

**Interim Report of the
OPTN/UNOS MEMBERSHIP AND PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE
REPORT
March 24-25, 2010
Chicago, IL**

The Membership and Professional Standards Committee met on March 24-25, 2010, and considered the following items:

I. Action Items for Board Consideration:

The Committee will ask the Board of Directors to approve the following recommendations during the June 21-22, 2010, meeting:

- Fully approve four new programs in existing transplant centers;
- Conditionally approve (12 months) one transplant center to perform living donor liver transplants in an existing liver transplant program;
- Approve one new independent laboratory;
- Approve one new individual for a two-year term of membership;
- Renew terms for seven non-institutional members; and
- Approve changes in program status:
 - Approve one program to reactivate.
 - Change three fully approved programs to conditional status.

The Committee will also notify the Board that five programs inactivated and six members/programs withdrew from membership.

II. Old Business

- Annual Committee Goals: The Committee reviewed the activities presently underway and the progress made on each.
- Program-Related Actions and Personnel Changes: The Committee reviewed 80 and approved 74 personnel change applications.
- Due Process Proceedings: The Committee conducted four interviews and one hearing with member transplant centers.
- 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 three reported instances.

- OPO Performance Metrics: The Committee received an update on the work of the OPO Performance Metrics Work Group, which is comprised of members of the OPO Committee and the MPSC. The Work Group is tasked with developing performance metrics to maximize the utilization of organs. There will be an educational conference for the OPO Community on May 27, 2010 in Chicago.
- Composite Pre-Transplant Metric (CPM): The MPSC was apprised of the CPM Work Group progress. To facilitate the work of the work group and identify potential flagging thresholds, an in-person meeting of the work group will occur on April 28, 2010 in Chicago.
- Qualifications for Directors, Liver Transplant Program Anesthesiology: The Committee discussed a memorandum from the American Society of Anesthesiology, which has suggested qualifications for the directors of liver transplant anesthesia. The Committee asked staff to mock up the qualifications into bylaw format and to develop an implementation resource analysis for review during its next meeting.
- Allocation Analysis trends of policy violations: Staff presented a summary of types of allocation deviations found during allocation analysis and other ways in which potential policy violations are reported to UNOS; as well as Committee actions on past potential policy violations. Staff analyzed data by region and method of reporting. Staff presented a possible path for future trend analysis to the Committee.
- Notification of Changes in Key Personnel: The Committee discussed the timeliness of notifications and submission of applications for changes in key personnel in transplant programs as it pertains to the bylaw changes that were made last year. Discussion centered around the process that should be followed when members fail to comply.
- Living Donor Pilot Program: The Committee was briefed on the DEQ pilot survey of 5 living kidney donor programs conducted in February and March, 2010. DEQ staff used a newly developed survey plan including review of the programs' living donor protocols and compliance with the same, review of data, staff interviews, and tracer methodology to verify awareness of program protocols.
- Establishment of Processes to Enforce Standards for Individuals Procuring Deceased Donor Organs for Transplantation: The Committee reviewed the proposal from the ASTS entitled "Recommendations for Standards for Individuals Procuring Deceased Donor Organs for Transplantation" but did not reach a consensus on a path forward.
- Performance Analysis and Improvement Subcommittee (PAIS) Report: The PAIS met on February 26, March 3, and March 19, 2010, and continued its review of transplant programs that exhibited lower than expected patient and/or graft survival rates; small volume programs that experienced at least one death and/or graft failure within one year of transplant; and functionally inactive programs. The Subcommittee made its recommendations to the full MPSC during the March 24-25, 2010 meeting.

- Policy Compliance Subcommittee Report: The Policy Compliance Subcommittee (PCSC) met on March 23, 2010. The PCSC discussed general issues as well as standard, periodic site surveys; member complaints; observed or reported potential policy violations, and organ specific committee referrals. In addition, the PCSC received updates on members that are continuing in monitoring. The Subcommittee made its recommendations to the full MPSC during the March 25, 2010 meeting.

III. New Business

- Change to Mailing Requirement in Bylaws: Staff presented a proposal to change current OPTN and UNOS bylaw language that currently limits delivery options of certain member communications to services provided by United States Postal Service. Language changes would allow more flexibility for different methods of overnight delivery or communication by secure email. The Committee approved the changes, which will be presented to the Executive Committee for approval.
- Impact of OMB Forms Changes on Performance Reviews: Staff presented an overview and the timeline for the process of adopting modifications to the OPTN data collection forms to the Committee for their input. During the presentation, some of the proposed changes were highlighted. The Committee was advised that most of the added data elements in the proposal are intended to enhance risk-adjustment for the program-specific reports.
- Separate Transplant Hospitals Seeking Single Program Approval Together: Staff reported to the Committee that several inquiries had been received for two separate transplant hospitals to be recognized as single OPTN/UNOS members rather than two. The Committee suggested several updates to the MPSC's June 1999 guidelines entitled "Issues in Defining a UNOS Member Transplant Hospital. The Committee will reconsider the issue during its July 2010 meeting as a legal opinion from HRSA is pending.
- 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.

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