

**OPTN Lung Transplantation Committee
Promote Efficiency of Lung Allocation Workgroup
Meeting Summary
May 14, 2024
Conference Call**

**Marie Budev, DO, MPH, Chair
Matthew Hartwig, MD, Vice Chair**

Introduction

The Promote Efficiency of Lung Allocation Workgroup (Workgroup) met via Webex teleconference on 05/14/2024 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. System requirements discussion

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

1. System requirements discussion

On April 23, 2024, the Workgroup discussed OPTN Computer System enforcement of proposed policy requirements for the promote efficiency of lung donor testing project. The Workgroup defined "initial offer" as when the Organ Procurement Organization (OPO) sends electronic notification to the first program on the match run. The Workgroup defined "during allocation" as the time between the initial offer being sent until the time of organ offer acceptance.

Regarding lung donor testing, the Workgroup previously recommended:

- Chest x-rays updated every 12-24 hours during allocation
- Requiring in policy a chest computed tomography (CT) scan within 72 hours of the initial offer, if performed
- Requiring in policy an echocardiogram unless a right heart catheterization was performed

Summary of discussion:

The Workgroup recommended that an updated chest x-ray every 12 hours during allocation be added as a policy requirement. The Workgroup also recommended that the system provides a warning rather than prevent offers if the chest x-ray is more than 12 hours old, so that allocation efficiency is not impacted.

The Workgroup recommended adding chest CT scan to policy with and "if performed" but placing the recommendation for the chest CT scan to be performed within 72 hours of the initial offer in guidance.

The Workgroup recommended that an updated chest x-ray every 12 hours during allocation be added as a policy requirement. Members from lung transplant programs emphasized the need for updated chest x-rays at least every 12-24 hours. For the purposes of technical implementation, the Workgroup discussed whether to require updated chest x-rays every 12 or 24 hours. Every 12 hours would ensure that as the OPO progresses through the match run, transplant programs have the information needed to efficiently accept or decline the organ upon offer. Some members from OPOs supported every 12 hours;

they commented that this should be attainable for most OPOs. One member from an OPO suggested the timeframe be every 24 hours; members reported qualified personnel may not be available to interpret chest x-ray images overnight. The Workgroup also recommended that the system provides a warning rather than prevent offers if the chest x-ray is more than 12 hours old, so that allocation efficiency is not impacted.

The Workgroup recommended adding chest CT scan to policy with an “if performed” but placing the recommendation for the chest CT scan to be performed within 72 hours of the initial offer in guidance. Transplant programs need this information if it is available, but members agreed they would not want OPOs to be prevented from sending offers if chest CT within 72 hours of the initial offer is not available. There was a suggestion to require OPOs to document the reason a chest CT scan could not be performed.

Finally, to guide technical implementation of their previous recommendation to require an echocardiogram unless a right heart catheterization (RHC) was performed, the Workgroup discussed where OPOs are currently entering RHC data in the OPTN Computer System.

Next steps:

On May 21, 2024, the Workgroup will review language reflecting their recommended updates to [OPTN Policy 2.11.D: Required Information for Deceased Lung Donors](#) and [Guidance](#) on Requested Deceased Donor Information.

Upcoming Meetings

- May 21, 2024, teleconference, 5PM ET

Attendance

- **Workgroup Members**
 - Dennis Lyu
 - Thomas Kaleekal
 - Jackie Russe
 - Erin Halpin
 - PJ Geraghty
 - Julia Klesney-Tait
 - Mike Morrow
 - Greg Veenendaal
 - Lara Schaheen
- **HRSA Representatives**
 - Marilyn Levi
 - James Bowman
- **SRTR Staff**
 - David Schladt
 - Katie Audette
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Kelley Poff
 - Kaitlin Swanner
 - Leah Nunez
 - Sara Rose Wells
 - Chelsea Weibel
 - Holly Sobczak
 - Samantha Weiss
 - Houlder Hudgins