

**OPTN/UNOS Histocompatibility Committee**  
**Meeting Summary**  
**May 20, 2015**  
**Conference Call**

**Dolly Tyan, Ph.D., Chair**  
**Bob Bray, Ph.D., Vice Chair**

*Discussions of the full committee on May 20, 2015 are summarized below and will be reflected in the committee's next report to the OPTN/UNOS Board of Directors. Meeting summaries and reports to the Board are available at <http://optn.transplant.hrsa.gov/>.*

**Committee Projects**

**1. Discrepant HLA Typing**

The Discrepancy HLA Typing Subcommittee reviews discrepant typing reports on a regular basis, but the Committee would like for these reviews to be completed on a quarterly basis, as is required by policy. The Committee wants to develop a process so that the reviewing responsibilities do not fall to one or two committee members each time. UNOS Staff clarified that policy requires these reviews to be performed on a quarterly basis, and if the Committee discovers any serious or especially problematic discrepancies, they can be referred to the Department of Membership Quality (MQ) for further investigation. There is no deadline in policy for how often or how quickly referrals from the Committee must be made to MQ.

The Committee discussed whether the Subcommittee should report their findings to the full Committee on a quarterly basis, or whether the findings can be reported annually or bi-annually at an in-person meeting. One committee member suggested reviewing the subcommittee's findings on full committee teleconferences that are devoted solely to reviewing the findings.

The Committee ultimately tasked the Subcommittee with developing a standard operating procedure in time for the next full Committee call on June 17.

**2. Annual Update to the HLA Equivalency Tables**

The Committee reviewed proposed updates to the HLA Equivalency Tables in Policy 4.8: Reference Tables of HLA Antigen Values and Split Equivalences. In addition to the updates to the tables, the Committee also plans to update the following labels in UNet and policy: DQA will become DQA1; DQB will become DQB1; and DPB will become DPB1. The Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee volunteered to continue to incorporate proposed edits into the equivalency tables and present them to the Committee for a final vote during its June 17 full committee teleconference. The Committee is still on track to distribute these updates for public comment during the Fall 2015 cycle.

### **3. DQA1 and DPB1 dropdowns**

The Committee discussed dropdowns for the upcoming addition of DQA1 and DPB1 to DonorNet for deceased donors and Waitlist as unacceptable antigens. The Committee agreed that the list of values from the International Immunogenetics Information System (IMGT) should be used.

### **4. CPRA and Priority for Kidney Candidates Undergoing Desensitization**

The Committee is considering policy changes that would allow highly sensitized patients undergoing desensitization to keep the allocation points and priority associated with their pre-desensitization CPRA score while unacceptable antigens are removed ('CPRA exception'). To do so, it recruited members of the Kidney Transplantation and Minority Affairs Committees for the Kidney Allocation system (KAS) Desensitization Workgroup. The workgroup and the Histocompatibility Committee designed a survey for kidney transplant programs and histocompatibility laboratories to collect data. The draft and final surveys were reviewed by the UNOS Research Department. The data to be collected includes:

- Member views on the concept of "CPRA exception" and conditions for "CPRA exception";
- Member experience on performing desensitization of candidates for deceased donor kidney transplants or for kidney exchange programs;
- Member views on desensitization and the estimated number of kidney candidates who could benefit from "CPRA exception".

The Histocompatibility Committee, Minority Affairs Committee and Kidney Committee reviewed and approved the final version of KAS Desensitization survey and it is ready to distribute to all transplant centers and associated histocompatibility laboratories. The Committee requested survey results analysis to inform future policy development.

### **Upcoming Meeting**

- June 17, 2015