

OPTN Liver & Intestinal Organ Transplantation Committee

Meeting Summary

August 7, 2020

Conference Call

James Trotter, MD, Chair

James Pomposelli, MD, PhD, Vice Chair

Introduction

The Liver & Intestinal Organ Committee (the Committee) met via Citrix GoToMeeting teleconference on 8/7/2020 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Public Comment Update
2. Multi-Organ Allocation Project Overview
3. Simultaneous Liver-Kidney 2-Year Report
4. Acuity Circles Subcommittee Update

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

1. Public Comment Update

The Committee was informed the first National Liver Review Board (NLRB) Enhancements proposal is scheduled to be implemented August 4, 2020. The second NLRB Enhancements proposal is currently out for public comment.

2. Multi-Organ Allocation Project Overview

The Committee received a presentation on the OPO Committee's Multi-Organ Allocation Project.

Summary of Data

The goals of the project are to set clear rules for OPOs to promote consistency and transparency and to establish clear "sharing thresholds" using distance and criteria.

The presenter reviewed the proposed order of allocation for both heart-liver and lung-liver combinations.

Summary of Discussion:

Some committee members expressed concern about heart status 3 patients being prioritized above status 1A liver patients in the proposed allocation plan. The Committee members recommended evaluating data of the two types of patients to compare mortality risk.

3. Simultaneous Liver-Kidney 2-Year Report

The Committee reviewed data from the Simultaneous Liver-Kidney (SLK) 2-Year Report.

Summary of Data

The SLK 2-Year Report concluded:

- Data has not changed much in the 2 years since implementation and there are little to no unintended consequences or concerning data trends

- Outcomes of SLK transplants post-implementation are virtually identical to pre-implementation outcomes
- Outcomes of kidney after liver (KAL) transplants post-implementation are comparable to those of kidney alone transplants
- Taking into account both SLK and KAL transplants, a slightly smaller percentage of deceased donor kidney transplants have gone to liver recipients post-policy

Summary of Discussion

A committee member asked if there has been any thought of creating a safety net protocol for thoracic transplants.

Another committee member asked if there is a data available to evaluate the waitlist mortality of patients listed for SLK that was not completed, and then received a KAL. The presenter informed the Committee they are starting to evaluate data on those patients who were not eligible for SLK but do not have data compiled for the described scenario.

4. Acuity Circles Subcommittee Update

The Committee received updates on the work of the Acuity Circles Subcommittee.

Summary of Data:

The Committee reviewed a summary of the Subcommittee's work so far on the *Sorting within Liver Allocation Classifications* Project.

Next Steps:

The project is still under development and the Subcommittee will provide recommendations for the full Committee to consider.

Upcoming Meetings

- September 4, 2020

Attendance

- **Committee Members**
 - Peter Abt
 - Sumeet Asrani
 - Derek DuBay
 - Alan Gunderson
 - Bailey Heiting
 - Ray Lynch
 - Greg McKenna
 - Jen Kerney
 - Mark Orloff
 - James Pomposelli
 - Shekhar Kubal
 - Jorge Reyes
 - Julie Heimbach
 - James Trotter
- **HRSA Representatives**
 - Jim Bowman
 - Marilyn Levi
- **SRTR Staff**
 - Andrew Wey
 - Michael Conboy
 - John Lake
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Nicole Benjamin
 - Sarah Booker
 - Rebecca Brookman
 - Matt Cafarella
 - Betsy Gans
 - Lindsay Larkin
 - Jennifer Musick
 - Samantha Noreen
 - Matt Prentice
 - Liz Robbins Callahan
 - Leah Slife
 - Amber Wilk
 - Karen Williams
- **Other Attendees**
 - Chris Duckett
 - Diane Brockmeier
 - James Sharrock
 - Kurt Shutterly