Advances in Thoracic Organ Transplantation

Maryl R. Johnson, M.D. Professor of Medicine University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health Heart Failure and Transplantation University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics Madison, WI





Update on the Removal of DSA from Lung Allocation (2 years pre vs post broader distribution, effective 11/24/17)

- Match LAS at transplant increased (45.9 to 47.9)
- Median distance between donor hospital and transplant program increased (109 to 166 NM)
- Overall no change in wait list mortality, slight decrease for some high LAS groups
- Minimal change in donor utilization, especially considering increased use of DCD donors and machine perfusion
- Wait list additions and lung alone transplants increased
- No significant change in 6 month unadjusted post TX survival

Geography





Ad Hoc Committee on Geography (2017) Charge

- Establish defined guiding principles for the use of geographic constraints in organ allocation
- Review and recommend frameworks/models for incorporating geographic principles into allocation policies
- Identify uniform concepts for organ specific allocation policies in light of the requirements of the OPTN Final Rule



Distribution Frameworks Considered

- Geography committee identified three distribution frameworks consistent with the Principles and the OPTN Final Rule
- Distribution Frameworks
 - 1. Fixed Distance from the Donor Hospital
 - 2. Mathematical Optimization
 - 3. Continuous Distribution

Geography – continuous distribution







Continuous Distribution of Lungs Development



Update on the Revised Heart Allocation System





2018 Adult Heart Allocation Modifications

- Major changes:
 - New medical urgency status classifications and qualifying criteria
 - Broader distribution for critically ill candidates
 - Exception requests reviewed by other region's board rather than own region's board
- Primary goals:
 - Better stratify candidates according to waiting list mortality
 - Improve access to donor hearts for critically ill candidates
 - Reduce burden of exception requests

In This Presentation

- October 18, 2018 October 17, 2019 (one year, "postimplementation")
 - Comparison period: October 18, 2017 October 17, 2018 ("pre-implementation")
 - Does NOT include data relating to the removal of DSA from allocation (happened January 9, 2020)

Waiting List Additions by Status and Era



Waiting List Mortality



Transplants by Status and Era



Devices at Transplant by Era

Device	Era	Count	Percent
ECMO	Pre	30	1.79%
ECMO	Post	159	7.42%
IABP	Pre	221	13.22%
IABP	Post	822	38.34%
LVAD	Pre	1328	79.43%
LVAD	Post	1002	46.74%
RVAD, LVAD+RVAD, TAH	Pre	93	5.57%
RVAD, LVAD+RVAD, TAH	Post	161	7.51%

For complete device data, see full report

Median Days to Transplant

Era	Status	Days Waiting
Pre	Status 1A	56
Pre	Status 1B	201
Pre	Status 2	**
Pre	Overall	198
Era	Status	Days Waiting
Post	Adult Status 1	4
Post	Adult Status 2	9
Post	Adult Status 3	27
Post	Adult Status 4	262
Post	Adult Status 5	**
Post	Adult Status 6	**
Post	Overall	111

Distance Traveled at Transplant by Era





Takeaways

- Increase in use of VA ECMO and especially IABPs
 - IABP use greatest for candidates in Adult Status 2
- No significant change in waiting list mortality
 - But new statuses do more accurately stratify medically urgent candidates
- Dramatic decrease in median waiting time for medically urgent candidates
- Transplant rates increased for medically urgent candidates
 - Overall rate significantly higher than pre-implementation
- No significant difference in six-month graft or patient survival
- 300-400 exception requests per month; almost all are approved
- No clear impact on pediatric heart candidates

Innovations in Thoracic Transplantation

Lung Perfusion/Rejuvenation

DCD Heart Transplant Facilitated by Organ Perfusion

Innovations in Thoracic Transplantation

Lung Perfusion/Rejuvenation



DCD Heart Transplant Facilitated by Organ Perfusion



Transplantation for COVID Lung and Heart Disease

- Transplants performed for COVID lung disease; possibility of COVID myocarditis/cardiomyopathy requiring heart transplant
- "Data" so far primarily from press reports
- On 10/28/20 OPTN added COVID codes as reasons for thoracic transplantation
- Lung candidates (will be considered as LAS Group D)
 - COVID 19: ARDS
 - COVID 19: pulmonary fibrosis
- Heart candidates
 - COVID 19: dilated myopathy, active myocarditis
 - COVID 19: dilated myopathy, history of myocarditis

