

## Lung Review Board Guidance

### Summary and Goals

Policy 10.2 allows a transplant program to submit exception requests for Medical Urgency, Post-Transplant Outcomes, Biological Disadvantages, and/or Patient Access Scores. The Lung Review Board (Review Board) provides prompt peer review of candidate score exceptions on the lung transplant waiting list. These guidelines are intended to promote consistent review of these scores.

When submitting an exception request, transplant programs must provide a clinical justification for the exception. Please refer to *Policy 10.2 Lung Composite Score Exceptions* for additional information about the exception review process.

This resource is not OPTN Policy, so it does not carry the monitoring or enforcement implications of policy. It is not an official guideline for clinical practice, nor is it intended to be clinically prescriptive or to define a standard of care. This resource is intended to provide guidance to transplant programs and the Review Board.

### Recommendations

#### Exception Requests

In addition to the requirements listed in *OPTN Policy 10.2.B Exception Requests*, requesting transplant programs are encouraged to include citations to supporting literature where available. Transplant programs are encouraged to consult the CAS calculator, and the national score distribution information when considering what score to request, and may wish to include information in the request about how these were used in the choice of a requested score.

#### *Pulmonary Hypertension*

Lung transplant candidates diagnosed with pulmonary hypertension (PH) and who meet the following criteria may qualify for an increase in their Waitlist Survival and/or Post-Transplant Outcomes Scores:

1. Patient is deteriorating on optimal therapy, and
2. Patient has a right atrial pressure greater than 15 mm Hg *or* a cardiac index less than 1.8 L/min/m<sup>2</sup>.

To request an increase in a PH candidate's scores, transplant programs must submit an exception request to the Review Board; this request should include sufficient clinical detail to support that the patient meets the above criteria.

If the transplant program believes that its patient has similar waiting list mortality and potential transplant benefit as a PH patient meeting the criteria listed above, then it should provide a detailed narrative on that assertion, referencing literature supporting the request for a higher score.

Transplant programs may wish to submit to the Review Board exception requests for the candidate's Waitlist Survival Score and Post-Transplant Outcomes Score to be at the national 90<sup>th</sup> percentile for each goal. This information is provided by the OPTN on a rolling basis.

## *Pediatric Priority 1*

To request a pediatric priority 1 exception for a candidate currently assigned to priority 2, transplant programs should request an exception for 7.6292% of the waitlist survival score to get the 1.9073 waitlist points assigned to pediatric priority 1 candidates. It is not necessary to request an exception for post-transplant outcomes since pediatric priority 1 and 2 candidates are assigned the same number of post-transplant outcomes points.