

OPTN/UNOS Transplant Administrators Committee
Meeting Summary
July 22, 2015
Chicago, IL

Amy Peele, RN, Chair
James Pittman, RN, MSN, Vice Chair

Discussions of the full committee on July 22, 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. None

Committee Projects Pending Implementation

2. None

Implemented Committee Projects

3. None

Review of Public Comment Proposals

4. None

Other Significant Items

5. Operations and Safety Committee (OSC) Patient Safety Report Update

The Committee received a presentation from the OSC on patient safety data reporting. The Patient Safety Advisory Group reviews patient safety data incident reports twice a year to identify trends or key areas where system improvements, educational products and policies can be developed. This group also prioritizes the data and receives safety topic referrals from the Membership and Professional Standards Committee (MPSC). The presenter reviewed the primary data source used by this group, overall trends and patterns in patient safety situation reporting to the OPTN, how the OSC prioritized the events reported, and actions taken by the group on referrals made by the MPSC. The Committee agrees this is valuable information for this group and community and would like to continue to receive updates from OSC.

6. OSC Reporting Extra Vessels Disposition

UNOS staff updated the Committee on policy 16.7.B Vessel Storage that was approved by the OPTN/UNOS Board of Directors in November 2012. Implementation of the policy is pending upon programming and expected to go live in October 2015. Policy requirements were reviewed with the Committee along with changes that were made for reporting extra vessels disposition and new reporting features and requirements.

Committee member questions/comments included:

- Can centers add multiple vessel dispositions for the same donor?
- How does this integrate with TransNet?

- Will educational resources be available?
- Can individuals entering data only be allowed access to donor vessel management?
- Some committee members were opposed to allowing OR nurses the ability to update data on donor recipients and commented that allowing all those entering data access to the donor social security number will be an issue for most centers due to HIPAA regulations. Members suggested making only the last four digits of the social security number visible on the search option.
- System notices will be sent out one month prior to implementation and there will also be an article on Transplant Pro.
- Centers will need adequate time to train staff on how to access and complete these forms accurately.
- Will there be a UNet warning stating that the center has forms that are due or overdue?
- It would be helpful if centers received notification that forms are due 48 hours prior to the deadline.

7. Observations in Transplant Volumes

UNOS Research staff presented data from a study into the increase in transplant from 2013 to 2014 in the United States and a display of macro-level metrics at national and regional levels to show where increases were found in the number of transplants and donors. Staff also demonstrated a new data tool called Tableau and discussed ways this tool would be useful to transplant centers. The Committee was notified that this data can be requested through the OPTN website and UNOS Research department. The Committee requested an update on this topic at its October in person meeting.

8. UNOS Instructional Innovations - Learning Management System (LMS)

UNOS Instructional Innovations staff provided a demonstration of the LMS that UNOS has purchased. The UNOS LMS will be used to centralize all UNOS instructional efforts and is expected to be available in January 2016. It will also provide members with an educational tracking system that will allow them to keep track of trainings they have completed as well as progress and training scores. Committee members were informed that their organization's staff training reports could be provided to their supervisors. Members were interested in the cost of access to the LMS to centers and how they will be charged for this access. The Committee also agreed that UNOS should collaborate with other organizations to post competencies to the LMS. The TAC Education Work Group will continue to work with Instructional Innovations to provide feedback on content and ways the LMS would be beneficial to the transplant community. Committee members also volunteered to complete LMS user testing. An update on this topic was requested for the October in person meeting.

9. Research Member Services

UNOS Research staff provided an overview of the Research Department's current and future functions. New services the Research department will provide for the national STAR files include:

- Customization
- Statistical analysis
- Additional data elements
- Visual analytics
- Manuscript writing

- Expert advise

New services for member data requests include:

- Dashboards/Visual analytics
- Benchmarking reports
- Link internal hospital and OPTN data
- Compliance monitoring
- Ad Hoc statistical interpretation
- Analysis for data publication

Other new services include:

- Data Lake
 - New organ offers report
 - Direct access to more UNet data
 - Visualization of member data
- Updates to the data reports on the OPTN Website
 - More data elements
 - Export capabilities
 - Visual display of data

Committee members had questions regarding the billing process for these new data requests and it was explained as follows: there would be a data request made to UNOS Research, a statement of work would be drafted and sent to the requestor for approval, a contract with a set amount would then be sent to the requestor, once signed and received by UNOS an invoice would be sent. Some committee members suggested the administrator be copied on the contract and invoice. It was also suggested that UNOS highlight this information at UNOS exhibit booths.

10. Educational Work Group

The Work Group volunteered to review the learning modules that will be available through the LMS and will recommend a list of learning modules transplant administrators should assign to their staff.

The Work Group Chair will continue to work on the Alliance's Quality Resource guide project. This project is to review materials that are pertinent to transplant administration and will be made available on a common free internet site that is managed by the Alliance. The project should be complete by spring 2016. Going forward the TAC will have the opportunity to send materials/resources to the Alliance for inclusion on this site.

The group discussed the idea of an on-line "town hall" with representation from the four transplant administration constituencies to address questions about their organizations as well as topics relevant to transplant administration. The Work Group Chair will coordinate a conference call to discuss further.

The TAC Listserv Work Group and the Education Work Group will partner to share the work of the TAC Education Work Group more broadly.

11. Open Discussion

Liver Forum

Committee members that attended the Liver Forum in June 2015 briefed the full committee on the discussions that occurred. Similar to the discussions at the Forum, TAC members had conflicting opinions on liver distribution. One member shared an

experience that occurred at her center where her patient was not able to receive a liver due to geography. It was questioned if MELD/PELD is the appropriate allocation system to predict survival and it was noted by members that underutilization of livers is an issue. Some members thought additional evaluation for liver distribution is necessary while others thought change needs to occur now. However, all were in agreement that a change that is right for patients and the regions is needed. The Committee requested an update from the Liver and Intestine Committee on its August monthly conference call.

Request for a Permanent Transplant Administrator Position on the Board of Directors

Committee members were reminded of the TAC's request to add a permanent transplant administrator position on the OPTN/UNOS Board of Directors. This request was made to UNOS leadership in March 2015 and a response was received in May 2015. UNOS leadership denied the request at that time noting that the current size of the Board is too large and prevents the Board from being more responsive to the needs of the community. The Executive Committee is considering restructuring the Board and encouraged the TAC to continue to pursue early and active involvement in policy development process.

Committee members agreed that early involvement in the policy development process is important but still believe the transplant administrator perspective is crucial at the Board level. The Committee Chair requested that Carl Berg, MD and Betsy Walsh, JD, MPH be invited to attend one of the Committee's future meetings to discuss this issue further.

Policy Oversight Committee (POC) Update

The Committee Vice-Chair provided an update on the role of the POC members and POC activities. The Committee was asked to review the Executive Committee approved committee projects and indicate projects that should have TAC participation/representation.

Upcoming Meetings

- August 26, 2015 (Conference call)
- September 30, 2015 (Conference call)
- October 20, 2015 (Chicago, IL)