

**OPTN Liver and Intestinal Organ Transplantation Committee  
National Liver Review Board (NLRB) Subcommittee  
Meeting Summary  
October 26, 2021  
Conference Call**

**James Trotter, MD, Chair**

## **Introduction**

The NLRB Subcommittee (the Subcommittee) met via Citrix GoToMeeting teleconference on 10/26/2021 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Guidance for HCC Candidates Treated and Recur
2. Polycystic Liver Disease

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

### **1. Guidance for HCC Candidates Treated and Recur**

The Subcommittee finalized proposed changes to guidance for candidates with hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) that was treated and recurs.

#### Summary of discussion:

The Subcommittee discussed how the new HCC language would apply in various scenarios.

The Subcommittee discussed a scenario in which the patient has cirrhosis and presents with a resectable HCC, underwent complete resection 4 months ago, but then recurred with HCC after 4 months. Under application of the new language, this patient would have to wait 6 months from the date of submission of the approved exception because the recurrence occurred less than 6 months after resection. The Subcommittee agreed that the patient in this scenario should wait 6 months.

In another scenario a candidate presented with a T2 lesion that was completely resected 61 months ago. At that time the candidate was not listed for transplant, but after 61 months, the HCC recurs and the program lists the candidate and requests an HCC exception for the first time. Under application of the new language, this patient would have to wait 6 months from the date of submission of the approved exception because the recurrence occurred more than 60 months after resection. The Subcommittee agreed that the candidate in this scenario should wait 6 months.

The Subcommittee agreed that the proposed language is accurate, but suggested clarifying that the start of the 6 month waiting period begins on the date of submission of the approved exception.

#### Next steps:

The Subcommittee will recommend these changes to the OPTN Liver and Intestinal Organ Transplantation committee (the Committee).

### **2. Polycystic Liver Disease**

The Subcommittee discussed guidance for polycystic liver disease (PLD).

#### Summary of discussion:

The Subcommittee recommended that “moderate to severe protein calorie malnutrition” be documented by a registered dietitian using one of three established nutrition assessments. The subcommittee also discussed adding a new criterion for candidates with sarcopenia. Before making other recommendations the Subcommittee requested to view a 2020 data request on PLD mortality.

Next steps:

The Subcommittee will review the PLD mortality data during the next Committee meeting.

**Upcoming Meeting**

- December 9, 2021

## Attendance

- **Subcommittee Members**
  - Allison Kwong
  - James Eason
  - James Markmann
  - Kym Watt
  - Greg McKenna
  - James Pomposelli
  - James Trotter
  - Scott Biggins
- **HRSA Representatives**
  - Jim Bowman
- **SRTR Staff**
  - Katie Audette
- **UNOS Staff**
  - Hannah Brown
  - Jennifer Musick
  - Julia Foutz
  - Kelley Poff
  - Matt Cafarella
  - Megan Oley
  - Scott Pierce