

**OPTN Operations & Safety Committee  
Meeting Summary  
November 18, 2021  
Conference Call**

**Chris Curran, CPTC, CTBS, CTOP, Chair  
Alden Doyle, MD, MPH, Vice Chair**

## **Introduction**

The Operations & Safety Committee (the Committee) met via Citrix GoTo Meeting teleconference 11/18/2021 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Update: Vice Chair Nomination Process
2. Public Comment Update
3. Project Updates: Mandatory Usage of Offer Filters & Redefine Provisional Yes
4. New Project Ideas

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

### **1. Update: Vice Chair Nomination Process**

The Committee was provided an update on the Vice Chair nomination process.

#### Summary of discussion:

Five candidates applied for the Vice Chair position. Committee leadership has agreed to interview all five applicants.

There were no questions or comments.

#### Next steps:

Committee leadership will begin interviewing Vice Chair candidates.

### **2. Public Comment Update**

The Committee received an update regarding the *Data Collection to Evaluate Organ Logistics and Allocation* proposal.

#### Summary of discussion:

Organ check-in will be a data field in both TransNet<sup>SM</sup> and the Transplant Recipient Registration (TRR) form. If organ check-in is entered in TransNet<sup>SM</sup>, the field will cascade into the TRR as a read-only field. If the transplant program does not use TransNet<sup>SM</sup>, organ check-in can be documented on the TRR form. Organ check-in data will not need to be entered twice.

There was no opposition to the logistical change of how to collect organ check-in.

The Committee agreed that if an organ is procured in the same building as where the transplant occurs, the organ check-in data field would capture the time of organ arrival in the recipient operating room.

The Chair emphasized that education will be necessary during the implementation phase of this project. HRSA staff agreed and stated that education should emphasize that this data collection is a step forward for patient safety.

Next steps:

The OPTN Board of Directors will vote on this proposal during its December 6, 2021 meeting.

**3. Project Updates: Mandatory Usage of Offer Filters & Redefine Provisional Yes**

The Committee received an update on their ongoing projects.

Summary of discussion:

*Redefine Provisional Yes*

A Request for Feedback will be submitted for Winter 2022 Public Comment. The Match Run Rules Workgroup will continue to develop the specifics for a tiered system for provisional organ acceptances as well as the associated responsibilities within each tier. The Match Run Rules Workgroup will incorporate feedback received during Public Comment.

*Mandatory Usage of Offer Filters*

The Mandatory Usage of Offer Filters Workgroup has begun initial conversations and reviewed the Offer Filters Pilot Project and data from the pilot phase. The Mandatory Usage of Offer Filters Workgroup has also reviewed the monitoring plan for the nationwide implementation of kidney offer filters. Members also reviewed the Organ Offer Explorer page for their respective transplant programs.

**4. New Project Ideas**

The Committee discussed project ideas.

Summary of discussion:

*ABO Verifications for Directed Donation*

This project idea centers on identifying an operational solution to link directed donor organs from living and deceased donors to waitlist candidates so that ABO verification and other safety checks may be performed. The Chair explained that data regarding this topic had been reviewed prior and the instances of this occurring in deceased donation is very small. The Chair suggested recommending this project idea to Customer Advocacy as an enhancement.

A member stated that there are other ways to perform an ABO verification for living donation but it would be helpful to standardize the documentation given the volume of living donation in the United States. The Chair suggested continuing this discussion to better understand living donation and ABO verification.

*Post-Transplant Reporting*

This project idea was piloted in July 2020 and implementation is targeted for 2023. The project addresses post donor recovery results and the ability to report these results to transplant programs consistently and efficiently. The Chair suggested that the Committee take this as a project in order to ensure that the implementation does not get further delayed. The Chair suggested engaging the OPTN Ad Hoc Disease Transmission Advisory Committee as well. The Chair suggested there may be potential to modify OPTN Policy language to mandate use of an electronic reporting system for post-transplant results. The Committee supported these recommendations.

*Patient Safety Reporting*

The Committee will continue discussing valuable information from patient safety reports.

*Other project ideas*

A member expressed interest in expanding short-term and longer-term data collection on living donors.

**Upcoming Meetings**

- December 16, 2021 (teleconference)
- January 27, 2021 (teleconference)

## Attendance

- **Committee Members**
  - Charles Strom
  - Chris Curran
  - Dominic Adorno
  - Greg Abrahamian
  - Paige Oberle
  - Rich Rothweiler
  - Stephanie Little
  - Steven Johnson
  - Susan Stockemer
- **HRSA Representatives**
  - Jim Bowman
  - Marilyn Levi
  - Raelene Skerda
  - Vanessa Arriola
- **SRTR Staff**
  - Katie Audette
- **UNOS Staff**
  - Emily Womble
  - Joann White
  - Kristine Althaus
  - Leah Slife
  - Matt Prentice
  - Meghan McDermott
  - Randall Fenderson