

**OPTN/UNOS Thoracic Organ Transplantation Committee
Meeting Minutes
August 9, 2018
Conference Call**

**Ryan Davies, MD, Chair
Erika Lease, MD, Vice Chair**

Introduction

The Thoracic Organ Transplantation Committee met via Citrix GoToTraining teleconference on 08/09/2018 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Eliminate the Use of DSAs in Thoracic Distribution

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

1. Eliminate the Use of DSAs in Thoracic Distribution

Previous Data Presentations

Scientific Registry of Transplant Recipients (SRTR) staff presented historical Thoracic Simulated Allocation Model (TSAM) results to provide additional background information as the Committee considers which distances to include as part of their modeling request. This previous analysis included a comparison of "similar to approved" and "Donation Service Area (DSA) free" modeling. SRTR staff also presented TSAM data used during the development of the new lung policy that compared DSA, 250, and 500 nautical miles.

UNOS Research staff presented data on cold ischemia time and distance traveled. One Committee member noted that the results of 1 year graft survival by distance from donor hospital to transplant center can probably be explained by selection bias. He noted that it is important to the discussion because the Committee is aware of the risk factors for hearts start to increase at 4 hours of cold ischemia time.

Distances for Modeling Replacement for DSA/Region

One Committee member noted that since the median distance traveled for hearts is 96 nautical miles, the rationale for modeling 150 nautical miles could be that the Committee is evaluating a distance that goes beyond what is currently happening while still trying to balance patients that might be disenfranchised by increasing the distances. He also noted that modeling 100 nautical miles would not be different than what is currently happening based on the data. One Committee member suggested that the Committee push the distance out to 300 nautical miles for the 75th percentile. Another Committee member suggested that for consistency the Committee should model 150, 250, and 500 nautical miles.

The Committee briefly discussed the impact on costs and one Committee member noted that the Committee needs to be aware that decreasing access to transplants could potentially go against the Final Rule.

The Committee agreed to table the metrics/outcomes discussion until the next conference call.

Next steps

Continue to discuss and finalize the distances as well as identify which metrics and outcomes to include in the modeling request.

Upcoming Meeting

- August 16, 2018 (Conference call)