

**OPTN/UNOS Vascularized Composite Allograft Transplantation Committee**  
**Meeting Summary**  
**December 9, 2014**  
**Chicago, Illinois**

**Sue McDiarmid, M.D., M.B.A., Chair**  
**L. Scott Levin, M.D., FACS, Vice-Chair**  
**Richard Luskin, M.P.A., Vice-Chair**

*Discussions of the full committee on December 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. Membership Requirements for VCA Transplant Programs**

The Membership Subcommittee presented draft changes to OPTN Bylaws, Appendix J, Membership and Personnel Requirements for VCA Programs. These changes would establish requirements for program directors, primary transplant physicians, and primary transplant surgeons of VCA programs. The Committee held a lengthy discussion of these draft membership requirements. A vote was made to accept the proposed changes to OPTN Bylaws, Appendix J.

The committee approved the motion (11 - support, 0 - oppose, 0 - abstentions).

The Chair and Vice Chair will present the proposed language to the OPTN/UNOS Membership and Professional Standards Committee on December 10, 2014.

**2. VCA Allocation**

The Committee reviewed a presentation by UNOS staff on the allocation algorithm for thoracic organs. This may be a model for VCA allocation in the future.

**3. VCA Graft Failure Definition**

The Committee held a discussion on VCA Graft Failure definition. The consensus of the committee was the intended goal of a VCA transplant would need be considered when deciding if a graft had failed. The Committee acknowledged that standard outcome instruments could be used, but the issue of validation may be challenging due to low numbers of VCA transplants. Additional work on a VCA-specific graft failure definition will take place in the future.

**Implemented Committee Projects**

**4. VCA Implementation (public comment review)**

The VCA Committee reviewed the themes of the public comments received for the VCA Implementation proposal. This proposal was approved by the Board in June 2014 with the public comment period to follow in the fall of 2014. Many of the comments received

surrounded the potential for living VCA donors. The Committee will continue to work on responses to these public comments on conference calls in January and February 2015.

**Other Significant Items**

5. The Committee held a discussion on considerations for deceased donor recoveries that will include VCA recovery.

**Upcoming Meetings**

- December 12, 2014 (full committee conference call)
- January 20, 2015 (full committee conference call)