

OPTN Membership and Professional Standards Committee

Meeting Summary

January 29, 2024

Conference Call

Zoe Stewart Lewis, M.D., Chair

Scott Lindberg, M.D., Vice Chair

Introduction

The Membership and Professional Standards Committee (MPSC) met via Webex in both open and closed session on January 29, 2024, to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Public Comment Proposal: Expedited Placement Variance
2. Estimated Glomerular Filtration Rate (eGFR) Update
3. Membership Issues

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

1. Public Comment Proposal: Expedited Placement Variance

The MPSC received a presentation of the Executive Committee's *Expediated Placement Variance* proposal which is currently out for special public comment.

Summary of discussion:

The Committee thanked the Executive Committee for their time and effort in developing and presenting this proposal. A member noted the time constraints associated with policy changes and the public comment and Board approval process. The presenter noted that the Executive Committee has utilized a special public comment pathway and will pursue approval at an off-cycle Board meeting to be more expeditious in the policy development process. The presenter added that special public comment started in late December and was extended by two weeks to account for a request from the community for a longer period of engagement.

A member inquired about the data collection process and to what extent data will be collected through the OPTN to monitor and evaluate the variance. A member asked how the variances will be tracked through the match run to ensure the consenting programs are participating and the protocol is followed appropriately. The presenter responded that refusal codes and bypass codes will be developed to be variance specific so that the allocation behaviors for each variance can be tracked through the match run. This will be used to monitor for both compliance with the protocol requirements and to collect protocol specific data. Variance protocols will also be required to distinguish how monitoring can occur and some may require additional data to be submitted to the OPTN. Monitoring will continue to occur through the MPSC. Given the role of the MPSC, members discussed how the variances will be monitored and some members recommended excluding the variance from allocations monitoring. Members are not supportive of excluding the variance from performance monitoring.

A member voiced concern over the Executive Committee approving variance protocols since not every organ type is represented clinically on the Executive Committee. The member emphasized the importance of having the variances reviewed and approved by those with clinical expertise of the organ. The presenter recommended that the organ-specific committees provide feedback on what information

is needed in the variance protocols to be appropriate for approval. The Expedious Taskforce will also be lending subject matter expertise to the Executive Committee for review and approval when needed. A member also recommended the release of the Kidney Minimum Acceptance Criteria (KiMAC) screening tool used by the OPTN to aid in allocation. The presenter noted that the Kidney Committee discussed releasing the KiMAC as part of Continuous Distribution of Kidneys. Since this allocation framework development has been paused, the presenter opined that the Kidney Committee would still likely be supportive of sharing the screening tool.

2. Estimated Glomerular Filtration Rate (eGFR) Update & Case Review

The MPSC met in closed session to discuss one member who did not meet the deadline for OPTN Policy 3.7.D (Waiting Time Modifications for Kidney Candidates Affected by Race-Inclusive eGFR Calculations), as well as potential monitoring of members to confirm that they followed the policy correctly.

3. Membership Issues

During closed session, the Committee discussed a new pancreas transplant program application and voted to approve it.

Upcoming Meetings

- February 16, 2024, 2-4pm, ET, Conference Call
- March 5-7, 2024, Detroit
- March 29, 2024, 2-4pm, ET, Conference Call
- Apr 23, 2024, 3-5pm, ET, Conference Call
- May 21, 2024, 2-4pm, ET, Conference Call
- June 28, 2024, 2-4pm, ET, Conference Call
- July 23-25, 2024, Detroit

Attendance

- **Committee Members**
 - Maher Baz
 - Alan Betensley
 - Kristine Browning
 - Anil Chandraker
 - Chad Ezzell
 - Robert Fontana
 - Roshan George
 - Darla Granger
 - Lafaine Grant
 - Dipankar Gupta
 - Shelley Hall
 - Robert Harland
 - Kyle Herber
 - Victoria Hunter
 - Michelle James
 - Catherine Kling
 - Peter Lalli
 - Raymond Lee
 - Carolyn Light
 - Maricar Malinis
 - Amit Mathur
 - Deborah McRann
 - Nancy Metzler
 - Saeed Mohammad
 - Regina Palke
 - Martha Pavlakis
 - Deidre Sawinski
 - Malay Shah
 - Mark Wakefield
 - Candy Wells
- **HRSA Representatives**
 - James Bowman
 - Shannon Dunne
 - Marilyn Levi
 - Arjun Naik
 - Kala Rochelle
- **SRTR Staff**
 - Jonathan Miller
 - Ryo Hirose
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Robert Albertson
 - James Alcorn
 - Sally Aungier
 - Matt Belton
 - Tory Boffo

- Nadine Cahalan
 - Laureen Edwards
 - Liz Friddell
 - Michelle Furjes
 - Jasmine Gaines
 - Rebecca Goff
 - Jesse Howell
 - Elias Khalil
 - Lee Ann Kontos
 - Krissy Laurie
 - Ellen Litkenhaus
 - Amy Minkler
 - Heather Neil
 - Delaney Nilles
 - Samantha Noreen
 - Jacqui O'Keefe
 - Kelley Poff
 - Bronson Robertson
 - Liz Robbins Callahan
 - Laura Schmitt
 - Sharon Shepherd
 - Courtney Skeen
 - Chris Stadolnik
 - Sarah Stevenson
 - Juanita Street
 - Stephon Thelwell
 - Marta Waris
 - Betsy Warnick
 - Trevi Wilson
 - Claudia Woisard
 - Emily Womble
 - Karen Wooten
- **Other Attendees**
 - None