

OPTN Operations & Safety Committee
Mandatory Usage of Offer Filters Workgroup
Meeting Summary
October 25, 2021
Conference Call

Charles Strom, MD, Co-Chair
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Introduction

The Mandatory Usage of Offer Filters Workgroup (the Workgroup) met via Citrix GoTo Meeting teleconference on 10/21/2021 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Project Overview and Goals
2. Overview and Discussion: Kidney Offer Filters

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

1. Project Overview and Goals

The Workgroup was provided an overview of the Mandatory Usage of Offer Filters project, and its goals.

Summary of discussion:

The goal of the Mandatory Usage of Offer Filters project is to mandate the usage of offer filters based on identified criteria in policy. The Workgroup will initially address kidney offer filters and determine the necessary criteria. The Workgroup will review data and monitor the nation wide roll out of Kidney Offer Filter project to identify gaps or needs.

2. Overview and Discussion: Kidney Offer Filters

The Workgroup was provided an overview of the Kidney Offer Filters project, reviewed data from the Kidney Offer Filter pilot, and reviewed the Offer Filters Explorer page.

Data summary:

The Preliminary Phase II results of the Offer Filters Pilot Project, which started August 27, 2020 and ended December 2, 2020, are as follows:

- 34 kidney programs participated
- 150 total filters were created
- 91 total filters were turned on
- 26 total programs who turned on at least one filter
- Notification attempts
 - 346,038 offers
 - 2,734 donors
- Bypasses offers
 - 206,933 (60%) offers
 - 793 (29%) donors
- Transplant volumes for participating kidney programs were consistent pre-pilot and during

Summary of discussion:

The goal of the Offer Filters project is to increase the number of transplants by getting to organ offer acceptance faster. The Offer Filters project aims to reduce the number of unwanted organ offers that organ procurement organizations (OPOs) need to make, and that transplant programs need to respond to, as well as decrease cold time and increase organ acceptance, particularly for the hard to place organs. The Offer Filters project allows transplant programs to create multi-factorial offer filters to filter off their organ offers more precisely. The parameters used for modeling for recommended offer filters includes:

- Kidney offers from the past 2 years
- Only donors that were eventually accepted
- Only offers up to and including the final offer acceptance
- Must filter at least 20 donors
- Must have zero acceptances
- No candidate parameters included

A member asked if there is data from the Kidney Offers Pilot regarding allocation time. Staff responded that there was a small improvement, but no strong trends. The member also suggested reviewing data on the number of organ offers considered prior to acceptance.

The member stated that reviewing data on the time from initiation of offers to acceptance would be helpful. The member stated that for kidneys, data related to cold time might be less helpful given that sometimes a kidney is accepted and then electively not transplanted until the next day. Another member added that the data may be skewed due to transplant programs needing to wait for biopsy results of other operating room procedures, especially for marginal kidneys. The member responded that that is an important consideration but it would be better data to review than data on cold times.

Another member asked if the Offer Filters project could be used for OPOs to review the criteria transplant programs are filtering off for on marginal offers before running a match run in order to expedite the organ offer and acceptance process. UNOS staff responded that this could be considered as an enhancement but would need to be discussed further.

The Workgroup received a demo of the Offer Filters Explorer page. UNOS staff clarified this includes single kidney offers, dual kidney offers, and en bloc kidney offers. A member asked whether the offer filters can be individualized on the transplant candidate level. UNOS staff responded that the system is not currently built to individualize the offer filters for transplant candidates. UNOS staff explained that transplant candidates can be excluded at a center level based on cPRA, whether or not there is a zero range of mismatch, candidate blood type, candidate match score, and candidate age.

Next steps:

The Workgroup will review their Offer Filters Explorer page for their respective transplant programs. The Workgroup will continue discussion on mandating offer filters for kidneys.

Upcoming Meetings

- November 15, 2021 (teleconference)

Attendance

- **Workgroup Members**
 - Alden Doyle
 - Amy Evenson
 - Caroline Jadlowiec
 - Charles Strom
 - Christopher Jones
 - Jill Campbell
 - Jim Kim
 - Kimberly Koontz
 - Melissa Walker
 - Reg Gohh
 - Sanjeev Akkina
 - Samantha Endicott
 - Stacy Sexton
 - Valeria Chipman
- **HRSA Representatives**
 - Raelene Skerda
- **SRTR Staff**
 - Katie Audette
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Alice Toll
 - Bonnie Felice
 - Carlos Martinez
 - Darren Stewart
 - Joann White
 - Kerrie Masten
 - Kristine Althaus
 - Leah Slife
 - Melissa Lane
 - Rob McTier
 - Sharon Shepherd
 - Tameka Bland