

OPTN Lung Transplantation Committee

Meeting Summary

May 23, 2024

Conference Call

Marie Budev, DO, MPH, Chair

Matthew Hartwig, MD, Vice Chair

Introduction

The Lung Transplantation Committee (Committee) met via Webex teleconference on 05/23/2024 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Review Lung Donor Testing project & vote on policy and guidance language
2. Open Forum

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

1. Review Lung Donor Testing project & vote on policy and guidance language

In December 2023, the Promote Efficiency of Lung Allocation Workgroup (Workgroup) re-convened to improve the efficiency of lung donor testing. On March 21, 2024, the Committee reviewed the Workgroup's recommendations for updating [OPTN Policy 2.11.D: Required Information for Deceased Lung Donors](#) and [Guidance](#) on Requested Deceased Donor Information.

Updates to policy language and guidance will be proposed and submitted for community feedback during the Summer 2024 public comment period.

Summary of discussion:

The Committee added to guidance that chest x-ray images are strongly preferred.

The Committee added bacterial culture to guidance.

The Committee recommended that the Lung Donor Testing project be submitted for community feedback during the Summer 2024 public comment period.

There was support for defining lung recruitment maneuver as "any temporary increase in airway pressure during mechanical ventilation used in an attempt to open areas of collapsed alveoli or atelectasis". Members decided to use the phrase "collapsed alveoli or atelectasis" instead of "collapsed lungs" to be more accurate. Members from lung transplant programs and Organ Procurement Organizations (OPOs) agreed that the terms are widely known.

The Committee added to guidance that chest x-ray images are preferred. Previous discussions about the difficulty some OPOs have with obtaining chest x-ray imaging were reiterated. Members acknowledged this difficulty while emphasizing the need for imaging. Without images, malignancies could be missed on the chest x-ray.

The Committee added bacterial culture to the guidance document to complement the policy requirement for sputum gram stain. Members from lung transplant programs commented that since a

sputum gram stain is required, they would expect bacterial culture results to be available several days later.

The Committee reviewed language reflecting their recommended updates to [OPTN Policy 2.11.D: Required Information for Deceased Lung Donors](#) and [Guidance](#) on Requested Deceased Donor Information. The Committee voted to recommend the Lung Donor Testing project for the Summer 2024 public comment period; votes were as follows: 12 support; 0 abstain; 0 oppose.

Next steps:

The OPTN Policy Oversight Committee and Executive Committee will consider the Lung Donor Testing policy and guidance updates for public comment approval.

2. Open Forum

There were no open forum speakers.

Upcoming Meetings

- June 13, 2024, teleconference, 5PM ET

Attendance

- **Workgroup Members**
 - Marie Budev
 - Matthew Hartwig
 - Erika Lease
 - Thomas Kaleekal
 - Jackie Russe
 - Ernestina Melicoff
 - Wayne Tsuang
 - Katja Fort Rhoden
 - Ed Cantu
 - Soma Jyothula
 - Pablo Sanchez
 - Brian Keller
 - Stephen Huddleston
- **HRSA Representatives**
 - James Bowman
- **SRTR Staff**
 - David Schladt
 - Katie Audette
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Kelley Poff
 - Kaitlin Swanner
 - Leah Nunez
 - Chelsea Hawkins
 - Holly Sobczak
 - Sara Rose Wells
 - Samantha Weiss
 - Houlder Hudgins
 - Susan Tlusty