

**OPTN/UNOS Ad Hoc International Relations Committee  
Report to the Board of Directors  
June 1-2, 2015  
Atlanta, Georgia**

**Jorge Reyes, MD, Chair  
Susan Gunderson, MHA, Vice Chair**

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*This report reflects the work of the OPTN/UNOS Ad Hoc International Relations Committee during the period of November 2014 to May 2015.*

**Action Items**

None

**Committee Projects**

1. Define Exhausting the Match Run

*Public Comment: TBD*

*Board Review: TBD*

OPTN policy currently states that “members may export deceased donor organs to hospitals in foreign countries only after offering the organs to all potential recipients on the match run.” The Committee reviewed data in 2014 in an attempt to identify some array of *where* in the match sequence placement efforts would be futile. No clear path forward was identified in 2014. This project was reviewed by the Policy Oversight Committee in early 2015 and it was noted that the number of exported organs was small and that 80% of the exports were documented to have been done after the end of the match run.

2. Review Deceased Donor Import Policy

*Public Comment: TBD*

*Board Review: TBD*

The Committee has been working for several years on this project to review the deceased donor import policy. Currently, *Policy 17.2.C: Deceased Donor Organs Imported from Outside of the United States without a Formal Agreement* states that members “must notify the Organ Center immediately so that the OPTN Contractor can allocate the organ according to the match run for that organ.” There have been discussions about the transparency of this process as well as the impact on patient safety. However, the policy language also states that imported deceased donor organs “must meet all the requirements in *Policy 17.2.B: Requirements for Importing Deceased Donor Organ through a Formal Agreement*.” This includes blood type verification, testing for infectious diseases, and other requirements to ensure patient safety. Additionally, there have only been an average of 4 imported organs transplanted between 2010 and 2014. The Committee will be reevaluating this project to clearly identify a problem and identify how the project will align with the upcoming changes to the OPTN Strategic goals.

3. IRC Annual Report

*Policy 17.1.C: Report of Activities Related to The Transplantation of Non-US Citizens/Non-US Residents* states that the Ad Hoc International Relations Committee will prepare and provide public access to an annual report of transplant hospital activities related to the

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registration and transplantation of non-US citizens/non-US residents. The initial report was included in the June 2014 report to the Board of Directors and can be found at [https://optn.transplant.hrsa.gov/media/1854/IRC\\_Annual\\_Report.pdf](https://optn.transplant.hrsa.gov/media/1854/IRC_Annual_Report.pdf) The second fulfillment of this policy requirement can be found in **Exhibit A**.

### **Committee Projects Pending Implementation**

None

### **Implemented Committee Projects**

None

### **Review of Public Comment Proposals**

None

### **Meeting Summaries**

The Committee did not meet during this reporting cycle.

Previous meetings summaries for this Committee are available on the OPTN website at:

<https://optn.transplant.hrsa.gov/members/committees>