

<b>Type</b>	<b>Canadian Transplant Registry</b>
<b>Program</b>	<b>Inter-provincial Sharing: Liver</b>
<b>Policy Title</b>	<b>Requirement to Offer</b>

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<b>Version (Date)</b>	v1.0 (FINAL – 2023-01-17)
<b>Policy Sponsor</b>	Liver Transplant Advisory Committee (LTAC)
<b>Committee Review</b>	LTAC (2017-11-30), DTAAC (2017-11-30), ODTEAC (2017-11-30), CLTN (2022-09-20)
<b>Committee Endorsement</b>	LTAC (2019-12-06), DTAAC (2021-06-09), ODTEAC (ADD DATE), CLTN (2022-09-20)
<b>Provincial/Territorial Sign-Off</b>	2021-06-09
<b>Effective Date</b>	TBD

## Purpose

The Canadian Transplant Registry (CTR) identifies transplant opportunities across Canada for liver transplant candidates who are designated as medically urgent. This policy describes the procedure with respect to Organ Donation Organizations (ODO) offering donor livers under the *Inter-provincial Sharing: Liver* program and the subsequent offer acceptance by Transplant Programs.

## Policy

### 1. Liver Offer Requirements

- 1.1 All consented liver deceased donors are entered in the CTR.
- 1.2 Provinces participating in the *Inter-provincial Sharing: Liver* program make available all livers from deceased donors deemed to be transplantable.
- 1.3 When a donor whole liver 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 recipients on the list.
    - 1.3.1.1 If multiple potential 3F recipients are listed, then the donor ODO must offer to the first potential recipient on the allocation list and notify all ODOs, who have a similar status potential recipient

listed. This notification is required to provide the opportunity for Transplant Programs to have a discussion in order to request the liver on behalf of their potential recipient(s).

- 1.3.1.1.1 A physician-to-physician discussion will be arranged between the transplant centre within the donor province and the out-of-province transplant centre to verify that the highest-ranked recipient fulfills the criteria for 3F listing. This verification may involve use of a listing checklist.
- 1.3.1.1.2 If there is sufficient evidence to suggest that the highest-ranked recipient fulfills criteria for 3F listing, the donor ODO must offer the liver to the highest ranked 3F recipient.
- 1.3.1.1.3 If the evidence suggests that the highest-ranked recipient does not fulfill criteria for 3F listing and there are multiple potential 3F recipients listed, the donor ODO will verify that the next potential recipient on the allocation fulfills criteria for listing.
- 1.3.1.1.4 If the evidence suggests that the highest-ranked recipient does not fulfill criteria for 3F listing and there is only one potential 3F recipient listed, the donor ODO will then offer to the next highest ranked potential recipient within the donor province.
- 1.3.1.2 If multiple potential 4F recipients are listed, the donor ODO must offer to the first potential recipient on the allocation list and no mandatory notification or discussion is required.
  - 1.3.1.2.1 A physician-to-physician discussion will be arranged between the transplant centre within the donor province and the out-of-province transplant centre to verify that the highest-ranked recipient fulfills the criteria for 4F listing. This verification may involve use of a listing checklist.
  - 1.3.1.2.2 If there is sufficient evidence to suggest that the highest-ranked recipient fulfills criteria for 4F listing, the donor ODO must offer the liver to the highest ranked 4F recipient.
  - 1.3.1.2.3 If the evidence suggests that the highest-ranked recipient does not fulfill criteria for 4F listing and there are multiple potential 4F recipients listed, the donor ODO will verify that the next potential recipient on the allocation fulfills criteria for listing.
  - 1.3.1.2.4 If the evidence suggests that the highest-ranked recipient does not fulfill criteria for 4F listing and there is only one potential 4F recipient listed, the donor ODO will then offer to the next highest ranked potential recipient within the donor province.
- 1.3.2 The obligation to offer a donor liver to a matched recipient includes both in-province and out-of-province matches.
- 1.3.3 Patients with a status of 3F will be prioritized over patients in 3LS status unless their calculated CPALS is >35. In these cases, a mandatory discussion between centers with 3F and 3LS patient will be required.
- 1.3.4 Any decision to offer a liver to a potential recipient listed for simultaneous liver-kidney requires a mandatory discussion between the Transplant Programs regarding the kidney.
- 1.3.5 The decision to split the liver belongs to the transplant program after acceptance of the initial offer. Programs in close proximity are encouraged to discuss liver splitting opportunities.

- 1.3.6 Programs/agencies receiving offers have up to 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 (i.e., acceptance 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 ODOs
  - 1.3.7.1 Offer confirmations should include a discussion of donor information, a determination of donor liver acceptability, and other relevant logistics.
  - 1.3.7.2 If there are specific surgical requirements, communication between donor and recipient surgeons is recommended.
- 1.3.8 If an emergent 4F is listed at any point throughout the originating transplant program's allocation process, a mandatory discussion must occur with the program listing the new high-status patient.
- 1.3.9 The offer is considered final once the donor retrieval team has departed the transplant program, after which time the addition of a new participant in the *Inter-provincial Sharing: Liver* program does not necessitate reconsideration of the allocation decision.

## 2. Exceptions

- 2.1 The requirement to offer through the *Inter-provincial Sharing: Liver* program does not apply under the following circumstances:
  - 2.1.1 There is no compatible recipient.

## 3. Allocated Liver Not Transplanted into Intended Recipient

- 3.1 Should a transplant program receive a donor liver that was accepted through the *Inter-provincial Sharing: Liver* program and determine that it cannot be transplanted into the intended recipient, the province allocates the liver:
  - 3.1.1 Firstly, to another recipient from that province who is a participant in the *Inter-provincial Sharing: Liver* 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 a meeting of representatives from a majority of transplant programs and ODOs.

## 4. Allocated Liver Deemed Not Transplantable

- 4.1 Should the donor liver be received by the recipient centre and deemed non-transplantable, the ODO of the transplant program must contact the donor ODO immediately.
- 4.1.1 Informs the ODO and determines if there is the ability to return the organ to the donor ODO or if there are specific legal or family requirements to return the donor organ to the donor centre.
  - 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 liver was deemed not transplantable are reviewed annually at a meeting of representatives from a majority of transplant programs and ODOs.

### 5. Review

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

References
<Reference Name> (<Reference Date>)

Version History		
Version	Date	Comments /Changes
v1.0	<Date>	Original Version

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