

**OPTN Ethics Committee
Meeting Summary
June 8, 2023
Conference Call
Keren Ladin, PhD, Chair
Andrew Flescher, PhD, Vice Chair**

Introduction

The Ethics Committee met via Citrix GoToMeeting teleconference on 06/08/2023 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Welcome and Announcements
2. Vote: Normothermic Regional Perfusion (NRP) White Paper
3. Vote: Multiple Listing Technical Change
4. Closing Remarks

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

1. Welcome and Announcements

Staff and the Chair welcomed members to the call.

2. Vote: Normothermic Regional Perfusion (NRP) White Paper

Staff explained that the updated draft of the white paper clarifies definitions, contains updated footnotes, ensures consistent phrasing, and fixes typos, grammatical errors, and fragments. The Committee voted to determine how to move the white paper forward.

Presentation Summary:

The Chair explained that some changes were made to the authorization and consent section to reflect past Committee discussions. Line-item changes to the white paper were reviewed and explained.

Summary of discussion:

A member asked why the updated paper uses the term "informed decision making," and the Chair explained that the differences between authorization and consent can be confusing, and the main goal of the paper using "informed decision making" is to refrain from further confusion but make the point that it is crucial to have people be informed and aware, and that this information is presented in a transparent and comprehensible way. Members discussed a footnote that explains the formulation of the Dead Donor Rule as used in the paper and ensured consistency of the explanation with other parts of the paper. Several added references to newly published literature were noted. The Chair explained that the informed consent and authorization section is expected to receive a lot of comments and feedback during the public comment period, especially from organ procurement organizations. The Chair thanked members for their work on the white paper and reminded members of the mission and scope of the Committee and this project specifically. Staff and Committee leadership noted that this can be a contentious topic. Members have varying backgrounds, so efforts would be made to ensure that regional and Committee presenters would have adequate support to answer questions and respond to feedback.

Vote:

Members were asked to vote on if they support sending the paper forward to public comment in July 2023. The vote passed unanimously.

Next steps:

The white paper will be sent out for public comment in July. An update on this will be provided to the NRP Workgroup.

3. Vote: Multiple Listing Technical Change

The Committee voted on a technical change to the Multiple Listing White Paper.

Presentation Summary:

The paper calls out Veterans Affairs (VA) hospitals as a special consideration for multiple listing. In the draft that the Committee approved, the language used referred to “veterans who list at VA hospitals.” However, it was brought up subsequently that not only veterans may receive care at VA hospitals. The paper has been updated to reflect this, and now uses the language “candidates who list at VA hospitals.” Also, two acronyms that were not spelled out in the original, voted upon draft were spelled out in the updated draft.

Summary of discussion:

There was no discussion.

Vote:

The Chair called for a vote on if the Committee accepts the technical change and supports sending the updated version to the Board of Directors. A member seconded the motion. Members voted unanimously to accept the change.

Next steps:

The updated white paper will be sent to the Board of Directors.

4. Closing Remarks

Outgoing members were thanked for their service to the Committee. A special thank you was given to the outgoing Chair. The outgoing Chair asked outgoing members to consider serving on other OPTN Committees.

Upcoming Meetings

- July 20, 2023

Attendance

- **Committee Members**
 - Andrew Flescher
 - Keren Ladin
 - Bob Truog
 - Carrie Thiessen
 - Andrew Courtwright
 - Erica Stohs
 - Felicia Wells-Williams
 - George Bayliss
 - Sanjay Kulkarni
 - Laurel Avery
 - Megan Urbanski
 - Melissa Anderson
 - Thao Galvan
 - Sena-Wilson Sheehan
- **HRSA Representatives**
 - Jim Bowman
- **SRTR Representatives**
 - Bryn Thompson
- **Other attendees**
 - Lisa Paolillo
 - Shelia Bullock
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Cole Fox
 - Emma Young
 - Kristina Hogan
 - Laura Schmitt
 - Kimberly Uccellini