



ASTS Responses to OPTN Proposals Open for Public Comment

September 28, 2022

Enhancement to OPTN Donor Data and Matching System Clinical Collection

The American Society of Transplant Surgeons is pleased to comment on the proposed policy and strongly supports the proposed enhancements to the OPTN Donor Data and Matching System Clinical Collection.

1. Are there additional data fields that could improve offer evaluation for DCD donors?

Yes. Fields for Use of Normothermic Regional Perfusion (NRP) and Ex-vivo machine perfusion including specific information on temperature or system used would be helpful and should be prominently displayed.

2. Should a validator question, such as “controlled DCD?” be included, to reduce administrative burden and streamline data reporting?

Yes, as currently there are very few Uncontrolled DCD offers being made. Additional questions such as if Normothermic Regional Perfusion (NRP) was used would also be helpful to transplant centers.

3. Will the proposed data collection be burdensome for OPOs to report? How can implementation be eased for OPO members?

This proposal would require programming changes in the OPTN Computer System, specifically, the OPTN Donor Data and Matching System. OPTN Donor Data and Matching System alignment will include updating the mobile Donor Data and Matching System application to display the new fields. This will require a small amount of additional data entry for OPO staff. This will have some costs but will also allow for better communication between OPOs and Transplant Centers and possibly facilitate more DCD transplants if the data is easily accessible by the transplant centers. The cost and burden to OPTN and OPOs are likely to be outweighed by the benefits to transplant centers in terms of efficiency.

4. Should a new, separate page be created within the donor summary in the OPTN Donor Data and Matching System to report DCD progression information, including vitals such as heart rate, blood pressure, and oxygen saturation?

Due to variations in data collected at each OPO it may be difficult to accomplish creating a new and separate page in DonorNet. Uploading of the individual DCD worksheet in the attachments is likely to be more efficient and expedient to the evaluating transplant center.

ASTS Position: Strongly Support