

OPTN Pancreas Transplantation Committee

Meeting Summary

November 6, 2023

Conference Call

Oyedolamu Olaitan, MD, Chair

Ty Dunn, MD, MS, FACS, Vice Chair

Introduction

The OPTN Pancreas Transplantation Committee (the Committee) met via Cisco WebEx teleconference on 11/06/2023 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Follow Up/Discussion: Policy Oversight Committee (POC) Memo on the *Eliminate Use of DSA and Region from Pancreas Allocation Two Year Post-Implementation Monitoring Report*
2. Check-in/Debrief: Continuous Distribution of Pancreata

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

1. Follow Up/Discussion: Policy Oversight Committee (POC) Memo on the *Eliminate Use of DSA and Region from Pancreas Allocation Two Year Post-Implementation Monitoring Report*

The Committee reviewed and discussed the POC memo summarizing its review of the 2-year post-implementation monitoring report on eliminating donation service areas (DSAs) and regions from pancreas allocation.

Summary of discussion:

No decisions made.

The memo highlighted concerns about statistically non-significant increases in pancreas non-use rates and decreases in pancreas transplant rates that were observed. The Committee acknowledged limitations in fully assessing the implications due to the small number of pancreas transplants and the impacts of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic and changes to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) metrics system.

There was agreement that the continued monitoring would be beneficial and the Committee looks forward to an analysis at the 3-year post-implementation data analysis. The analysis will examine trends in transplant volume over time to further evaluate changes.

In discussing the non-use rate increases, Committee members raised considerations about changes in donor characteristics over recent years, including increased prevalence of overdose death donors, marginal donor criteria, higher average donor age, and differences between donation after cardiac death (DCD)/donation after brain death (DBD) donors.

The Committee discussed ideas for analyzing the non-use data by additional donor factors such as mechanism of death, type of donor, body mass index (BMI), and donor kidney allocation score (KDPI). Comparing intended use and research use trends was also suggested to assess impacts of the new organ procurement organization (OPO) [UNet Roadmaps.xlsm \(sharepoint.com\)](#) performance metrics allowing pancreas allocation for research.

Next steps:

The Committee will continue to review and discuss the non-use data and ideas to reduce that number.

2. Check-in/Debrief: Continuous Distribution of Pancreata

Committee members were provided an open forum to share feedback on the continuous distribution (CD) project development process to date, including what has worked well, what has been challenging, areas needing more clarity, and suggestions for approaches moving forward.

Summary of discussion:

No decisions made.

Members felt the project was highly complex and theoretical initially, but visual data representations and terminology definitions helped increase understanding of concepts.

There was confusion about whether pancreas should be considered part of multi-organ transplantation (MOT) versus a priority on the separate kidney allocation framework. An update was provided that the MOT Committee decided pancreas will not be included in MOT, however the details of kidney distribution to MOT recipients is still in development.

A past analysis looking at utilization rates of “ideal donor” criteria for pancreas was discussed to provide potential guidance on defining reasonable donor definitions to increase use and provide information to programs. The Committee will review this analysis for potential updates.

Next steps:

Staff will provide the past analysis on ideal donor criteria for the Committee to review.

Upcoming Meeting

- December 11, 2023

Attendance

- **Committee Members**
 - Todd Pesavento
 - Oyedolamu Olaitan
 - Dean Kim
 - Asif Sharfuddin
 - Ty Dunn
 - Girish Mour
 - Mallory Boomsma
 - Neeraj Singh
 - Shehzad Rehman
 - Colleen Jay
 - Diane Cibirk
 - William Asch
- **HRSA Representatives**
 - Bryn Thompson
 - Jon Miller
- **SRTR Staff**
 - Raja Kandaswamy
 - Peter Stock
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Joann White
 - Sarah Booker
 - Kristina Hogan
 - Houlder Hudgins
 - Carlos Martinez
 - Cole Fox
 - Lauren Motley
 - Laura Schmitt