

**Interim Report of the
OPTN/UNOS MEMBERSHIP AND PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE REPORT
March 17-18, 2009
Chicago, IL**

The Membership and Professional Standards Committee met on March 17-18, 2009, 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 22-23, 2009, meeting:

- Grant approval to one new individual member;
- grant full approval to two programs that have reactivated, and
- grant a one-year extension of conditional status to program that performs living donor liver transplants.

The Committee also anticipates asking the Board of Directors to approve a proposal to change the OPTN/UNOS Bylaws, to clarify the process for reporting changes in key personnel. (Appendix B, Section II, E (Key Personnel); Bylaws, Appendix B, Attachment 1, Section III (Changes in Key Personnel)). The Committee will be meeting by conference call in early May to consider public comments on the proposal.

II. Old Business

- Annual Committee Goals: During its March meeting, the Committee was presented with the goals that had been approved for the year and the progress that had been made on those goals that were already underway.
- Program-Related Actions and Personnel Changes: The Committee reviewed 37 and approved 33 personnel change applications
- Due Process Proceedings and Informal Discussions: During the March meeting, the Committee conducted one interview with a member transplant center.
- Living Donor Related Bylaws: The Committee was updated on the plans to review the bylaws related to living donor transplantation. A joint work group comprised of members from the MPSC, Living Donor Committee, Pediatric Transplantation Committee, Kidney Transplantation Committee, and the Liver and Intestinal Organ Transplantation Committee has been formed to discuss this issue. The Committee also reviewed preliminary feedback from the Liver and Intestinal Organ Transplantation Committee on some questions regarding changes that had been discussed at a previous meeting and its status of developing requirements for intestinal transplant programs.

- Proposed Bylaw Modifications to Reconcile Volume Requirements for Primary Transplant Physicians: The MPSC considered an amendment to the bylaws that will reconcile the requirements in the conditional pathways with those for training and experience. The Committee agreed to circulate the proposed changes for public comment.
- Living Donor Applications: The Committee received a progress report on the status of the application process for the transplant programs that perform living donor kidney transplants. The Committee was also informed that the “request for additional information” that was sent out to all of the living donor liver programs had been completed.
- OPO Committee Response Concerning Directed Donation Referral: The Committee asked the OPO Committee whether standards or guidelines should be developed about how families are approached and informed about directed donation during the consent process. The MPSC reviewed the OPO Committee’s response.
- OPO Committee Response Concerning Labeling Referrals: During its March 2009 meeting, the Committee reviewed the OPO Committee’s responses to two referrals regarding organ and vessel labeling. At its October 2008 meeting, the Committee referred questions to the OPO Committee regarding including serologies on vessel labels and whether modifications could be made to UNetSM that would enable all required label information to be generated by UNETSM and printed.
- Inactive Bylaw Modification: During the March meeting, the MSPC discussed feedback from the November 2008 Board of Directors meeting during which, the Board approved further modifications to the bylaw language. Additionally, the Committee received an update to the Joint Patient Affairs Committee/MPSC Work Group.
- Islet Cell Transplant Program Oversight: The program approval and recipient follow-up reporting bylaws relating to pancreas islet are not being enforced currently. The Committee discussed seeking clarification from HRSA of the OPTN’s role in islet transplantation oversight.
- Pancreas Outcome Model: During the March 2009 meeting, the MPSC considered a report from the Pancreas Transplantation Committee, including recommendations to adopt the newly developed one-year patient survival model for MPSC use in analyzing pancreas transplant program outcomes
- Performance and Certification Maintenance Work Group: The Certification Maintenance and Performance Metric Work Groups reported on its efforts to review the efficiency and effectiveness of the methods that are used for member evaluation on an ongoing basis, and making recommendations on improvements to the process.
- OPO Performance Metrics: The Committee was updated on the work of the OPO Performance Metrics Work Group, which is made up of members of the OPO Committee and the MPSC. It is tasked with developing performance metrics to maximize the utilization of organs.
- Preventing the Appearance of Potential Conflicts of Interest Regarding Declaration of Death and Organ Procurement: The Committee continued its discussion of concerns relating to a

single surgeon being involved in the declaration of death in organ donors, procurement of the organs, and in transplant surgeries. The Committee reviewed draft bylaw language that had been developed by an ad hoc subcommittee and agreed to further amend the draft language and to submit the proposal for public comment.

- Center Specific Reports: The SRTR presented a summary of the Organ Specific Committee work regarding improving the center/program specific reports. The SRTR representatives will continue to update the MPSC on the progress of the improvements and when changes will be implemented into the model.
- 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.
- Data Subcommittee Report: The Data Subcommittee met on February 26, 2009, and continued its discussion regarding the 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 17-18, 2009 meeting.
- Policy Compliance Subcommittee Report: The Policy Compliance Subcommittee (PCSC) met on March 16, 2009. 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.

III. New Business

- Live Donor Adverse Events Reporting: As required in Policy 7.3.3 (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 one reported instance.
- Committee Review of ASTS Recommendations: The Committee considered two proposals from the ASTS. Recommendations for Standards for Individuals Procuring Deceased Donor Organs for Transplantation” and “Traveling Surgical Scholarship in Living Donor Liver Transplantation.”
- OPTN Notification of Potential Adverse Action by other Regulatory Agencies: During its March 2009, meeting, the Committee reviewed existing and recommended modifications to the bylaw language that requires transplant programs, OPOs, and histocompatibility laboratories to notify the OPTN of threatened or real adverse actions taken by regulatory agencies

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