Interim Report of the
OPTN/UNOS MEMBERSHIP AND PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE REPORT
October 27, 2011
Chicago, IL

The Membership and Professional Standards Committee (MPSC) met on October 27, 2011 by conference call and Live Meeting and considered the following items:

I. Action Items for Board Consideration:

None.

II. Old Business

- Bylaws Rewrite Project: The work group chair and the staff updated the committee on the status of the bylaws rewrite project. The Committee agreed to distribute the plain language rewrite for public comment in December 2011.

- Modifications to Appendix A of the Bylaws: The work group chair and staff presented proposed revisions to the due process provisions of Appendix A of the OPTN Bylaws. The MPSC requested further evaluation and revision prior to submitting this proposal for public comment.

- Live Donor Adverse Events Reporting: As required in Policy 12.8.4 (Submission of Living Donor Death and Organ Failure Data), transplant programs must report all instances of live donor deaths and failure of the live donor's native organ function within 72 hours after the program becomes aware of the live donor death or failure of the live donors' native organ function. The Committee reviewed thirteen reported instances and recommended no further action for nine of them. Four programs were issued a letter of uncontested violation for improper reporting.

- Member Specific Reviews: The Committee discussed the following member specific situations:

    - The Committee considered the hearing committee report for a transplant center that participated in a hearing on September 28, 2011. The Committee had previously recommended that the hospital be placed on Probation. The Committee approved the hearing committee report, with modifications, and recommended the Hearing be closed.

    - The Committee declined to approve a member's request to reactivate a pancreas program, which had not met the Committee's requirements for resuming transplantation.

- The Committee approved the hearing committee report and the corrective action plan for a transplant center that participated in a hearing on September 28, 2011, where the recommendation is Probation.

- The Committee reviewed a vessel issue from a transplant center and is considering issuing a Letter of Reprimand. The transplant center was offered an interview at the December 2011, meeting.

- The Committee approved an OPO specific work group's recommendation to
  - approve the OPO's corrective action plan following being designated Member Not in Good Standing,
  - that the OPO continue to submit quarterly updates of its corrective action plan and responses to reports of consultants and reports of measures and adherence to its corrective action plan.

- The Committee discussed an OPO's MPSC-directed follow-up site survey and is considering recommending Probation. The OPO was offered an interview at the December 2011, MPSC meeting.

- During its July meeting, the Committee expressed an interest in holding an informal discussion with a member that performed a liver transplant without having an approved liver transplant program. Since that time, the member applied for and received interim approval for a liver transplant program. During the October meeting, the Committee recommended issuing a Letter of Reprimand and decided the informal discussion was not needed.

- OPO Metrics: The Committee was provided with a summary of suggested changes for improving the SRTR models. The changes relate to the statistical analysis, and not the flagging algorithm approved by the Board in June. The proposed changes included dropping the aggregate model for yield. The expected aggregate yield will be obtained by summing the expected yields from each organ specific model. Additionally, the SRTR recommended that lungs count as either 0 or 1 organ transplanted (not 2) in the lung model. The final change the SRTR recommended related to a small subset of donor characteristics that are associated with low yield probabilities. The SRTR recommends that the expected yield for the rare donors with these characteristics be set to the overall national average (unadjusted). With this approach, OPOs receive credit for any organs transplanted from the donors with these characteristics.

  The MPSC approved these modifications to the model, as well as the donor evaluator tool.

III. New Business

- UNOS Actions: The committee members agreed that actions regarding Bylaws and Policy, and program-specific decisions made during the OPTN session would be accepted as UNOS actions.

John P. Roberts, M.D.
UCSF Medical Center
(415) 353-9321

Alan I. Reed, M.D.
University of Iowa Hosp & Clinics
(319) 356-1334