

**OPTN Organ Procurement Organization Committee
Organ Offer Acceptance Limit Workgroup
Meeting Summary
January 12, 2023
Conference Call
David Marshman, Workgroup Chair**

Introduction

The Organ Offer Acceptance Limit Workgroup met via Citrix GoToMeeting teleconference on 01/12/2023 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Welcome
2. Recap of Previous Meeting
3. Data Request Update
4. Policy Options
5. Next Steps

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

1. Welcome

The Workgroup Chair welcomed the group. Staff then proceeds to introduce two new workgroup members representing the Membership and Professional Standards Committee (MPSC). Staff reviewed the project's purpose, which was the overall goal of improving the efficiency of organ placement. This would be accomplished by modifying existing OPTN policy that allows a transplant hospital to have two organ offer acceptances for each organ type for any one candidate.

2. Recap of Previous Meeting

Staff provided an overview of key points discussed by the workgroup of important things to know from the previous meeting. Members from the various committees provided their perspectives. For lung, it focused on receiving offers and then waiting a significant amount of time before the organ recovery is scheduled. From the liver perspective, when there are marginal organs being offered there is a tendency to hold onto multiple offers if no recovery time is set. OPO representatives noted that late turndowns are not common for thoracic organs. It is most common with livers and late turndowns delay everything.

3. Data Request Update

The Workgroup briefly revised the data requested during the initial meeting and subsequently reviewed by the OPO committee. The following metrics will be assessed to measure the impact of concurrent acceptances:

- The number of concurrent organs accepted
- The disposition of organs with concurrent acceptances
- The refusal reasons for organ turndowns in concurrent acceptance events
- The discard reasons for organ discarded with concurrent acceptance.

The data has already been requested and the research department is working on this request. The results should be completed and ready for presentation for our February 16th meeting.

4. Policy Options

Staff provided an overview of several OPTN Policies that might need to be modified or could be used to help inform future decisions by the Workgroup. This included the following policies:

- *Policy 2.14.G: Start Time for Organ Procurement*
- *Policy 5.6.C: Organ Offer Acceptance Limit*
- *Policy 5.6.D: Effect of Acceptance*

Staff also noted Policy *11.7.B: Facilitated Pancreas Offers* since the workgroup had previously discussed establishing a time frame prior to scheduled donor organ recovery for transplant programs to make a decision on multiple organ offers. This policy is not being considered as part of this project but used as an example of another policy that utilizes a timeframe.

Several Workgroup members expressed concern about limiting organ offers for the sicker candidates on the waiting list. Staff noted that part of the data analysis is reviewing the medical emergency status of concurrent acceptors at the time of organ offer.

Member Quality staff noted that some transplant hospitals have policies to wait until an organ “in house” before making a decision to accept or decline. This practice prevents the OPO with a second offer from moving forward with organ placement and recovery. Staff asked if creating a policy to require decision when the organ leaves the donor operating room would be helpful. Workgroup members agreed that this is too late in the process.

5. Next Steps

The Workgroup will review data during the next conference call. Staff also outlined the timeline to get this proposal out for public comment in July of 2023.

Upcoming Meeting

- February 16, 2023, at 3:00 pm EST

Attendance

- **Committee Members**
 - David Marshman
 - Kyle Herber
 - Pablo Sanchez
 - Kevin Koomalsingh
 - Samantha Endicott
 - Errol Bush
 - Larry Suplee
 - Kelsey McCauley
 - Candy Wells
- **HRSA Representatives**
 - Vanessa Arriola
 - Marilyn Levi
 - Jim Bowman
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Austin Chapple
 - Robert Hunter
 - Sally Aungier

- Kevin Daub
- Sharon Shepherd
- Matt Belton
- Katrina Gauntt