

**OPTN Liver and Intestinal Organ Transplantation Committee
Acuity Circles Subcommittee
Meeting Summary
July 8, 2020
Conference Call**

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

Introduction

The Acuity Circles Subcommittee (the Subcommittee) met via teleconference on 07/08/2020 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Subcommittee Introduction
2. Sorting within Liver Allocation Classifications Scenarios

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

1. Subcommittee Introduction

New subcommittee members were introduced. The Subcommittee reviewed the background and specifics of acuity circles, primary areas of concern identified since implementation, and projects being developed in response to these concerns.

Summary of Discussion

Subcommittee members commented the COVID pandemic will make analyzing new data difficult.

New members also reviewed potential solutions previously discussed by the Subcommittee. A subcommittee member commented geographic regions should be considered when discussing possibly expanding the MMaT circle as some areas and population densities may require different size circles.

The Subcommittee discussed whether the concerns raised warrant a change now or if there should be data demonstrating the issue before proposing a change. A Subcommittee member asked if there was modeling and it was clarified that acuity circles and the NLRB were not modeled together and future modeling is not probable in the near future. Some subcommittee members commented the system could take significant time to correct itself.

Next steps:

The Subcommittee will continue discussing this issue on the next call.

2. 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
4. Total waiting time (highest to lowest)

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

Next Steps

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

Upcoming Meetings

- July 22
- August 12