

**OPTN Organ Procurement Organization Committee
Meeting Summary
November 21, 2024
Conference Call**

**PJ Geraghty, MBA, CPTC, Chair
Lori Markham, RN, MSN, CPTC, CCRN, Vice Chair**

Introduction

The OPTN Organ Procurement Organization Committee (“Committee,”) met via WebEx teleconference on 11/21/2024 to discuss the following agenda items:

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

1. Machine Perfusion Data Collection Project Update
2. Donation after Circulatory Death (DCD) Policy Review Project Update
3. Ad Hoc Disease Transmission Advisory Committee (DTAC) Project – Request for Volunteers
4. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Data Directive Update
5. Open Discussion

1. Machine Perfusion Data Collection Project Update

The Committee did not make any decisions.

Summary of Presentation:

OPTN Contractor staff provided an update on this project that will add data on both machine perfusion devices and normothermic regional perfusion (NRP). The multidisciplinary workgroup has had three workgroup meetings to date. (9/25/2024, 10/23/2024, and 11/20/2024)

Highlights from the workgroup meetings include:

- Overview of the data submission project requirements, including the use of the Data Standardization Checklist
- Agreement to focus on NRP data before addressing machine perfusion
- Create initial list of NRP data elements
- Distinguish between data used for allocation and research (outcomes)
- Development of an NRP process flow
- Begin discussion on individual data elements
 - Organs available
 - Organs planned to be recovered using NRP
 - Thoracoabdominal vs Abdominal NRP
 - Organs placed (acceptance)
 - Heparin administration
 - Systolic blood pressure

Summary of Discussion:

A member commented that identifying those data elements used for allocation and those used for research/outcomes will be important moving forward.

Next steps:

The next workgroup conference call is scheduled for December 18, 2024. The workgroup will continue to discuss the individual NRP data elements.

2. DCD Policy Review Project Update

The Committee did not make any decisions.

Presentation Summary:

OPTN Contractor staff provided an update on this new project. The OPTN Policy Oversight Committee approved the project on October 10, 2024, and it was subsequently approved by the OPTN Executive Committee on November 1, 2024. This project will address the following issues:

- Timing of family DCD donation discussion
- Review of all DCD policies
- Evaluate need for machine perfusion and NRP policies

OPTN Contractor staff noted that the workgroup roster has been finalized and meeting invites have been sent out for meetings from December 2024 to June 2025. Staff shared the timeline for the project which includes targeting the July-September 2025 public comment period followed by submission to the OPTN Board of Directors in December 2025.

Summary of Discussion:

There were no comments or questions from committee members.

3. DTAC Project – Request for Volunteers

The Committee did not make any decisions.

Presentation Summary:

OPTN Contractor staff provided the following overview of this new DTAC project and requested 2-3 volunteers to serve on the workgroup:

Problem:

- West Nile Virus (WNV) in organ transplant recipients is associated with high morbidity and mortality rates and can be transmitted from person to person by organ transplantation and blood transfusion.
- Since WNV was introduced into the United States in 1999, there have been more than 59,000 human disease cases reported, and more than 2,900 deaths associated with the disease.
- Not all donors who have transmitted WNV are symptomatic and there are no treatments or human vaccines available for this disease.

Purpose:

This project aims to reduce West Nile virus (WNV) disease transmission mortality and morbidity rates in solid organ transplantation by requiring seasonal WNV testing for deceased and living donors.

Proposal: The development of this proposal will include:

- Consideration of the type of test that should be used, the feasibility of obtaining a test, and the timing of test results.
- Proposed WNV testing requirements would require updates to OPTN Policies 2.9: Required Deceased Donor Infectious Disease Testing and 14.4: Medical Evaluation Requirements for Living Donors.

Summary of Discussion:

There were no comments or questions from committee members.

4. HRSA Data Directive Update

The Committee did not make any decisions.

Presentation Summary:

OPTN Contractor staff provided an update on the HRSA data directive to create data collection tools for pre-waitlist patient data as well as ventilated patient data:

- Pre-Waitlist Data Collection and Ventilated Patient Forms
 - 60-day Federal Register Notice – November 4 (closes on 1/3/2025)
 - OPTN President Communication – November 8
- OPTN Response
 - DAC and MPSC workgroups meeting to draft response
 - Submit to HRSA before the close of the 60-day period ends
- HRSA processes feedback and finalizes forms
 - 30-day Federal Register Notice before OMB approval (April/May 2025)

Summary of Discussion:

There were no comments or questions from committee members.

5. Open Discussion

The Committee did not make any decisions.

Summary of Discussion:

A member asked about the OPTN Operations and Safety Committee’s directive from the Board of Directors to address NRP protocols. OPTN Contractor staff responded that there are current discussions about the next steps. The Operations and Safety Committee has been working on a draft guidance document and includes policy and data collection recommendations. Those recommendations will become part of the two OPO Committee projects. The guidance document could move forward sooner since it is important to identify standardized processes for NRP.

There were no comments or questions from committee members.

Upcoming Meeting

- December 12, 2024

Attendance

- **Committee Members**
 - PJ Geraghty
 - Lori Markham
 - Kerri Jones
 - Ann Rayburn
 - Daniel DiSante
 - Greg Veenendaal
 - Micah Davis
 - Shane Oakley
 - Stephen Gray
- **HRSA Representatives**
 - Jim Bowman
- **SRTR Staff**
 - Jon Miller
 - Katie Audette
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Robert Hunter
 - Kevin Daub
 - Houlder Hudgins
 - Kaitlin Swanner
 - Kayla Temple