

OPTN/UNOS Membership and Professional Standards Committee (MPSC)
Meeting Summary
February 4, 2015
Conference Call

Jonathan M. Chen, M.D., Chair
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Discussions of the full committee on February 4, 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

The Committee discussed its proposals that were posted for public comment from between September 29 and December 5, 2014.

1. Proposal: Quality Assessment and Process Improvement Requirement (QAPI)

This proposal put forth modifications to OPTN Bylaws that would require members to implement a QAPI program that must include certain essential elements. A requirement that members develop and implement a comprehensive QAPI program should assist members in their efforts to improve performance and remain in compliance with OPTN obligations.

The Committee reviewed the responses to public comment. Concerns were raised regarding duplication of CMS requirements. Suggested amendments were proposed by many of the commenters that included references to CMS regulations or language that included less detailed component requirements. The Committee voted to amend the proposal to include a more general QAPI requirement and to send the amended language to the Board for approval at its June 2015 meeting.

2. Proposal: Pre-Transplant Performance Review

The purpose of this proposal is to provide the MPSC with a tool, the Composite Pre-transplant Metric (CPM), for identifying kidney and liver programs that may be in need of review based on outlying performance in accepting deceased donor organ offers, transplanting waitlisted patients, and/or mitigating waitlist mortality. The CPM is an aggregate, pre-transplant performance metric that combines programs' acceptance rate, geography-adjusted transplant rate, and waitlist mortality rate observed-to-expected (O/E) ratios into a single number for prioritizing programs for potential review.

The Committee reviewed the responses to public comment. The Committee noted the concerns raised by many of the commenters about some of the component models and the inability to adequately evaluate the proposal without access to their own program's metrics. In response, the Committee has formed a work group to determine if the models can be fine-tuned and to develop a plan for distribution of the metrics prior to implementation.

3. Proposal: Transplant Hospital Definition

This proposal would change the transplant hospital definition to better describe the characteristics of a hospital that are considered by the Membership and Professional Standards Committee (MPSC) when assessing applicant submissions for OPTN membership, transplant program designation, and ongoing compliance with policies.

The Committee briefly discussed the proposal, which was not broadly supported as initially proposed. It decided that a work group should be re-established to review the comments in details, and suggest modifications to the proposal.

Upcoming Meetings

- March 24-26, 2015
- April 14, 2015 (conference call)
- July 14-16 , 2015
- October 27-29, 2015