

**OPTN Membership and Professional Standards Committee
Performance Monitoring Enhancement Subcommittee
Meeting Summary
April 19, 2022
Conference Call**

**Richard Formica, M.D., Co-Chair
Amit Mathur, M.D., Co-Chair**

Introduction

The Performance Monitoring Enhancement Subcommittee of the Membership and Professional Standards Committee (MPSC) met virtually via Citrix GoToTraining on April 19, 2022, to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Welcome and agenda
2. Application of new criteria to January 2022 program-specific reports (PSR) data
3. Communication, education, and resources update
 - Review Thematic Analysis of Key Informant Interviews
 - Subcommittee Feedback and Next steps
4. Revised tools for post-transplant graft survival reviews
 - Review summary of survey and subcommittee discussion and updated questionnaires
5. Next Steps

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

1. Welcome and Agenda

A staff member provided introductory remarks and reviewed the agenda for today's meeting.

2. Application of New Criteria to January 2022 Program-Specific Reports (PSR) Data

A staff member reviewed the new performance monitoring metric criteria and presented data charts showing the distribution of flags for adult and pediatric transplants for the August 2020 and January 2022 PSRs cycles. The charts, split by organ type and metric, showed the number of transplant programs identified in both the August 2020 and January 2022 PSRs.

Subcommittee members compared the data charts and offered questions. A subcommittee member asked how the number of programs identified compares to the number identified under the current criteria. A staff member responded that about the same number of programs are being identified with the new criteria as with the existing criteria.

Another subcommittee member asked about the number of programs expected to be in the yellow zone. It would be helpful to know about many programs that may participate in IMFI services. Staff responded that they would follow up with The Scientific Registry of Transplant Recipients (SRTR) and provide that data in the future.

3. Communication, Education, and Resource Update

A staff member reviewed the communication and education efforts for the new OPTN Transplant Program Performance Monitoring implementation. She recognized a subcommittee member for representing the MPSC at the Transplant Management Forum (TMF) and presenting the new performance metrics. The staff member stated that today's focus would be on education and discovery efforts to develop program self-evaluation and improvement resources.

A staff member updated the subcommittee on the current discovery efforts noting the goal is to gather effective practices from high-performing programs to develop educational resources and inform the MPSC review process. She provided a timeline for when educational materials are expected to be released and updated the subcommittee on the current status of the discovery.

The staff member presented information on key informant interviews conducted to better understand effective practices for successful post-transplant outcomes in the community. She also summarized a thematic analysis, which categorized the key informant's feedback into six main themes, which included:

- Key Staffing
- Key Processes
- Performance Monitoring
- Resources/Tools
- Patient Education
- Organization/Team Culture

The staff member provided details about each of the themes, discussed the next steps in the discovery phase, and provided time for subcommittee members to ask questions.

Subcommittee members offered feedback including a suggestion that webinars could be an effective way to communicate effective practices. A subcommittee member noted that the themes described were consistent with his experience but mentioned that staff should include strategies to increase growth for small volume programs. A representative from SRTR stated the importance of communicating the resources that are already available to the community.

4. Revised Tools for Post-Transplant Graft Survival Reviews

A staff member reviewed the revised tools for post-transplant graft survival reviews and discussed the Initial and Expanded Questionnaires with the subcommittee. The staff member stated that the questionnaires had been updated based on feedback received on a survey of subcommittee members and at the last subcommittee meeting. Subcommittee members reviewed the revised questionnaires and offered questions and feedback. The subcommittee participated in several polls to gauge support for suggested revisions.

- *Initial Outcomes Questionnaire, Section II.B -C: Transplant Program Staff (Surgeons and Physicians):* Some subcommittee members supported the removal of questions referring to fellows and residents because programs are not required to have residency or fellowship programs and in fact, some programs do not have these programs. Other subcommittee members supported keeping the questions about residents and fellows in the initial questionnaire as the information is helpful in evaluating a program's resources. Some committee members supported simply revising the questions from a "Yes/No" question to an open-ended question. Through a poll, the subcommittee members supported keeping these questions on the initial outcomes questionnaire. Through a second poll, the subcommittee members supported retaining the fellowship/residency questions on the initial questionnaire.

Staff stated that they would clarify the language of the question to allow respondents to provide a more detailed response.

- *Supplemental Questions (previously Expanded Outcomes Questionnaire), Section III.3: Re-admissions to hospital:* Subcommittee members noted that question 3 that requests the annual rate of transplant recipient readmission needs clarification to be more specific. Staff stated that the language would be revised to focus on unplanned versus planned readmissions.
- *Supplemental Questions (previously Expanded Outcomes Questionnaire), Section VI.1: Outpatient Care:* Subcommittee members stated that question 1 regarding who directs the transplant clinic needs clarification. Subcommittee members provided suggestions on how to revise the language.

5. Next Steps

A staff member stated that the revisions for the questionnaires would be brought to the next subcommittee meeting. Staff noted that an update on the work of the subcommittee will be provided the MPSC on its April 22 meeting. Subcommittee members had no other questions and the conference call was concluded.

Upcoming Meetings

- April 22, 2022: MPSC meeting, 1 – 4:00 pm, ET
- May 4, 2022: Performance Monitoring Enhancement (PME) Subcommittee, 3 – 5:00 pm ET
- May 31, 2022: MPSC meeting, 3 – 5:00 pm, ET
- June 24, 2022: Performance Monitoring Enhancement (PME) Subcommittee, 2 – 4:00 pm ET
- June 29, 2022: MPSC meeting, 1 – 3:00 pm, ET

Attendance

- **Committee Members**
 - Richard N. Formica Jr (Subcommittee Chair)
 - Amit Mathur (Subcommittee Co-chair)
 - Nicole Berry
 - Emily Blumberg
 - Todd Dardas
 - Catherine Frenette
 - Alice L. Gray
 - Ian R. Jamieson
 - Jules Lin
 - Scott Lindberg
 - Jerry McCauley
 - Kenneth McCurry
 - Michael Pham
 - Steven R. Potter
 - Sara Rasmussen
 - Pooja Singh
 - Zoe Stewart-Lewis
- **HRSA Representatives**
 - Marilyn Levi
 - Arjun Naik
 - Raelene Skerda
- **SRTR Staff**
 - Ryo Hirose
 - Jonathan Miller
 - Jon J. Snyder
 - David Zaun
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Sally Aungier
 - Matt Belton
 - Tameka Bland
 - Robyn DiSalvo
 - Nadine Drumn
 - Katie Favaro
 - Ann-Marie Leary
 - Amy Minkler
 - Samantha Noreen
 - Jacqueline O'Keefe
 - Sharon Shepherd
 - Stephon Thelwell
 - Betsy Warnick
 - Karen Wooten
 - Amanda Young
- **Other Attendees**
 - None