

**OPTN/UNOS Vascularized Composite Allograft (VCA) Transplantation Committee
Meeting Summary
January 11, 2016
Conference Call**

**Sue McDiarmid, M.D., Chair
L. Scott Levin, M.D., FACS, Vice-Chair**

Discussions of the full committee on January 11, 2016 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. List Covered Body Parts Pertaining to VCA

The Committee discussed a small number of language clarifications to the recent Board-approved OPTN Bylaws, Appendix J (Membership Requirements for VCA Transplant Programs). The Committee arrived at consensus regarding:

- consistency in language addressing requirements for board certification and fellowship training for head and neck, and upper limb primary transplant surgeons in Appendices J.3.A and J.3.B,
- how to deal with an administrative matter of the sunset date for the experience pathway in lieu of board certification in Appendices J.3.A and J.3.B, and
- amendment to Appendix J.3.D regarding pre-operative evaluation of potential transplant patients.

The Committee also briefly discussed the recent Board-approved proposal to strike the option of allowing foreign board certified physicians as key personnel at transplant programs. There was concern about the need for similarity in Appendix J. The Committee requested materials on the MPSC's proposal regarding "foreign equivalent".

The Committee will discuss the matter of "foreign equivalent" and draft bylaw language changes on the next conference call in February or March 2016. The target continues to be the June 2016 Board meeting.

Other Significant Items

2. Survey to Identify Barriers to VCA Authorization and Recovery

UNOS staff shared with the Committee the following update on the *Survey to Identify Barriers to VCA Authorization and Recovery*.

- AOPO comments and feedback from UNOS internal survey working group has been received.
- Internal and external testers will be recruited.
- Target for distribution is early February 2016.

The target for analysis of the survey results continues to be the April 2016 Committee meeting in Chicago, IL.

Upcoming Meeting(s)

- March 2016 (conference call)
- April 22, 2016 (Chicago, IL)
- May 2016 (conference call)
- June 2016 (conference call)
- July 2016 (conference call)