

OPTN/UNOS Transplant Coordinators Committee
Meeting Summary
September 9, 2014
Web Conference

Laurie Williams RN, BSN, MSN, Chair
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Discussions of the full committee on September 9, 2014 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. Proposal to Notify Patients Having an Extended Inactive Status

The Committee Chair reviewed the history of the proposal with the Committee. Since the proposal was not well received by the community, the Committee agreed not to submit the proposal to the Board in November. The Committee formed a work group that will partner with the Patient Affairs Committee (PAC) to write a section for inclusion in the *What Every Patient Needs to Know* brochure regarding the inactive waitlist and what it means to be inactive. It will also begin writing effective practices articles for posting to NATCO's newsletter and other transplant professional newsletters/websites to include the OPTN website and Transplant Pro. Another suggestion was to survey transplant hospitals on effective waitlist practices. The Committee will review data to see if the educational efforts and new kidney allocation system (KAS) has had any effect on the inactive waitlist at six months and one year after KAS implementation. After reviewing the data, the Committee will then decide if revisiting the proposal is appropriate.

2. Tiedi® Help Documentation

The Committee received an update on the Tiedi Help Documentation project. The role of this Tiedi Subcommittee is to make recommendations that will improve the accuracy and the completeness of OPTN data by reviewing the documentation that exists in the Tiedi help documentation. The group is also working to clarify what data needs to be entered into the forms for accurate/complete data to be collected and provide recommendations on how to educate users.

On July 23, 2014, the Subcommittee completed its review of all the fields on the Tiedi data collection forms (TCR, TRR, TRF, PTM, and DDR). In some cases, UNOS staff were able to immediately revise help documentation based on the Committee's recommendations. During this process, they looked at the data collection field, the form, the section on the form, the values allowed for data entry, and the corresponding help documentation or glossary definitions. For each element, they commented on whether or not it was still clinically up-to-date, whether or not the help documentation was actually helpful or even correct, etc. There were many help documentation revisions for clarity and correction as well as some label changes to fields. In addition to reviewing the help documentation, the Subcommittee identified fields that appeared to be either research in nature or no longer applicable, and have suggested those fields be considered for deletion. Also, all currently optional fields will be deleted within the Tiedi forms with the

next OMB update (scheduled for spring 2015). The Subcommittee's questions and suggested revisions to current fields are currently under review by UNOS Research and will be sent to the appropriate committees to review. Recommendations for non-substantial deletions will be made without referring back to committees. Possible educational/training/communication efforts for the transplant community are also being considered.

Other significant items

3. New OPTN/UNOS Public Comment and Board Cycle

The Committee received an overview of the changes to the OPTN/UNOS Board meeting and policy development timeline for 2015. The new timeline has Board meetings scheduled approximately six months apart to allow for a complete policy development cycle prior to each meeting that would occur in early June and early December. It also allows public comment, regional meetings, committee meetings, etc. to be scheduled in advance of the Board meetings. The public comment cycles will change from 90 days to 60 days. This will allow committee proposals to move through the policy development process in a more timely fashion.

4. Committee Orientation

A brief TCC specific orientation was provided. The committee charge, composition, member expectations, meeting logistics, and committee projects were reviewed. The regional meeting dates, regional meeting logistics, and the TCC fall regional presentation process were also reviewed.

5. Organ Offer Discussion Subcommittee

The Committee formed a Subcommittee to discuss the challenges of DonorNet® regarding efficient organ placement. The group discussed some of the reasons for the extended amount of time it takes to complete the organ placement process when using DonorNet and is concerned that it can lead to organ wastage. Some of the reasons discussed were increased risk donors, provisional "yes" issue, proper listing practices, and there is not a system in place for members to discuss DonorNet issues/concerns. The group was informed that UNOS is developing an online DonorNet discussion forum to collect members' issues/concerns and to also share effective practices with others that use the system. The Organ Offer Subcommittee has offered to work with UNOS to provide input and feedback on the DonorNet discussion forum. UNOS is currently evaluating possible forum platforms and hope to make a decision by November 2014. The Organ Offer Subcommittee will invite UNOS staff to present the DonorNet discussion forum process plan on a conference call in November or December.

Upcoming Meeting

- The next in person meeting will be held on October 15, 2014 in Chicago, IL