

Type	Canadian Transplant Registry
Program	Inter-provincial Sharing: Liver
Policy Title	Exports & Imports

Policy Number	CTR.20.004
Version (Date)	v1.0 (FINAL – 2023-01-17)
Policy Sponsor	Liver Transplant Advisory Committee (LTAC)
Committee Review	LTAC (2017-11-30), DTAAC (2017-11-30), ODTEAC (2017-11-30), CCTN (2019-12-06)
Committee Endorsement	LTAC (2019-12-06), DTAAC (2021-06-09), ODTEAC (ADD DATE), CLTN (2022-09-20)
Provincial/Territorial Sign-Off	2021-06-09
Effective Date	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 process for tracking the number of livers shared between provinces under *the Inter-provincial Sharing: Liver* program.

Policy

1. Exports and Imports

- 1.1 An export is counted once a liver is procured and leaves the donor center with the intent of being shipped to a transplant centre that has accepted the liver, regardless of whether the liver is ultimately transplanted into the designated recipient or another recipient or not transplanted at all.
- 1.1.1 Export counts are awarded to the province/region of the donor’s Organ Donation Organization (ODO).
- 1.1.2 In the case of a liver being split, 1 export are counted even if the split components are sent to 2 different provinces.
- 1.2 An import is counted once a liver is transplanted, regardless of whether the liver is transplanted into the designated recipient or a different recipient.

1.2.1 Import counts are awarded to the province/region of the recipient’s Provincial Health Number (PHN).

1.3 If the liver is shipped but not transplanted due to organ quality, the export is counted but the import is *not* counted.

1.3.1 In such cases, the receiving ODO/program must inform the exporting ODO/program of the proposed graft utilization and reasons prior to discard.

2. Inter-Provincial Balances

2.1 The CTR is programmed to provide a real-time balance of inter-provincial liver transfers. A Balancing Report is available on-line in the CTR, or by request to Canadian Blood Services to provide real-time balances and activity by province/region.

2.2 A province/region’s inter-provincial balance is the net of all imports less exports since the launch of the *Inter-provincial Sharing: Liver* program.

2.2.1 The province/region are defined below:

Province/Region	Province (s)
Alberta	Alberta, Northwest Territories, Saskatchewan
Atlantic	New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland & Labrador
British Columbia	British Columbia, Yukon
Ontario	Ontario, Nunavut, Manitoba
Quebec	Quebec

2.2.2 A positive balance (e.g., +3) indicates a greater number of imports than exports.

2.2.3 A negative balance (e.g., -2) indicates a greater number of exports than imports. (Example: Province A has imported 11 livers and exported 13 livers since the launch of *Inter-provincial Sharing: Liver* program. Its balance is -2.)

2.3 Balances are between a province/region and the rest of Canada, not between 2 provinces/regions.

2.3.1 The balance accounts for only those inter-provincial transfers that take place through participation in the *Inter-provincial Sharing: Liver* program. All liver allocations that take place outside the high priority program are not counted.

2.4 To minimize organs being shipped unnecessarily, the matching algorithm for the *Inter-provincial Sharing: Liver* program gives priority to recipients in the same province/region as the donor.

2.4.1 Liver allocations within the same province/region as the donor have no net effect on imports, exports, or balancing, even though it may occur as part of the *Inter-provincial Sharing: Liver* program.

2.5 Thresholds - there will be no thresholds placed to limit imports or exports at this time.

2.5.1 However, a mandatory discussion at LTAC will occur if any program reaches more than 5% of the annual volume of that region has been exported

2. 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
None

Version History		
Version	Date	Comments /Changes
V1.0	<Date>	Original Version

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