

**OPTN Histocompatibility Committee
Meeting Summary
May 20, 2025
Webex Meeting**

**Gerald Morris, MD, Chair
Kelley Hitchman, PhD, MS, Vice Chair**

Introduction

The Histocompatibility Committee (“Committee”) met via WebEx teleconference on 05/20/2025 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. ABO Project Planning

The following is a summary of the Committee’s discussions.

1. ABO Project Planning

No decisions were made.

Summary of Presentation:

The Committee was joined by external subject matter experts for their molecular ABO testing project planning.

Summary of Discussion:

Members discussed the potential for creating a definition for mass transfused patients. The Chair suggested that the best option may be “all patients transfused within a certain period of time.” Further, he suggested that molecular testing policies be applicable to all transfused patients without pre-transfusion confirmation typing. A member stated that 90-days is an acceptable timeline to gauge transfusions affecting blood typing. External members stated that genotyping is important to donor typing if pre-transfusion samples are not available. Another external member noted that ABO molecular typing can be done from buccal swabs, and that it’s important to move away from not having confirmatory typing and assigning these to AB blood type. The Chair emphasized that assignment to AB blood type can still be used for indeterminate typings.

A member mentioned that flexibility for labs should be built into policy, and that there should be an emphasis on guidance to build best practices. An external member said that guidance should include arbitration for indeterminate results.

The Chair stated support for molecular typing for A-subtypes. He also stated that policy should include language with acceptable testing types, as allowable testing should be more clearly defined. The Chair outlined in a member conversation that the policy proposal will include defining transfused donors, policy for allocating and typing transfused donors, and policy for subtyping. Conversations around guidance will continue in upcoming meetings.

Upcoming Meeting

- June 10, 2025

Attendance

- **Committee Members**
 - Michael Gautreaux
 - John Lunz
 - Ryan Pena
 - Darryl Nethercot
 - Bobbie Rhodes-Clark
 - Crystal Usenko
 - Qingyong Xu
 - Dave Pinelli
 - Jerry Morris
 - Kelley Hitchman
 - Andres Jaramillo
 - Jerome Saltarelli
- **Other Attendees**
 - Bill Lane
 - Cathi Murphey
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Jamie Panko
 - Betsy Gans
 - Laura Schmitt
 - Amelia Deveraux
 - Matt Cafarella
 - Thomas Dolan