

OPTN Organ Procurement Organization Committee

Meeting Summary

June 20, 2024

Conference Call

PJ Geraghty, MBA, CPTC, Chair

Lori Markham, RN, MSN, CPTC, CCRN, Vice Chair

Introduction

The OPTN Organ Procurement Organization Committee (“Committee,”) met via WebEx teleconference on 06/20/2024 to discuss the following agenda items:

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

1. Board of Directors Meeting
2. Machine Perfusion Data Collection
3. DCD Policy Review

1. Board of Directors Meeting

The Committee did not make any decisions.

Summary of Presentation:

The OPTN Organ Procurement Organization Committee reviewed the highlights of the Board of Directors meeting. The approved proposals and a vote on a new strategic plan were discussed. The Pronouncement of Death Proposal was approved by the Board of Directors on Monday and will go into effect on July 25, 2024. The proposal aims to standardize the Patient Safety Contact and reduce duplicative reports. It has a two-phased implementation. It requires OPOS and transplant programs to identify secondary patient safety contact by July 25, 2024 and removes the proposed requirement for the patient safety contact to be an employee at the OPO or transplant program.

Summary of Discussion:

The Committee did not have a formal discussion.

Next steps:

None

2. Machine Perfusion Data Collection

The Committee did not make any decisions.

Presentation Summary:

The OPTN Organ Procurement Organization Committee reviewed the feedback areas provided by organ-specific OPTN committees. These feedback areas focused on time spent on the pump, personnel responsible for conducting the recovery, A-NRP vs TA-NRP, NRP vs EVLP, hypothermic vs normothermic preservation, and detailed data collection, including specific clinical lab values and trade names of

equipment or solutions used. There was a suggestion for a proposed phased approach: Phase 1: Implement an initial list of data to be collected 2. Phase 2: Add more detailed data collection later. This feedback advises on the intricate nature of organ preservation and recovery processes, emphasizing the importance of comprehensive data collection to enhance outcomes and research. The phased approach offers a practical way to gradually implement these changes without overwhelming the system at the outset

Summary of Discussion:

A member agreed that a phased approach makes sense. Other members emphasized the importance of programming processes, indicating that the initial list of data is just the beginning and more granular data will follow. The Chair supports this idea, emphasizing the need for IT to understand that the initial phase is just a starting point and that more data will be sought in the future. A discussion was had on the possibility of initially obtaining some terminal values and later acquiring multiple serial versions of those values. Members stressed the importance of building the system in a way that allows for these future developments.

Next Steps:

The OPTN Organ Procurement Organization Committee needs to appoint a Chair for the Machine Perfusion Data Workgroup. The Committee needs to finalize the initial list of data elements by July 2024, have the initial check-in with the OPTN Data Advisory Committee in August, and bring the project to the OPTN Policy Oversight Committee in September.

3. DCD Policy Review

The Committee did not make any decisions.

Presentation Summary:

Policy 2.15: Requirements for Controlled Donation after Circulatory Death (DCD) Protocols has been in effect since March 1, 2014. Current Policy states that “prior to the OPO initiating any discussion with the legal next-of-kin about organ donation for a potential DCD donor, the OPO must confirm that the legal next-of-kin has elected to withdraw life-sustaining medical treatment.”

Summary of Discussion:

A UNOS staff member suggested a comprehensive review of DCD policies. This review should cover the timing of family discussions and consider the influence of new technologies such as Normothermic Regional Perfusion (NRP) on existing policies. The impact of NRP and other machine devices on current policies should be examined. It's important to investigate whether NRP allows for more uncontrolled DCD recoveries and if this issue needs to be addressed. There is also a need to review definitions and policies. Additionally, the way Organ Procurement Organizations (OPOs) handle cases where families request organs to be recovered using DCD protocols, even when brain death criteria are met, should be considered. The current policy addresses what happens when a DCD donor converts to brain death, but it does not cover the reverse scenario. The UNOS staff member is asking if the Committee should focus solely on the timing of family discussions or review the policies. A member of the Committee suggests that the entire policy is outdated compared to current practices. Another member agrees, stating that many aspects are intertwined, making a full review appropriate. In conclusion, there seems to be consensus that a comprehensive review of DCD policies is necessary, rather than focusing on individual aspects.

Next Steps:

None

Upcoming Meeting

- July 11, 2024

Attendance

- **Committee Members**
 - Theresa Daly
 - Judy Storfjell
 - Dan DiSante
 - Stephen Gray
 - Sharyn Sawczak
 - PJ Geraghty
 - Jim Sharrock
 - Greg Veenendaal
 - Lori Markham
- **HRSA Representatives**
 - Adriana Alvarez
 - Arjun Naik
 - Jim Bowman
 - Marilyn Levi
 - Mesmin Germain
- **SRTR Staff**
 - Jon Miller
 - Katie Audette
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Robert Hunter
 - Kaitlin Swanner
 - Jamie Panko
 - Houlder Hudgins
 - Alina Martinez
 - Kevin Daub
- **Other Attendees**
 - Kerri Jones (incoming Committee member)
 - Shane Oakley (incoming Committee member)
 - Jasleen Kukreja (incoming Committee member)