

**OPTN Operations & Safety Committee  
Broader Distribution Data Collection Workgroup  
Meeting Summary  
March 16, 2021  
Conference Call**

**Dominic Adorno, Chair**

## **Introduction**

The Broader Distribution Data Collection Workgroup (the Workgroup) met via Citrix GoToMeeting teleconference on 03/16/2021 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Recap of 2/16 Meeting & Project Update
2. Review and Discussion of Current and Proposed Data Elements

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

### **1. Recap of 2/16 Meeting & Project Update**

The Workgroup reviewed discussions from the previous meeting.

#### Summary of discussion:

The Workgroup completed a comprehensive review of current data elements related to cold ischemic time and perfusion data as well as recovery team and organ disposition. The Workgroup discussed proposing new data elements related to transportation mode and coordination time/allocation.

The project summary was shared with stakeholder Committees in which they reviewed the Workgroup's recommendations for data elements:

- Include in data collection proposal
- Remove
- Data definition clarification
- Refer to respective Committee for further input

The OPTN Data Advisory Committee (DAC) supports the proposal. DAC provided questions regarding data collection of current allocation changes, however that is outside the scope of this Workgroup's project. Additional feedback from DAC highlighted the usefulness of kidney pump machine and pump solution. The Chair stated that the information provided from these specific data elements is independent of broader distribution. A member agreed and stated that those specific variables will stay the same whether there are allocation changes or not. The Chair stated that the Workgroup will keep the recommendation as is and provide additional rationale.

The OPTN Liver & Intestinal Transplantation Committee leadership is in support of the data collection efforts. Leadership expressed concern over data collection burden and stated that the Workgroup should consider potential data elements that are able to be removed to balance the onset of new data elements.

### Next steps:

The proposal will continue to be circulated to stakeholder committees for feedback in the development of the data collection proposal.

## **2. Review and Discussion of Current Data Elements**

The Workgroup continued reviewing and discussing current data elements related to broader distribution.

### Summary of discussion:

Data element: Organ Disposition

- In the previous meeting, the Workgroup requested more information regarding the “N/A” option. The Workgroup was informed that “N/A” is not an option and it was an error it was included.

Data element: Organ Reason Codes

- The Workgroup requested that the OPN Organ Procurement Organization (OPO) Committee, during their review, ensures that the Organ Reason Codes cover every situation in order to understand what happened to each organ.

Data element: Organ Discard Reason

- The Workgroup reviewed the frequency of utilization for each Organ Discard Reason code.
- The Chair asked, if the free text in the “other/specify” field is able to be quantified and if that information is helpful. A member suggested reviewing the “other/specify” free text in order to add a more specific Organ Discard Reason for selection.

The Workgroup discussed potential data elements to add.

Potential data element: Transportation Mode

- The Chair stated that this information is very valuable but expressed concern over the feasibility of collecting transportation mode in an effective way, given the multiple legs of transportation and modes of transportation for one organ. The Chair asked how the data would be interpreted accurately given the multiple different layers of capturing transportation.
- A member suggested narrowing the focus to air travel as increase in flying has been a main concern expressed by the community. The Chair agreed and responded that it would be potentially easier to capture transportation mode for organs other than kidneys because kidneys tend to have more complex travel situations.
- Another member asked if local recovery is being considered in this potential data element. The Chair suggested that a transportation mode data element could be limited to extra-renal organs, and collect air: charter, air: commercial, ground: courier, ground: staff. The Chair asked if that suggestion coupled with Recovery Team Codes would cover most of the needed information. Members agreed and stated that it could help assess the economic aspect of broader distribution. The Workgroup requested to include and receive feedback on this suggestion as a potential data element to address transportation mode.

Potential data element: Late Turndown

- This data element will be addressed by DAC.
- The Workgroup requested the following feedback to be presented to DAC:

- Look into multiple program acceptances for the same organ, going into the operating room time, as there is thought that this has a higher correlation for a late turndown.
- The time at which an organ was declined; prior to enter operating room or prior to incision.
- Look into whether late turndowns result in an operating room time being delayed or rescheduled.
- Look into the disposition of the organ to understand if the opportunity to transplant an organ was lost due to late turndown.

Potential data element: Cold Ischemic Time

- Instead of capturing cold ischemic time, the Workgroup discussed capturing transport time coupled with warm perfusion time start/stop and cross clamp time.
- A member stated that what happens once an organ arrives at a transplant program does not relate to allocation changes, it is a program logistics aspect. Another member agreed and added that total cold ischemic time is an artificial number because it includes time an organ would wait once arrived at a transplant program, which is not reflective of broader distribution. The Chair asked if cold ischemic time should be defined differently for different organs.
- The Chair asked if the data element should be renamed to reflect what is intended to be captured. A member stated that programs are interested in total cold ischemic time, so a different element should be established to capture cold ischemic time related to transport.
- The Chair stated that it would not be necessary to capture time from cross clamp/starting perfusion on donation after cardiac death (DCD) donors because the OPO's ability to package and send the organ is not related to broader sharing. The Chair suggested collecting departure and arrival time. A member stated that staff at transplant programs would be able to access arrival time information in order to input it into the Transplant Recipient Registration (TRR) form. The member added that collecting this data would not be overly burdensome compared to how valuable the information would be to collect. Additionally, members agreed it would not be burdensome for OPOs to collect departure time.

Next Steps:

The Workgroup will continue to review and discuss data elements to identify gaps and recommend changes. The progress will be presented to the OPTN Operations & Safety Committee during their virtual meeting in April, as well as other stakeholder committees. A data collection proposal will be developed and is expected to go out for Summer 2021 Public Comment.

**Upcoming Meeting**

- April 20, 2021 (teleconference)

## Attendance

- **Workgroup Members**
  - Anna Mello
  - Asif Sharfuddin
  - Daniel Stanton
  - Dominic Adorno
  - James Trotter
  - Jillian Wojtowicz
  - Kim Koontz
  - Rachel White
  - Staci Carter
  - Stacy McKean
  - Susan Stockemer
- **HRSA Representatives**
  - Raelene Skerda
  - Vanessa Arriola
- **UNOS Staff**
  - Joann White
  - Katrina Gauntt
  - Kristine Althaus
  - Lauren Motley
  - Meghan McDermott
  - Sarah Taranto