

**OPTN Operations and Safety Committee
ABO Workgroup
Meeting Minutes
September 12, 2019
Conference Call**

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Introduction

The ABO Workgroup (the Workgroup) met via Citrix GoToMeeting teleconference on 09/12/2019 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Policy Language Discussion
2. Guidance Document Framework

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

1. Policy Language Discussion

UNOS staff summarized the internal review process the policy language has undergone. Staff asked Workgroup members about their direction and goal for this policy language.

Summary of discussion:

Members agreed that the goal of the policy language is to address the pitfalls of ABO typing and require each OPO to have a protocol for discrepancies and indeterminate results. The Workgroup advocated for these protocols to also be in place when there are known factors that can impact ABO. The document is not to be too prescriptive on the protocols, but should defined under what circumstances protocols should be implemented.

Members discussed the ABO policy's potential impact on Transplant Candidate ABO and Living Donor ABO policies. A member referenced a situation in pediatrics where Transplant Candidate ABO policy could be impacted, but did not believe there would be much impact from an adult patient perspective. Another member brought up subtyping discrepancies between A1 and A2 when looking at Living Donor ABO Policy. A member suggested looking into updating an already published guidance document on ABO subtyping. The Workgroup agreed that from a policy language standpoint, there is no impact on policies 3.3.A and 14.5.A.

Next steps:

The Workgroup will continue to refine their ABO policy language.

2. Guidance Document Framework

The Workgroup reviewed their progress thus far on the guidance document.

Summary of discussion:

Members agreed that molecular testing should be part of the guidance document, but not within the policy language because they felt it was too prescriptive. The Workgroup discussed a section of the guidance document on Alt (New) testing methods for determination of ABO. This highly technical

section of the document will be included as an Appendix and summarized in the guidance document itself. Members will continue to draft their sections.

Next steps:

Before the next ABO Workgroup call on October 3, members will send out more finalized sections of the paper for their peers to read. On the next call, members will be prepared to give suggestions to one another. The Workgroup will continue to write and refine their guidance document. On October 24th the OPTN Operations and Safety Committee will vote on the Guidance Document and proposed policy changes for Spring 2020 Public Comment Cycle.

Upcoming Meeting(s)

- October 3, 2019