

Type	Canadian Transplant Registry
Program	Inter-provincial Sharing: Heart
Policy Title	Requirement to Offer

Policy Number	CTR.10.003
Version (Date)	v2.0 (2020-11-25)
Policy Sponsor	Heart Transplant Advisory Committee (HTAC)
Committee Review	CCTN (2016-10-21), NHLAAC (2017-04-20), DTAAC (2017-08-25), ODTEAC (2017-08-25)
Committee Endorsement	NHLAAC (2017-04-21), DTAAC (2017-10-18), ODTEAC (2017-08-25), CCTN (2017-10-20)
Provincial/Territorial Sign-Off	See Appendix A
Effective Date	2018-02-06

Purpose

The Canadian Transplant Registry (CTR) identifies transplant opportunities across Canada for heart transplant candidates who are highly sensitized to Human Leukocyte Antigens (HLA) and/or designated as medically urgent (i.e., designated as medical status 4¹). This policy describes the procedure with respect to offering donor hearts under the *Inter-provincial Sharing: Heart* program.

Policy 1. Offer Requirements

1.1 All consented heart donors are entered in the CTR.

1.2 Provinces participating in the *Inter-provincial Sharing: Heart* program make available all hearts from deceased donors deemed to be transplantable.

¹ As defined by the Canadian Cardiac Transplant Network (CCTN)

1.3 When a donor heart is made available, the CTR will generate a ranked list of all potential recipient matches.

1.3.1 The Organ Donation Organization (ODO) makes an offer to the first potential recipient on the list. Should this offer be declined, the ODO is obliged to make an offer to the second, then third, and subsequent potential recipients on the list.

1.3.1.1 If multiple Status 4 potential recipients are listed, then the donor ODO must offer to the first Status 4 potential recipient on the allocation list and notify all ODOs, who have a Status 4 potential recipient listed to allow for rapid assessment should the heart be offered. Notification is also required to the Transplant Program of the donor ODO for 2 main reasons: 1) To identify a back up recipient in the situation the donor heart is not transplantable into the #1 ranked Status 4 potential recipient and 2) To provide an opportunity for the local heart transplant program of the donor origin, to advocate to keep the organ for a local recipient who does not meet technical status 4 criteria and for whom urgent transplantation is necessary.

1.3.1.2 If only one Status 4 potential recipient appears on the allocation list then the donor ODO must make the offer, and further notification is only required to the home province Transplant Program of the donor ODO. It is the responsibility of the local transplant program to contact the transplant program of the Status 4 program to make the case for retaining the organ locally.

1.3.1.3 If multiple Status 4 potential recipients appear on the allocation list then the donor ODO must make the first offer to the top-ranked potential recipient on the allocation list and the following are required:

- The donor ODO must notify the ODOs associated with each of the Status 4 potential recipients on the allocation list and provide the donor information.
- Once an offer is created in the CTR then the CTR must send an alert to the ODOs of all Status 4 potential recipients on the allocation list, notifying them of the Status 4 offer taking place, their rank on the allocation list and the ODO of the top-ranked potential recipient.
- The ODO associated with each of the Status 4 potential recipients on the allocation list must notify their Transplant Program physician or surgeon based on their standard operating procedures to provide the opportunity for discussion between program physicians if requested

Policy

- The Transplant Program physician or surgeon who has the rank 1 potential recipient must provide the outcome of the discussion to their ODO and reserves the right to decline deferral and accept the organ for their rank #1 patient.
- The ODO who has the rank 1 potential recipient must record the offer acceptance or decline (with reason) in the CTR.
- If a discussion between Transplant Programs takes place, and the Transplant Program declines the offer, then the ODO associated to the rank 1 potential recipient must notify the donor ODO, so the donor ODO makes an offer to the next potential recipient on the allocation list, according to the allocation algorithm.
- In order for a lower ranked status 4 potential recipient to receive an offer, the Transplant Programs associated with each higher ranked status 4 recipient must agree to the request from the Transplant Program of the lower ranked recipient.
 - Each ODO of the higher ranked status 4 recipient(s) must decline the offer in the CTR such that the donor ODO can make an offer to the lower ranked status 4
 - If consensus cannot be reached, then the heart remains allocated to the first potential recipient on the list.

1.3.1.4 The allocation list is frozen once the offer is accepted by the receiving Transplant Program.

- If a new Status 4 potential recipient is listed on the National Waitlist before the allocation list is frozen then Offering ODO must re-run the allocation.

1.3.2 The obligation to offer a donor heart to a matched recipient includes both in-province and out-of-province matches.

1.3.3 A heart can be offered as an open offer if all offers to high-status recipients (highly sensitized or medically urgent) are declined or no potential high status or local recipients match the donor.

1.3.3.1 If a heart is offered as an open offer then local allocation practices apply including the ability to cross antibodies.

1.3.4 Should a potential recipient be listed for both heart and lung transplant, only the donor heart is subject to the mandatory offer through the *Inter-provincial Sharing: Heart* program.

Inter-provincial Sharing: Heart

Donation and Transplantation

Policy

- 1.3.5 Any decision to offer lung(s) or any other organ in the case of a potential recipient match who is listed for multiple organs is an optional discussion between the programs/agencies.
- 1.3.6 Transplant Programs receiving offers have 120 minutes (2 hours) to accept or decline an offer from the time the verbal offer is made.
- 1.3.6.1 If the donor ODO does not receive a response (accept or decline) within 120 minutes from the time of the verbal offer, the donor ODO must notify the transplant program's ODO that the offer is now being extended to the next ranked recipient.
- 1.3.7 Offer confirmation must occur verbally (by telephone) between the donor and recipient ODO's. If there are specific HLA considerations, communication with HLA Laboratories is recommended.
- 1.3.7.1 Offer confirmations should include a discussion of donor information; a determination of donor heart acceptability, and other relevant logistics.
- 1.3.7.2 The nature of the HLA laboratory conversations is to discuss pertinent aspects to determine the HLA match. This conversation should occur as soon as possible after the offer is made.
- 1.3.7.3 If there are specific surgical requirements, communication between donor and recipient surgeons is recommended.
- 1.3.8 The offer is considered final once the offer has been accepted by the receiving transplant program, after which time the addition of a new participant in the Inter-provincial Sharing: Heart program does not necessitate reconsideration of the allocation decision.

2. Exceptions

- 2.1 The requirement to offer through the *Inter-provincial Sharing: Heart* program does not apply when there is no compatible recipient.

3. Allocated Heart Not Transplanted Into Intended Recipient

- 3.1 Should a transplant program receive a donor heart that was accepted through the *Inter-provincial Sharing: Heart* program and determine that it cannot be transplanted into the intended recipient, the province allocates the heart:

Donation and Transplantation

Policy

3.1.1 Firstly, to another high-status recipient (highly sensitized or medically urgent) from that province who is a participant in the *Inter-provincial Sharing: Heart* program;

3.1.2 Secondly, to any other recipient from that province in accordance with the relevant jurisdiction's allocation policy.

3.1.3 All transplants to not intended recipients are reviewed annually at the annual general meeting of the Canadian Cardiac Transplant Network.

4. Allocated Heart Deemed Not Transplantable

4.1 Should the donor heart be received by the transplant program and deemed non-transplantable, the ODO of the transplant program:

4.1.1 Informs the ODO and determines if there are specific legal or family requirements to return the donor heart to the ODO.

4.1.2 If 4.1.1 does not apply, disposes of the organ according to that jurisdiction's applicable biological waste, research or medical education regulations and/or policies.

4.1.3 All cases where the heart was deemed not transplantable are reviewed annually at a meeting of representatives from a majority of transplant centres and donation program/agencies.

5. Review

This policy is reviewed at the discretion of the Heart Transplant Advisory Committee (HTAC), Donation and Transplantation Administrators Advisory Committee (DTAAC) and the Organ Donation and Transplantation Expert Advisory Committee (ODTEAC).

References

Cardiac Transplantation: Eligibility and Listing Criteria in Canada (2012)

Version History

Version	Date	Comments /Changes
v1.0	2018-02-06	Original Version

Donation and Transplantation

Policy

v2.0	2020-04-03	<p>Organ offer state of deferred deleted per the discussion at HTAC on 2020-01-10</p> <p>Language added to clarify that a lower ranked status 4 recipient can only be offered the heart if each Transplant Program ranked higher agrees to decline the offer</p> <p>Language added to clarify that the home province Transplant Programs of the donor ODO will receive notification to be given a chance to advocate for a local recipient and to identify a back up recipient if the heart is not transplantable into the allocated status 4 potential recipient.</p>
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Appendix A – Provincial/Territorial Approvals

Version	Jurisdiction	Clinical Authority			Administrative Authority		
		Name	Title	Date	Name	Title	Date
v1.0	British Columbia	Dr. David Landsberg	Provincial Medical Director	2017-11-24	Edward Ferre	Provincial Operations Director	2017-11-24
v1.0	Edmonton	Dr. Norman Kneteman	Zone Clinical Section Chief Transplant	2017-11-07	Deanna Paulson	Director Transplant	2017-10-30
v1.0	Calgary	Dr. Serdar Yilmaz	Medical Director	2017-12-21	Carol Easton	Executive Director	2017-12-21
v1.0	Saskatchewan	Dr. Ahmed Shoker	Medical Director	2017-11-19	Carol Brown	Director	2017-11-07
v1.0	Manitoba	Dr. Peter Nickerson	Medical Director (TM-GLP)	2017-10-25	Kim Werestuik	Manager of Patient Care	2017-10-25
v1.0	Ontario	Dr. Jeff Zaltzman	CMO TGLN	2017-11-27	Ronnie Gavsie	CEO TGLN	2017-11-27
v1.0	Québec	Dr. Prosanto Chaudhury	Medical Director – Transplantation	2018-02-05	Louis Beaulieu	General Director – Transplant Quebec	2018-02-06
v1.0	New Brunswick	Dr. Robert Adams	Medical Director NBOTP	2017-11-10	Mary Gatien	Director NBOTP	2017-11-10

Donation and Transplantation

Policy

v1.0	Nova Scotia	Dr. Miroslaw Rajda	Medical Director	2017-12-06	Brian Butt	Director	2017-12-11
v1.0	Newfoundland	Dr. Sean Connors	Clinical Chief, Cardiac Care	2017-12-12	Cathy Burke	Regional Director of Cardiac Critical Care Program	2017-12-14

Not Currently Active until CTR Go LIVE