

**OPTN Liver and Intestinal Organ Transplantation Committee  
Acuity Circles Subcommittee  
Meeting Summary  
June 10, 2020  
Conference Call**

**James Trotter, MD, Chair  
James Pomposelli, MD, PhD, Vice Chair**

## **Introduction**

The Acuity Circles Subcommittee (the Subcommittee) met via teleconference on 06/10/2020 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Sorting within Liver Allocation Classifications Scenarios

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

### **1. Sorting within Liver Allocation Classifications Scenarios**

The Subcommittee reviewed scenarios depicting the current state of liver allocation classifications and options for the proposed "Sorting within Liver Allocation Classifications" project.

#### Summary of Data:

Currently, within each MELD or PELD score allocation classification, all candidates are sorted in the following order:

1. MELD or PELD score (highest to lowest)
2. Identical blood types, compatible blood types, then incompatible blood types
3. Waiting time at the current or higher MELD or PELD score (highest to lowest)
4. Time since submission of initial approved MELD or PELD exception request (highest to lowest)
5. Total waiting time (highest to lowest)

A proposed solution previously discussed is to change the classification to:

1. MELD or PELD score (highest to lowest)
2. Identical blood types, compatible blood types, then incompatible blood types
3. Match score time (highest to lowest)
  - a. If calculated lab score is used by match for #1 above then  
Match score time = Waiting time at the current or higher MELD or PELD score
  - b. If exception score is used by match for #1 above then  
Match score time = Time since submission of initial approved MELD or PELD exception request
1. Total waiting time (highest to lowest)

The Subcommittee reviewed test case examples comparing current state to the proposed solution.

#### Summary of discussion:

The Subcommittee discussed for hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) exception patients, if the six month delay for exception should count as time with an approved exception. The Subcommittee indicated the

six month delay should be included in total time with an approved exception once they receive their exception score.

The Subcommittee also considered how to handle ties between exception candidates and calculated score candidates. The Subcommittee initially indicated the calculated score candidate should receive priority but acknowledge there may be nuances. The Subcommittee agreed more discussion is needed.

#### Next Steps

The Subcommittee will continue their discussions and considerations of the proposed changes to the classification on the next call.

#### **Upcoming Meetings**

- July 8 at 5:00 PM EST