

**OPTN Transplant Administrator Committee
Fiscal Impact Advisory Workgroup
Meeting Summary
May 9, 2022
Conference Call**

**Nancy Metzler, Chair
Susan Zylicz, Vice Chair**

Introduction

The Fiscal Impact Advisory Workgroup of the Transplant Administrator Committee met via Citrix GoToMeeting teleconference on 05/09/2022 to discuss the potential fiscal impact of the following public comment proposals on the OPTN histocompatibility laboratories, organ procurement organizations, and transplant programs:

1. Update OPTN Kidney Paired Donation (KPD) Policy (Kidney Committee)
2. Phase 2 Lung Allocation Score (LAS) Refinements and Clean-up (Lung Committee)

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

1. Update to OPTN Kidney Paired Donation (KPD) Policy

The Workgroup reviewed the OPTN Kidney Committee's proposal which is intending to ensure KPD policy is aligned with other policies for living kidney donation, while also improve the efficiency of existing process.

From the perspective of a histocompatibility laboratory (lab), there is no additional fiscal impact from the proposal. Initially, some concerns were raised about new testing requirements being imposed on the labs; however those requirements are not included in the proposal. It appears the proposal has a minor change in typing, but that the change is actually going to be consistent with the rest of the donor typing that is performed. The other consideration was the potential elimination of prospective physical cross match, but it was decided that it would remain in place. From that discussion arose consideration of high-resolution HLA donor genotyping, but it was decided that it was not needed because of the use of physical cross matching, and there was some concern that it may exclude smaller laboratories that are not able to support that level of testing. Some unresolved challenges were identified in the proposal regarding blood type compatibility, namely for non A-1 donors, but from a fiscal perspective there is not an issue associated with it.

A Workgroup member stated that there was no expected fiscal impact from an OPO perspective.

There was no feedback from the perspective of the transplant programs about the proposal.

2. Phase 2 Lung Allocation Score (LAS) Refinements and Clean-up

The Workgroup reviewed the Lung Committee's proposal which is intended to further refine the Lung Allocation Score (LAS). As part of the Lung Committee's continuous distribution project, there was interest in reviewing and potential revising the factors that comprise the LAS.

A Workgroup member associated with a histocompatibility laboratory stated that the one fiscal impact identified so far involves the data reporting requirements. Some feedback has indicated that entering a patient's information can be time consuming; however, most feedback has been supportive of the proposal. A member affiliated with an OPO suggested that the proposed changes might result in a fiscal impact if there are changes in allocation scores as a result of broader distribution. Sometimes transplant programs have to decline an organ close to when the transplant surgery is scheduled to begin because the candidate's condition has worsened between offer acceptance and receipt of the organ. The Lung Committee Vice chair commented that an objective of the new continuous distribution allocation framework is to improve placement efficiency, and to do so in a way that will eliminate or reduce such circumstances like the one described.

Upcoming Meeting(s)

- May 11, 2022

Attendance

- **Fiscal Impact Advisory Workgroup Members**
 - Amber Carriker
 - Michelle James
 - Sharon Klarman
 - Debbi McRann
 - Gerald Morris
 - Andrea Tietjen
- **HRSA Representatives**
 - Vanessa Arriola
 - Arjun Naik
 - Raelene Skerda
- **SRTR Staff**
 - None
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Kristina Hogan
 - Lindsay Larking
 - Eric Messick
 - Elizabeth Miller
- **Other Attendees**
 - Marie Budev, OPTN Lung Committee
 - Marian Charlton, OPTN Kidney Committee and Kidney Paired Donation Workgroup
 - Peter Kennealey, OPTN Kidney Committee and Kidney Paired Donation Workgroup