

OPTN Ad Hoc Disease Transmission Advisory Committee

Meeting Summary

March 23, 2020

Conference Call

Marian Michaels, MD, MPH, Chair
Ricardo La Hoz, MD, FACP, FAST, Vice Chair

Introduction

The Ad Hoc Disease Transmission Advisory Committee met via Citrix GoToTraining teleconference on 03/23/2020 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. CDC Update: PHS Guidelines
2. Update/Discussion: Reportable Diseases
3. Discussion: Emerging Issues/COVID-19
4. Update: Manuscripts, Presentations, Case Review Projects

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

1. CDC Update: PHS Guidelines

CDC representative presented on the current status of the PHS Guidelines.

Data summary:

Slides attached.

Summary of discussion:

A Committee member asked if there would be any requirement for one-year post-transplant testing for hepatitis B. CDC representative explained that it would be recommended for liver recipients but not required.

DTAC chair requested that CDC not publish fact sheets for patients or providers until OPTN has time to update the affected policies to ensure consistency.

Next steps:

OPTN Workgroup in project approval phase for OPTN policy revisions. Workgroup will begin to work on updates once the guidelines are released.

2. Update/Discussion: Reportable Diseases

CDC presented on CRAB/CRE for consideration as an OPTN reportable disease. DTAC chair presented updated draft of OPTN Reportable Diseases list.

Data summary:

See attached slides and draft of OPTN Reportable Diseases.

Summary of discussion:

A Committee member raised a question of susceptibilities testing abilities for OPOs. The Committee agreed that it might take time for test results and that transplant can still occur while waiting for final susceptibilities outcomes.

Committee voted unanimously to change the reportable diseases as presented. The version includes two notable changes in the inclusion of CRE and SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) as reportable diseases to the OPTN.

Next steps:

UNOS staff will submit updated list for approval for publication on OPTN site.

3. Discussion: Emerging Issues/COVID-19

DTAC Chair introduced the discussion.

Summary of discussion:

The Committee was concerned about what types of data points would need to be recorded if there is a potential donor-related COVID-19 transmission. Members discussed limited test kit availability and long turnaround times due to laboratory backlog and limited reagent availability. Members discussed sample types and storage, especially NP and BAL or tracheal secretion cultures being saved during the outbreak, in addition to the standard serum samples. Even if the host OPO isn't able to obtain viral culture samples for storage, discussed transplant centers saving a 24-hour culture on all lung recipients. Also discussed limitations of currently available laboratory assays and what specimen types they are validated for. The Committee as a whole is concerned about the overall effect of the outbreak on lung donation and organ donation in general, and wants to closely monitor the situation.

Next steps:

Committee members who are interested in contributing to a work group on potential important data points and OPTN COVID-19 response should contact Committee Chair or UNOS DTAC liaison. CDC to check on stored specimen stability.

4. Update: Manuscripts, Presentations, Case Review Projects

DTAC Chair presented on current projects by committee members and their statuses.

Data summary:

Slides attached.

Summary of discussion:

The Committee had no questions or concerns.

Upcoming Meetings

- March 30, 2020, Teleconference
- April 27, 2020, Teleconference
- June 22, 2020, Teleconference

Attendance

- **Committee Members**
 - Avi Agarwal
 - Saima Aslam
 - Gerald Berry
 - Jamie Buccio
 - Lara Danziger-Isakov
 - Sam Ho
 - Ricardo La Hoz
 - Debbie Levine
 - Maricar Malinis
 - Charles Marboe
 - Gary Marklin
 - Marian Michaels
 - Stephanie Pouch
 - Meena Rana
 - Raymund Razonable
 - Lynne Strasfeld
- **HRSA Representatives**
 - Jim Bowman
 - Marilyn Levi
 - Adriana Martinez
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Sandy Bartal
 - Nicole Benjamin
 - Craig Connors
 - Shannon Edwards
 - Darby Harris
 - Courtney Jett
 - David Klassen
 - Cassandra Meekins
 - Brian Plucinski
 - Leah Slife
 - Peter Sokol
 - Susan Tlusty
 - Emily Ward
 - Emily Womble
- **CDC Representatives**
 - Pallavi Annambhotla
 - Sridhar Basavaraju
 - Lauren Epstein
 - Jefferson Jones