

**OPTN Operations & Safety Committee
Match Run Rules Workgroup
Meeting Summary
December 16, 2021
Conference Call**

Alden Doyle, MD, MPH, Chair

Introduction

The Match Run Rules Workgroup (the Workgroup) met via Citrix GoToMeeting teleconference on 12/16/2021 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Project Overview and Goals
2. Update: Redefining Provisional Yes and the Approach to Organ Offers Request for Feedback
3. Review and Discussion: Provisional Yes by Center and Centers Needed Analyses Data Report

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

1. Project Overview and Goals

The Workgroup reviewed the purpose of the Match Run Rules project.

Summary of discussion:

The Workgroup will work to improve processes to increase the efficiency of organ offer, review, and acceptance system and reduce overall organ allocation time. The Workgroup will review and propose modifications to current OPTN policies.

2. Update: Redefining Provisional Yes and the Approach to Organ Offers Request for Feedback

The Workgroup discussed next steps to the project. A Request for Feedback will not be submitted for Winter 2022 Public Comment.

Summary of discussion:

The Workgroup will solicit feedback from OPTN Committees. A member suggested feedback from organ-specific committees would be beneficial. In addition, feedback will be sought from the Organ Procurement Organization (OPO), Patient Affairs, Transplant Administrators, and Transplant Coordinators Committees. A member emphasized that transplant coordinators will provide key feedback needed for the Workgroup's project development.

A member suggested that an open forum or roundtable discussion would be beneficial to receive broader feedback. The Chair suggested that Workgroup members should be encouraged to talk with transplant community members in their region as well.

The Workgroup discussed whether feedback from outside stakeholders is needed. A member stated that feedback from outside stakeholders may not be beneficial. The member explained that the Workgroup needs to focus on how to operationalize the project ideas and ensure that OPOs and surgeons are able to provide feedback on how pragmatically workable it is. The member added that the Workgroup will also need to consider whether it is compliant with current OPTN policy. The member

stated that after the Workgroup has accomplished those steps, then feedback from organ specific committees and other stakeholders would be beneficial.

Another member stated that seeking feedback from contractor organizations that take organ offer calls on behalf of transplant programs may be beneficial. A member disagreed and stated that the feedback may not be beneficial given that contractor organizations work on behalf of the transplant programs

Next steps:

The Workgroup will speak with their local transplant coordinators and surgeons to seek feedback prior to the next Workgroup call. The Workgroup will continue detailing the project.

3. Review and Discussion: Provisional Yes by Center and Centers Needed Analyses Data Report

The Workgroup reviewed data analyses on provisional yes. The data analyses use five years of data for kidney offers, post-kidney allocation system (KAS) implementation.

Data summary:

The first data request sought to determine the number of donors for which the program entered a provisional yes response for at least one candidate; of the donors identified, determine the number of these donors for which a program accepted an organ.

The data showed that provisional yes acceptance rates for transplant programs were distributed around 20%. There was no clear trend to indicate that smaller-volume programs have different acceptance rates than larger-volume centers.

The second data request compared the number of centers/candidates it took to place an organ versus the number of centers/candidates that were offered the organ, for a given donor.

The data showed that the number of centers needed to complete a match run varied by OPO and organ type with kidney match runs on average requiring more centers needed compared to liver or lung. The variability between OPOs was large and there was a strong impact of outliers observed when looking at the distribution (25th to 75th percentiles) of centers needed.

When contrasting easy-to-place versus hard-to-place match runs, the data showed the largest variability in kidney and liver match runs. Easy-to-place livers had a higher difference indicating more centers were notified than was needed relative to hard-to-place liver match runs. Kidney match runs exhibited the inverse relationship where easy-to-place match runs had a lower average difference suggesting there were fewer additional centers notified. There was little variability for lung match runs.

Summary of discussion:

The Chair requested the rate of provisional yes to decline, specifically comparing those occurring during the day time and night time. The Chair explained that this data will lend to analyzing whether organ acceptance practices are influenced on the time of day.

Next Steps:

The Workgroup will consider additional data requests related to this project.

Upcoming Meeting

- January 20, 2022 (teleconference)
- February 17, 2022 (teleconference)

Attendance

- **Workgroup Members**
 - Alden Doyle
 - Audrey Kleet
 - Charles Strom
 - Chris Curran
 - Chris Yanakos
 - Jill Campbell
 - John Stallbaum
 - Kimberly Koontz
- **HRSA Representatives**
 - Arjun Naik
 - Jim Bowman
 - Marilyn Levi
 - Raelene Skerda
- **SRTR Representatives**
 - Katie Audette
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Bonnie Felice
 - Carlos Martinez
 - Joann White
 - Kerrie Masten
 - Kristine Althaus
 - Leah Slife
 - Meghan McDermott
 - Melissa Lane