

Top Waitlisted Patient Reviews

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INTRODUCTION

During year one of the ESRD Treatment Choices Learning Collaborative (ETCLC), Augusta University Health Solid Organ Transplant Program initiated a waitlist management performance improvement project, centered on increasing the number of deceased donor kidneys transplanted.

OBJECTIVE

- Follow a data-driven approach to:
 - Enhance existing kidney transplant waitlist management processes
 - Ensure active (status 1) waitlisted candidates are always transplant-ready
 - Convert inactive (status 7) waitlisted candidates with enough points to begin receiving organ offers to active
 - Increase transplantation rates
 - Increase accountability among coordinators and team to ensure transplant readiness

WHO'S INVOLVED

Status 1/Active Patient Reviews

Transplant Nephrologist

Transplant Nurse Coordinator

Social Worker

Dietitian

Pharmacist

Quality Manager

Status 7/Inactive Patient Reviews

Transplant Surgeon or Nephrologist

Transplant Nurse Coordinator

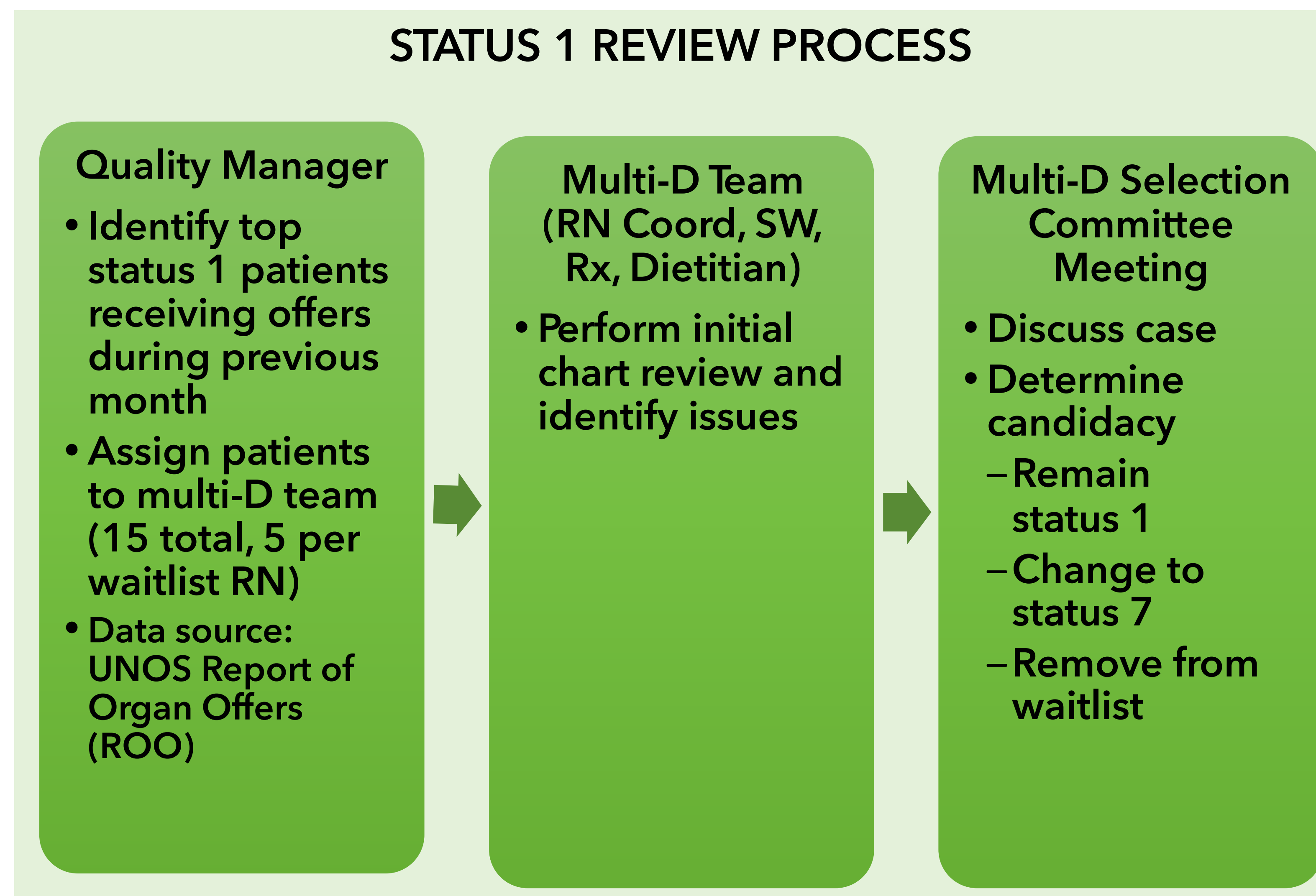
Quality Manager

Administration

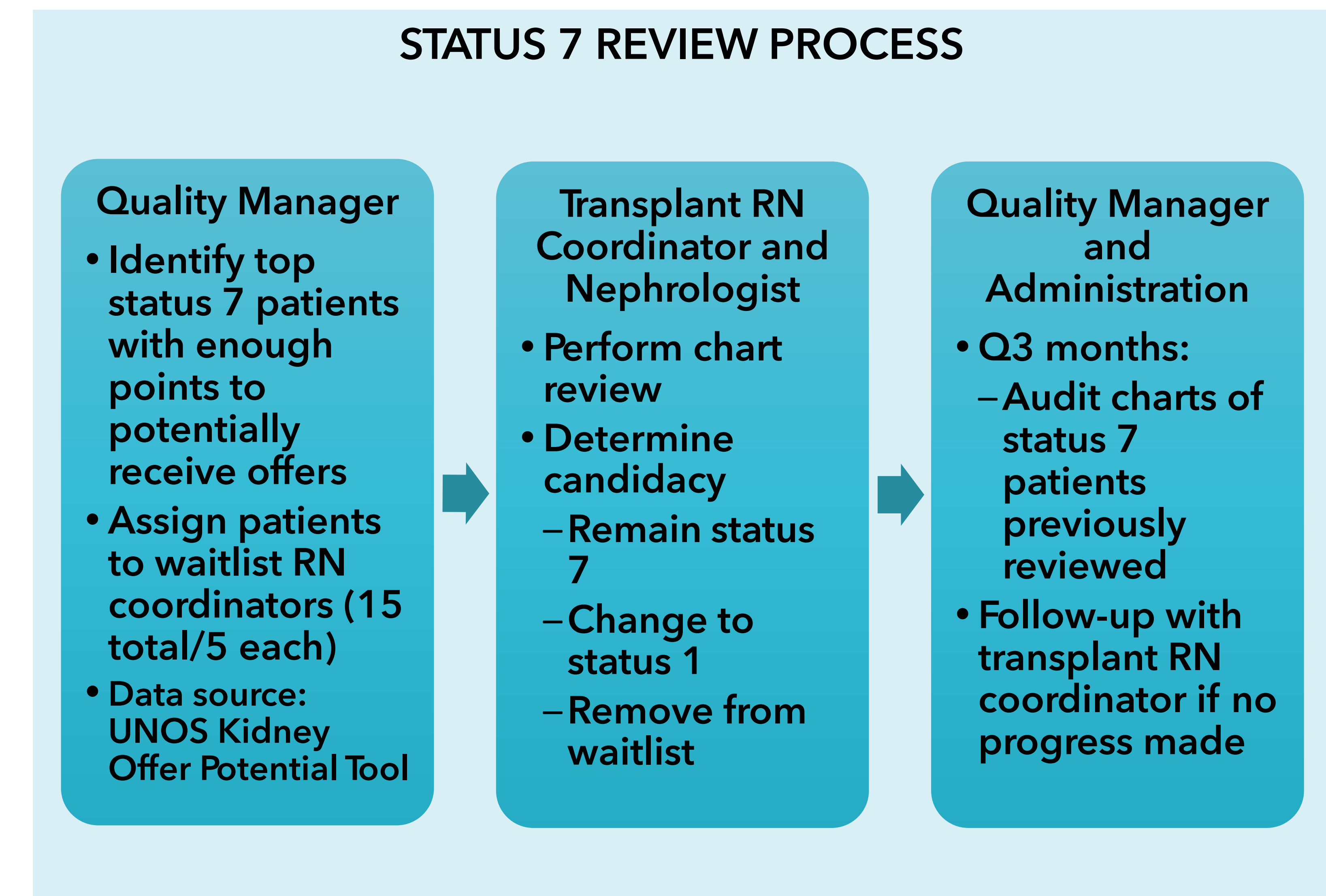
METHODS

Each month, members of the multi-disciplinary transplant team receive a list of approximately 30 top waitlisted patients (active/status 1 and inactive/status 7). Each list is updated monthly with recent data and worked from the top down. Ideally, top patients are reviewed at least once per six-month period.

STATUS 1 REVIEW PROCESS



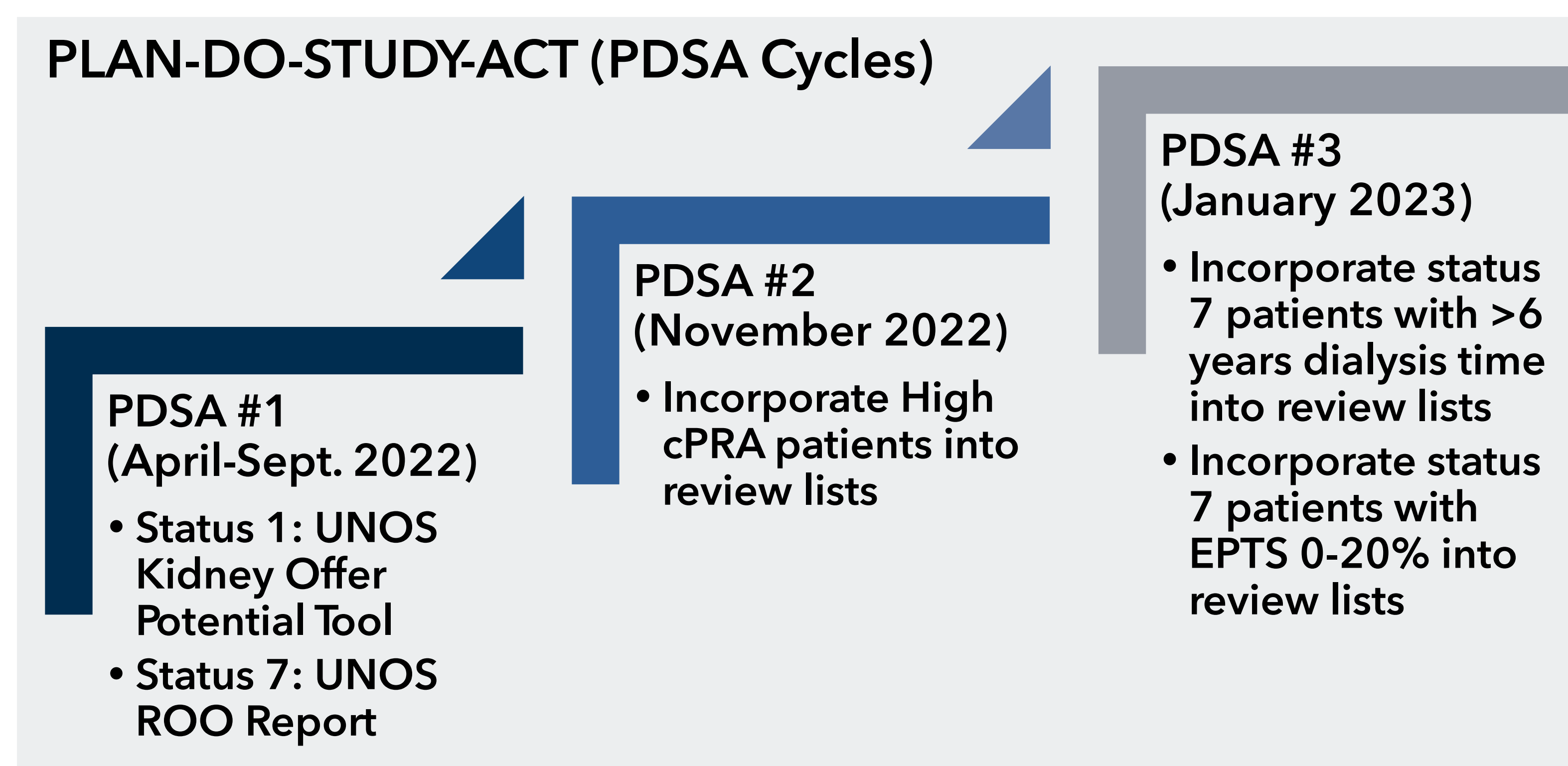
STATUS 7 REVIEW PROCESS



PIVOTS

- Toward the end of month 6, inactive/status 7 patients were not reviewed due to low points. Transplant coordinators focused on pressing issues.
- After 6 months, the program explored additional mechanisms to identify patients who may qualify for organ offers, specifically custom UNOS Data Services reports and the center's transplant care platform.

PLAN-DO-STUDY-ACT (PDSA Cycles)



RESULTS

Status 1/Active Patient Reviews

- 111 patients reviewed
- 30 patients or 27% were transplanted within six months

Status 7/Inactive Patient Reviews

- 82 unique patients reviewed (several reviewed twice within 6-month period)
- 9 patients or 10.9% made active/status 1 during initial review
- 8 patients or 9.7% transplanted within six months of initial review

WHAT'S AHEAD

The transplant program has incorporated top waitlisted patient reviews into normal operations and will continue to use a data-driven approach to ensure candidate readiness. As part of pivots/PDSA cycles, the program began a greater focus on status 7 to 1 conversions during winter 2023. Status 1 candidates appearing at top of match runs will continue to be reviewed on a routine basis.