Incorporating COVID-19 Related Organ Failure In Candidate Listings

OPTN Lung Transplantation Committee

Purpose and Proposal

- Purpose

  - Specify when COVID-19 related organ failure is the cause for lung candidate listings

- Proposal

  - Modify lung policy to add two new diagnoses to Group D of the lung allocation score (LAS)
    - COVID-19: Pulmonary fibrosis
    - COVID-19: Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome

Rationale

- At least three lung transplants performed due to COVID-19 related lung damage

- No standard pathway exists for documenting COVID-19 in candidate listing

- Identifying these candidates will enable OPTN analysis to inform future policy development

OPTN Actions

- Add the new diagnosis codes in UNet^{SM} for listing lung candidates
  - COVID-19: Pulmonary fibrosis
  - COVID-19: Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome

- Anticipate expedited timeline:
  - Public Comment ends: October 1, 2020
  - OPTN Board of Directors meets: October 8, 2020
  - Implementation, if approved: October 2020

Member Actions

- Transplant Hospitals: Use COVID-19 diagnosis codes as appropriate when listing lung candidates

Feedback Requested

- For lung, are there other diagnoses caused by COVID-19 infection that would lead to listing a patient for transplant?

- Are candidates for other organs being listed due to COVID-19 related organ failure?

- Should the OPTN establish COVID-19 related diagnosis codes for other organs?

Please introduce yourself when you speak

Incorporating COVID-19 Related Organ Failure In Candidate Listings

- At least three lung transplants performed due to COVID-19 related lung damage

- OPTN lacks a method to track candidates listed due to COVID-19

- Propose adding two new diagnoses to lung policy: "COVID-19: Pulmonary fibrosis" and "COVID-19: Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome"

- Additional feedback requested: should these data be collected for other organs?