Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, HHS

§ 482.76

OPTN'’ means those rules and requirements approved by the Secretary pursuant to §121.4 of this title. No hospital that provides transplantation services shall be deemed to be out of compliance with section 1138(a)(1)(B) of the Act or this section unless the Secretary has given the OPTN formal notice that he or she approves the decision to exclude the transplant hospital from the OPTN and also has notified the transplant hospital in writing.

§ 482.74 Condition of participation: Notification to CMS.

(a) A transplant center must notify CMS immediately of any significant changes related to the center’s transplant program or changes that could affect its compliance with the conditions of participation. Instances in which CMS should receive information for follow up, as appropriate, include, but are not limited to:

(1) Change in key staff members of the transplant team, such as a change in the individual the transplant center designated to the OPTN as the center’s “primary transplant surgeon” or “primary transplant physician”;

(2) A decrease in the center’s number of transplants or survival rates that could result in the center being out of compliance with § 482.82;

(3) Termination of an agreement between the hospital in which the transplant center is located and an OPO for the recovery and receipt of organs as required by section 482.100; and

(4) Inactivation of the transplant center.

(b) Upon receiving notification of significant changes, CMS will follow up with the transplant center as appropriate, including (but not limited to):

(1) Requesting additional information;

(2) Analyzing the information; or

(3) Conducting an on-site review.

§ 482.76 Condition of participation: Pediatric Transplants.

A transplant center that seeks Medicare approval to provide transplantation services to pediatric patients must submit to CMS a request specifically for Medicare approval to perform pediatric transplants using the procedures described at § 488.61 of this chapter.

(a) Except as specified in paragraph (d) of this section, a center requesting Medicare approval to perform pediatric transplants must meet all the conditions of participation at §§ 482.72 through 482.74 and §§ 482.80 through 482.104 with respect to its pediatric patients.

(b) A center that performs 50 percent or more of its transplants in a 12-month period on adult patients must be approved to perform adult transplants in order to be approved to perform pediatric transplants.

(1) Loss of Medicare approval to perform adult transplants, whether voluntary or involuntary, will result in loss of the center’s approval to perform pediatric transplants.

(2) Loss of Medicare approval to perform adult transplants, whether voluntary or involuntary, may trigger a review of the center’s Medicare approval to perform pediatric transplants.

(c) A center that performs 50 percent or more of its transplants in a 12-month period on pediatric patients must be approved to perform pediatric transplants.

(1) Loss of Medicare approval to perform pediatric transplants, whether voluntary or involuntary, will result in loss of the center’s approval to perform adult transplants.

(2) Loss of Medicare approval to perform pediatric transplants, whether voluntary or involuntary, may trigger a review of the center’s Medicare approval to perform adult transplants.

(3) A center that performs 50 percent or more of its transplants on pediatric patients in a 12-month period is not required to meet the clinical experience requirements prior to its request for approval as a pediatric transplant center.

(d) Instead of meeting all conditions of participation at §§ 482.72 through 482.74 and §§ 482.80 through 482.104, a heart transplant center that wishes to provide transplantation services to pediatric heart patients may be approved to perform pediatric heart transplants.
by meeting the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1987 criteria in section 4009(b) (Pub. L. 100–203), as follows:

(1) The center’s pediatric transplant program must be operated jointly by the hospital and another facility that is Medicare-approved;

(2) The unified program shares the same transplant surgeons and quality improvement program (including oversight committee, patient protocol, and patient selection criteria); and

(3) The center demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Secretary that it is able to provide the specialized facilities, services, and personnel that are required by pediatric heart transplant patients.

**TRANSPLANT CENTER DATA SUBMISSION, CLINICAL EXPERIENCE, AND OUTCOME REQUIREMENTS**

§ 482.80 Condition of participation: Data submission, clinical experience, and outcome requirements for initial approval of transplant centers.

Except as specified in paragraph (d) of this section, and §488.61 of this chapter, transplant centers must meet all data submission, clinical experience, and outcome requirements to be granted initial approval by CMS.

(a) **Standard: Data submission.** No later than 90 days after the due date established by the OPTN, a transplant center must submit to the OPTN at least 95 percent of required data on all transplants (deceased and living donor) it has performed. Required data submissions include, but are not limited to, submission of the appropriate OPTN forms for transplant candidate registration, transplant recipient registration and follow-up.

(b) **Standard: Clinical experience.** To be considered for initial approval, an organ-specific transplant center must generally perform 10 transplants over a 12-month period.

(c) **Standard: Outcome requirements.** CMS will review outcomes for all transplants performed at a center, including outcomes for living donor transplants, if applicable. Except for lung transplants, CMS will review adult and pediatric outcomes separately when a center requests Medicare approval to perform both adult and pediatric transplants.

(1) CMS will compare each transplant center’s observed number of patient deaths and graft failures 1-year post-transplant to the center’s expected number of patient deaths and graft failures 1-year post-transplant using the data contained in the most recent Scientific Registry of Transplant Recipients (SRTR) center-specific report.

(2) The required number of transplants must have been performed during the time frame reported in the most recent SRTR center-specific report.

(3) CMS will not consider a center’s patient and graft survival rates to be acceptable if:

   (i) A center’s observed patient survival rate or observed graft survival rate is lower than its expected patient survival rate or expected graft survival rate; and

   (ii) All three of the following thresholds are crossed over:

   (A) The one-sided p-value is less than 0.05,

   (B) The number of observed events (patient deaths or graft failures) minus the number of expected events is greater than 3, and

   (C) The number of observed events divided by the number of expected events is greater than 1.5.

(d) **Exceptions.** (1) A heart-lung transplant center is not required to comply with the clinical experience requirements in paragraph (b) of this section or the outcome requirements in paragraph (c) of this section for heart-lung transplants performed at the center.

(2) An intestine transplant center is not required to comply with the outcome performance requirements in paragraph (c) of this section for intestine, combined liver-intestine or multivisceral transplants performed at the center.

(3) A pancreas transplant center is not required to comply with the clinical experience requirements in paragraph (b) of this section or the outcome requirements in paragraph (c) of this section for pancreas transplants performed at the center.

(4) A center that is requesting initial Medicare approval to perform pediatric transplants is not required to comply...