

OPTN Transplant Coordinators Committee

Meeting Summary

March 21, 2024

Conference Call

Stacy McKean, RN, BSN, MHA, CCTC, Chair

Christine Brenner, RN, BSN, CPTC, CCTC, Vice Chair

Introduction

The Transplant Administrators Committee (the Committee) met via Citrix WebEx teleconference on 03/21/24 to discuss the following agenda items:

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

1. Policy Development Process Review
2. New Ideas Discussion

1. Policy Development Process Review

The Committee did not make any decisions.

Summary of discussion:

UNOS staff member reviewed the OPTN policy development process, from identifying ideas to postimplementation review.

2. New Ideas Discussion

The Committee discussed two new project ideas that came out of discussions from the Winter In-Person Committee meeting. The first idea focuses on improving policy implementations, the second idea is to look into Deceased Directed Donation (DDD) as there was some ambiguity and concerns brought up regarding authority for authorization.

The Committee did not make any decisions.

Summary of discussion:

Policy operationalization:

The Vice Chair presented on the previous discussion the Committee had regarding policy implementation and operationalization at the in-person meeting, January 31st, 2024. It was highlighted that to avoid potential involuntary non-compliance with OPTN policies, improving the way policies, especially data change or IT change policies, are operationalized at the transplant program level could be incredibly beneficial. Examples of policies included the recent estimated Glomerular Filtration Rate (eGFR) policy change and requirements. The Vice Chair emphasized the lack of available training and support for programs on the policy implementation, members added their assent to this assessment.

A member agreed that improving rollout is a great project for the Committee in conjunction with the Transplant Administrators Committee. Regarding feedback and a pre-implementation check, the

member urged the Committee to do both. The member also suggested a post-implementation check-in to see what needs improvement or what went well, including application and interpretation of new policy language.

Other members agreed that this project could be beneficial and would like to take this on for further project development.

Deceased Directed Donation:

The Committee discussed concerns brought up regarding directed deceased donation (DDD). There were some ambiguities brought up regarding authorization of DDD during the Winter In-Person meeting. The concern centered around who is the authorizing party for DDD, and the Chair had highlighted their organ procurement organization (OPO) had questions about compliance with state law and/or OPTN policy when it came to authorizing a deceased directed donation. Several members stated that additional guidance would be helpful. One member suggested that the concern might be more specific to the Chairs program, and therefore misinterpretation might be less widespread than initially thought. Members agreed that getting more information about the specifics of the issue would be beneficial as they continue this conversation.

Next Steps:

- UNOS staff presented next steps for improving policy rollouts, which included feedback follow-up and further conversations on the topic.
- The Vice Chair suggested partnering with other committees to analyze the issue of DDD and having further clarifying conversations on the next Committee call.

Upcoming Meeting

- April 18, 2024
- May 16, 2024

Attendance

- **Committee Members**
 - Anne O'Boye
 - Christine Brenner
 - Brandy Baldwin
 - Kelsey McCauley
 - Stacy Sexton
 - Heather Bastardi
 - Heather Miller Webb
 - Gertrude Okelezo
 - Nancy Rodriguez
 - Kenny Laferriere
 - Amy Olsen
 - Karl Neumann
 - Ashley Cardenas
 - Robin Peterson
- **HRSA Representatives**
 - Marilyn Levi
 - Kala Rochelle
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Stryker-Ann Vosteen
 - Cole Fox
 - Laura Schmitt
 - Kevin Daub