

**OPTN Liver and Intestinal Organ Transplantation Committee
OPTN National Liver Review Board (NLRB) Subcommittee
Meeting Summary
October 14, 2021
Conference Call**

James Trotter, MD, Chair

Introduction

The OPTN NLRB Subcommittee met via Citrix GoToMeeting teleconference on 10/14/2021 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Aligning OPTN HCC Classifications and LI-RADS Classifications
2. Guidance for HCC Candidates Treated and Recur
3. Guidance for Ischemic Cholangiopathy
4. Polycystic Liver Disease
5. Post- Transplant Complications Guidance

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

1. Aligning OPTN HCC Classifications and LI-RADS Classifications

The Subcommittee finalized proposed changes to OPTN Policy to align with Liver Imaging Reporting and Data System (LI-RADS) classifications.

Summary of discussion:

The Subcommittee reviewed and approved the proposed terminology changes.

Next steps:

This language will be reviewed for approval by the OPTN Liver and Intestinal Organ Transplantation Committee (the Committee).

2. Guidance for HCC Candidates Treated and Recur

The Subcommittee finalized proposed changes to guidance for candidates with Hepatocellular Carcinoma (HCC) that was treated and recurred.

Summary of discussion:

The Subcommittee reviewed the proposed changes to HCC guidance and agreed that the language incorporated all modifications from the NLRB Subcommittee and the Committee.

Next steps:

This language will be reviewed for approval by the Committee.

3. Guidance for Ischemic Cholangiopathy

The Subcommittee finalized proposed changes to guidance for Ischemic Cholangiopathy (IC).

Summary of discussion:

The Subcommittee reviewed the change to IC guidance. A member asked if this guidance would be applicable regardless of Hepatic Artery Thrombosis (HAT) status. Another member clarified that the purpose of this modification to IC guidance is to remove some disincentive from using DCD organs and provide a safety net for candidates who accept a DCD donor and do not do well about 6 months after transplant. A member noted that the guidance for Late Vascular Complications does clarify that a Model for End-Stage Liver Disease (MELD) exception will not be granted for patients with HAT, but that those patients with atypical severe complications may be considered for a MELD exception on an individual basis. The Subcommittee determined that language in the Late Vascular Complications guidance which specifies that complications that warrant a MELD exception are similar to those criteria noted for DCD Cholangiopathy should be made bold for further clarification.

Next steps:

This language will be reviewed for approval by the Committee.

4. Polycystic Liver Disease Guidance

The Subcommittee reviewed guidance for polycystic liver disease (PLD).

Summary of discussion:

A Subcommittee member suggested including definitions for terms within this guidance such as “Spared Remnant Volume”. This member also recommended that the Subcommittee consider how to best objectively define “Moderate to severe protein calorie malnutrition”. Members discussed upper arm circumference, hand grip strength, walking speed, and requirement for surgical nutritional support as metrics for how moderate to severe protein calorie malnutrition could be measured. The Subcommittee also agreed that “severe portal hypertensive complications” should be added next to hepatic decompensation.

Next steps:

This language will be modified and reviewed for approval by the Committee.

5. Post-Transplant Complications Guidance

The Subcommittee will review guidance for post-transplant complications.

Summary of discussion:

The Subcommittee determined that the Post- Transplant Complication guidance should not be altered at this time and that issues related to small size and size matching can be addressed in Continuous Distribution.

Next steps:

The Subcommittee will inform the Committee of their review of this guidance with no recommendations for modification.

Upcoming Meetings

- October 26 @ 12:00 PM ET

Attendance

- **Subcommittee Members**
 - Allison Kwong
 - Alan Gunderson
 - Jennifer Kerney
 - Jorge Reyes
 - James Trotter
 - Kym Watt
 - James Pomposelli
 - Sophoclis Alexopoulos
- **HRSA Representatives**
 - Jim Bowman
 - Raelene Skerda
- **SRTR Staff**
 - John Lake
 - Katei Audette
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Matt Cafarella
 - Jennifer Musick
 - Julia Foutz
 - Kelley Poff
 - Leah Slife
 - Matt Prentice
 - Megan Oley
 - Niyati Upadhyay
 - Scott Pierce