OPTN Executive Committee
Meeting Summary
May 24, 2019
9:45 p.m.

Sue Dunn, Committee Chair
Maryl Johnson, Vice Chair

Introduction

The OPTN Executive Committee met via teleconference on 05/24/2019 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Calculation of Median MELD at Transplant Based on Geographic Distribution Unit.

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

1. Calculation of Median MELD at Transplant (MMaT) Based on Geographic Distribution Unit

The Executive Committee met via teleconference to take action on the calculation of MMaT between DSA and region-based distribution with MMaT calculated at 250 NM circles for standard exception MELD scores. On May 23, 2019, liver allocation reverted from 250 NM from the donor hospital back to DSAs and regions in order to comply with direction from HRSA and a federal court order. Leaving MMaT calculations as is could create disadvantages to candidates at certain programs within five DSAs.

As review, the UNOS staff reminded the committee that the MMaT calculation for the the National Liver Review Board was to be calculated based on a circle around the candidate's transplant hospital in order to align with the circles that were to be used in the new geography. Public comment was received regarding alignment of policies. The Committee is unexpectedly in a position similar to that discussed earlier in 2019 in which National Liver Review Board is in place, and that is now DSA-based and not acuity circles-based.

Staff read resolution language aloud.

This issue has been discussed in the past on several occasions, including this morning. A motion made for approval of resolution as presented herein. Motion granted and approved.

The motion carried; seven ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions.

IT members are waiting to implement this action now that Executive Committee has approved. Communication has been made with all relevant stakeholders. The Executive Director thanked Committee members for convening on short notice, as well as staff working extra hours to ensure timely implementation.