

# OPTN/UNOS Policy Notice

## Simultaneous Liver Kidney (SLK)

### Safety Net Clarifications

<b>Sponsoring Committee:</b>	<b>Kidney Transplantation Committee</b>
<b>Policy/Bylaws Affected:</b>	<b>Policies 1.2 (Definitions) and 8.5.G (Prioritization for Liver Recipients on the Kidney Waiting List)</b>
<b>Public Comment:</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Effective Date:</b>	<b>Pending implementation and notice to OPTN members</b>

#### Problem Statement

In deceased donor kidney allocation policy, several types of allocation priority are based on the candidate's date of registration on the waiting list. Candidates may be registered on the kidney waiting list at multiple centers and have the ability to transfer primary waiting time (the longest period of waiting time) from one transplant program to another. When a candidate requests this change, the date of registration is also transferred along with the candidate's primary waiting time (allowing the candidate to also transfer other types of priority that he/she is receiving based on the date of registration).

In June 2015, the OPTN/UNOS Board of Directors approved a new policy granting additional kidney match classification priority to candidates registered on the kidney waiting list between 60-365 days after liver transplant. The new policy is currently pending IT implementation. The new policy addresses situations where a candidate's waiting time needs to be reinstated for immediate and permanent non-function but it does not explicitly address the transfer of registration date in the instance of a primary waiting time transfer.

#### Summary of Changes

UNOS staff requested a policy clarification to make clear that a candidate's date of registration and primary qualifying date (and all priority associated with both) will be transferred along with a request for primary waiting time. The OPTN/UNOS Executive Committee approved these clarifications at a conference call on April 24, 2017.

#### What Members Need to Do

Members will need to familiarize themselves with all of the impending changes to policy as a result of the SLK proposal, including these clarifications regarding waiting time transfers.

#### Affected Policy Language

New language is underlined (example) and language that is deleted is struck through (example).

## 1 1.2 Definitions

### 2 Primary waiting time

3 The longest time period a candidate registered on the waiting list has been waiting for a specific organ  
4 transplant procedure, after having met qualifying criteria to accrue waiting time for that organ. Primary  
5 waiting time is based on the candidate's qualifying date, registration date, and waiting time accrued.

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**8.5.G Prioritization for Liver Recipients on the Kidney Waiting List**

If a kidney candidate received a liver transplant, but not a liver and kidney transplant from the same deceased donor, the candidate will be classified as a prior liver recipient. This classification gives priority to a kidney candidate if *both* of the following criteria are met:

1. The candidate is registered on the kidney waiting list prior to the one-year anniversary of the candidate’s most recent liver transplant date
2. On a date that is at least 60 days but not more than 365 days after the candidate’s liver transplant date, at least *one* of the following criteria is met:
  - The candidate has a measured or calculated creatinine clearance (CrCl) or glomerular filtration rate (GFR) less than or equal to 20 mL/min.
  - The candidate is on dialysis.

When the transplant program reports that the candidate meets the criteria for this classification, the candidate will remain at this classification for 30 days from the date of the qualifying test or treatment. If the transplant program reports additional qualifying tests or treatments, then the candidate will remain at this classification for 30 days from the most recent date of the test or treatment. If the transplant program reports that the candidate meets the criteria for 90 consecutive days, the candidate will remain at this classification until the candidate is removed from the kidney waiting list. If the candidate transfers kidney waiting time according to *Policy 3.6.C: Individual Waiting Time Transfers* and has met the criteria for 90 consecutive days, then the candidate’s classification will be included in the transfer.

If a liver recipient receives a kidney using this priority classification and returns to the kidney waiting list after the most recent kidney transplant, the candidate must again meet the criteria for this classification, unless the candidate qualifies for kidney waiting time reinstatement according to *Policy 3.6.B.i: Non-function of a Transplanted Kidney*. If the candidate qualifies for kidney waiting time reinstatement, the candidate will be classified as qualifying for the classification.

If a kidney candidate received a liver and kidney transplant from the same deceased donor, the candidate will only qualify for this classification if the candidate qualifies for kidney waiting time reinstatement according to *Policy 3.6.B.i: Non-function of a Transplanted Kidney*.