Safety Committee

Provisional Yes Project Overview

- Provisional yes is defined as when the transplant hospital notifies the OPTN or the host OPO that they have evaluated the offer and are interested in accepting the organ or receiving more information about the organ
- This project seeks to improve processes to increase the efficiency of the organ offer, review, and acceptance system and reduce overall organ allocation time

Purpose of Concept Paper

- Provide the community an overview of the Committee's progress to date on its efficiency project aimed to address inefficiencies related to provisional yes
- Introduce concept of a three-tiered framework that aims to:
 - Provide outlined requirements for transplant programs
 - Allow transparency across OPOs and transplant programs
- Seek community feedback on the three-tiered approach and associated responsibilities

Concept Paper

- Provides an update on the Committee's work on the project to date that includes Committee discussions on:
 - Identified challenges related to provisional yes
 - Proposed framework to organ offer, review, and acceptance system
- Asks for community feedback on:
 - Three-tiered framework and associated responsibilities
 - Time limit on offers within each tier
 - Number of offers that can be sent within each tier

Rationale

- The Committee identified a cyclical challenge related to provisional yes:
 - OPOs send a high number of offers due to the high number of provisional yes responses, which do not result in final acceptance
 - Transplant programs receive an overwhelming amount of organ offers and in response enter provisional yes in an effort to more appropriately manage the number of offers they receive

Concept: Tiered Framework

- Would eliminate provisional yes and focus on the processes related to the organ offer, review and acceptance system
- Outline requirements of transplant programs within each tier
 - Requirements would become more rigorous as a transplant program advances to each tier
- Outline time limits on offers and number of offers sent by OPOs within Tier I and Tier II

Tiered Framework

Tier III	Tier II	Tier I
Transplant programs evaluate organ offers to see if the offer immediately meets any of their program's refusal reasons	Transplant programs evaluate organ offers to see if the offer immediately meets any of their program's refusal reasons	Transplant programs evaluate organ offers to see if the offer immediately meets any of their program's refusal reasons
	Transplant programs assess candidate's medical suitability	Transplant programs assess candidate's medical suitability
	Transplant programs notify OPOs of any additional information needed for testing or evaluation	Transplant programs notify OPOs of any additional information needed for testing or evaluation
		Transplant programs assess histocompatibility
		Transplant programs confirm candidate availability for transplant

Tier III

- Tier III: Initial Review of Organ Offer
 - Streamline how notifications are sent
 - Receive electronic offer and provide a response
 - Notify OPOs of offers that are turned down

Tier III

Transplant programs evaluate organ offers to see if the offer immediately meets any of their program's refusal reasons

Tier II

- Tier II: Review/Evaluation of Organ Offer
 - Would include additional back up offers
 - Number of offers: One offer for each organ available
 - Time limit on offers – 1 hour

Tier II

Transplant programs evaluate organ offers to see if the offer immediately meets any of their program's refusal reasons

Transplant programs assess candidate's medical suitability

Transplant programs notify OPOs of any additional information needed for testing or evaluation

Tier I

- Tier I: Final review and response to organ offer
 - Would include primary and back up offers
 - Number of offers sent: One offer for each organ available
 - Time limit on offers: 1 hour (first offer); 30 minutes for subsequent offers

Tier I

Transplant programs evaluate organ offers to see if the offer immediately meets any of their program's refusal reasons

Transplant programs assess candidate's medical suitability

Transplant programs notify OPOs of any additional information needed for testing or evaluation

Transplant programs assess histocompatibility

Transplant programs confirm candidate availability for transplant

Considerations

- The tiered framework is conceptual in nature
- Additional feedback is welcome to help make further adjustments to the tiered framework and associated requirements; additional considerations can include (but not limited to):
 - Requirements for organ offers received pre- and post- recovery
 - Tools that could help facilitate the proposed tiered framework

Next Steps

- The Committee will review feedback from public comment and make adjustments as needed to the concepts presented

What do you think?

- The Committee asks for feedback on the concepts presented:
 - Three-tiered framework and associated responsibilities
 - Time limit on offers within each tier
 - Number of offers that can be sent within each tier
- Should there be different considerations for offers sent pre- and post-recovery? If so, what should those considerations be?
- Are there tools that should be considered that could help facilitate the three-tiered model?