

## **OPTN Membership and Professional Standards Committee (MPSC)**

**Meeting Summary**

**December 15, 2020**

**Conference Call with GoToTraining**

**Ian Jamieson, Chair**

**Heung Bae Kim, M.D., Vice Chair**

### **Introduction**

The Membership and Professional Standards Committee (MPSC) met by conference call in open and closed session via Citrix GoToTraining on December 15, 2020, to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Membership Requirements Revision Project
2. Performance Monitoring Enhancement Project Update

The following is a summary of the Committee's discussions.

### **1. Membership Requirements Revision Project**

Staff reported that the Membership Requirements Revision Subcommittee reviewed the membership requirements revision proposal and the request for feedback on the transplant program key personnel training and experience requirements on December 2 and unanimously voted to recommend that the MPSC approve sending the proposal and the request for feedback out for public comment. Staff gave an overview of the documents going out for public comment:

- Proposal to update the membership application and review process and the membership requirements for OPOs, transplant hospitals, and transplant programs

The MPSC reviewed the following specific bylaw revisions and considered the subcommittee recommendations:

- Appendix A: Revisions to the application review process
- Appendix B: OPO member requirements that the MPSC reviewed at its October 2020 meeting. No changes had been made to the bylaw language since that previous review
- Appendix D: Transplant hospital members and transplant programs. The MPSC was apprised of a few small bylaw revisions that had been made since the last MPSC review.
- Appendix N: Definitions. Added a definition of Component, corrections to the definition of Multi-visceral and necessary revisions to Membership and Professional Standards Committee (MPSC) and Program Coverage Plan (PCP) to be consistent with the changes to the proposed changes to the application review process and the removal of the requirement for a transplant program director.
- Necessary revisions to Article I and Appendices E – K, and M for consistency with the proposed changes to the application review process and the removal of the requirement for a transplant program director.

### Feedback from the MPSC:

In response to a HRSA staff question regarding revisions to Islet program requirements, staff responded that no substantive changes had been made to the OPTN Board of Directors approved but not yet implemented islet program requirements. The revisions proposed are only to make the language consistent with revisions made to Appendices A and D.

MPSC members made some suggestions for simplifying the format of the proposed public comment document to encourage review of a lengthy proposal.

Several MPSC members expressed appreciation for the work the Membership Requirements Revision Subcommittee had performed.

The MPSC unanimously voted 31 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstentions to send the proposal out for public comment in the winter 2021 public comment cycle.

- Request for Feedback: Update Transplant Program Key Personnel Training and Experience Requirements

The MPSC reviewed the proposed new format for Transplant Program Key Personnel Training and Experience requirements and voted on whether or not to send the Request for Feedback out for public comment. The MPSC reviewed the subcommittee's recommendations along with the suggested questions to be included in the Request for Feedback paper. Prior to voting on whether to send the Request for Feedback out during the public comment period, a summary was provided of the Subcommittee's recommended proposed new format:

- Requirements that appear in both the primary surgeon and primary physician requirements:
  - Maintain simplified and clearer basic requirements for qualifications to be a primary surgeon or physician.
  - Replace letters of recommendation and references for primary surgeons and physicians with an OPTN provided electronic form.
  - Include new requirement for completion of an OPTN orientation curriculum for individuals who have not previously served as a primary.
  - Maintain term "on-site" but request feedback from community for use in a future project on this topic.
- Primary surgeon requirements:
  - The surgeon performed [#] or more [ORGAN] transplants at a designated [ORGAN] transplant program as primary surgeon, co-surgeon or first assistant within the last [#] years and participated in pre-operative assessment of [organ] transplant candidates and post-operative care of these recipients.
  - If the surgeon has not previously served as a primary [ORGAN] transplant surgeon at an OPTN designated transplant program within the last 10 years, the surgeon must have performed [#] or more [ORGAN] procurements as primary surgeon or first assistant.
- Primary physician requirements
  - The physician has been directly involved within the last [#] years in the primary care of [#] or more newly transplanted [ORGAN] recipients and continued to follow these recipients for a minimum of 3 months from the time of transplant and participated in pre-operative care of the patient. This clinical experience must be gained as the primary [ORGAN] transplant physician or under the direct supervision of a [ORGAN] transplant physician and in conjunction with an [ORGAN] transplant surgeon at a designated [ORGAN] transplant program.

- The physician has been directly involved in the evaluation of [#] potential [ORGAN] recipients, including participation in selection committee meetings.
- If the proposed physician has not previously served as a primary [ORGAN] transplant physician at an OPTN designated transplant program within the last 10 years, the physician must have observed at least 1 [ORGAN] transplant and at least 1 [ORGAN] procurement
- Foreign equivalency
  - Committee is requesting feedback from the community on alternatives focusing on providing a viable option for individuals who trained or gained experience outside the United States while ensuring that the requirements are equivalent to the rigorosity demanded of individuals who have trained and gained experience in the United States

#### Feedback from the MPSC:

An MPSC member suggested including specific examples of issues the MPSC has encountered in regard to the foreign equivalency requirement in the request for feedback in order to assist the public in providing feedback.

The MPSC unanimously voted 32 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstentions to send the request for feedback document out during the winter 2021 public comment.

## **2. Performance Monitoring Enhancement Project Update**

Staff gave a brief update on the progress of the Performance Monitoring Enhancement Project noting that the Performance Monitoring Enhancement Subcommittee met on November 20, 2020. The Subcommittee recommended that one metric be included for each of the four dimensions of performance as described below.

- Waitlisted Patient Care: The Subcommittee supported the use of a waitlist mortality ratio metric because the metric provides a clinically meaningful outcome for patients. The Subcommittee also noted that the metric encourages evaluation of improvement of care of patients on the waiting list and systems issues that are barriers to transplanting patients. The Subcommittee acknowledged that use of this metric could deter programs from listing sicker patients; however, it was also noted that the new allocation policies may counteract any incentive from the metric. The Subcommittee also recommended that the metric either not be used for kidney programs or use specialized identification thresholds.
- Offer Acceptance Practices: The Subcommittee supported an offer acceptance ratio metric. Programs have control over this metric and use of the metric supports the strategic goal of increasing the number of transplants and would incentivize programs to actively manage their waiting list.
- Peri-operative Care: The Subcommittee supported a 90-day survival metric to capture outcomes for peri-operative and early post-transplant periods. The Subcommittee reviewed outcomes data and concluded that post-transplant outcomes showed stabilization after 90 days for all organ types. The Subcommittee also agreed that the 90-day metric focuses on a discrete phase of post-transplant care prior to release for longer term care.
- Post-operative Care: The Subcommittee supported a 1-year survival metric conditional on 90-day survival. The Subcommittee discussed 3 and 5-year outcomes metrics but did not support use of either of these metrics because the 3 year does not use a period prevalent window and the 5 year period prevalent metric is not yet available.

Staff discussed the next steps for the Performance Monitoring Enhancement project. The next subcommittee meeting is on December 18, 2020, at which the Subcommittee will discuss and consider recommendations for a review process and thresholds.

#### **Upcoming Meetings**

- January 19, 2021, 2-4:00 pm, ET, Conference Call
- February 23-25, 2021, Virtual, Conference Call
- March 25, 2021, 1-3:00 pm, ET, Conference Call
- April 22, 2021, 1-3:00 pm, ET, Conference Call
- May 25, 2021, 2-4:00 pm, ET, Conference Call
- June 24, 2021, 1-3:00 pm, ET, Conference Call
- July 20-22, 2021, Chicago

## Attendance

- **Committee Members**
  - Sanjeev K. Akkina
  - Mark L. Barr
  - Nicole Berry
  - Christina D. Bishop
  - Errol Bush
  - Matthew Cooper
  - Theresa M. Daly
  - Maryjane A. Farr
  - Richard N. Formica Jr
  - Adam M. Frank
  - Jonathan A. Fridell
  - Michael D. Gautreaux
  - PJ Geraghty
  - David A. Gerber
  - Alice L. Gray
  - John R. Gutowski
  - Edward F. Hollinger
  - Ian R. Jamieson
  - Christy M. Keahey
  - Mary T. Killackey
  - Heung Bae Kim
  - Jon A. Kobashigawa
  - Anne M. Krueger
  - Jules Lin
  - Didier A. Mandelbrot
  - Virginia(Ginny) T. McBride
  - Clifford D. Miles
  - Saeed Mohammad
  - Willscott E. Naugler
  - Matthew J. O'Connor
  - Nicole A. Pilch
  - Steven Potter
  - Jennifer K. Prinz
  - Scott C. Silvestry
  - Lisa M. Stocks
  - Parsia A. Vagefi
  - Gebhard Wagener
  - Rajat Walia
- **HRSA Representatives**
  - Marilyn Levi
  - Arjun U. Naik
  - Raelene Skerda
  - Amond Uwadineke
- **SRTR Staff**
  - Nicholas Salkowski

- Jon Snyder
- Bryn Thompson
- **UNOS Staff**
  - Sally Aungier
  - Matt Belton
  - Nicole Benjamin
  - Tameka Bland
  - Tory Boffo
  - Jadia Bruckner
  - Robyn DiSalvo
  - Nadine Drumn
  - Demi Emmanouil
  - Katie Favaro
  - Amanda Gurin
  - Asia Harris
  - Danielle Hawkins
  - David Klassen
  - Kay Lagana
  - Krissy Laurie
  - Marc Leslie
  - Ellen Litkenhaus
  - Jason Livingston
  - Anne McPherson
  - Sandy Miller
  - Amy Minkler
  - Steven Moore
  - Sara Moriarty
  - Alan Nicholas
  - Jacqui O'Keefe
  - Rob Patterson
  - Michelle Rabold
  - Liz Robbins
  - Sharon Shepherd
  - Leah Slife
  - Tynisha Smith
  - Olivia Taylor
  - Stephon Thelwell
  - Roger Vacovsky
  - Gabe Vece
  - Marta Waris
  - Betsy Warnick
  - Trevi Wilson
  - Emily Womble
  - Karen Wooten
- **Other Attendees**
  - None