Histocompatibility Committee Meeting Summary January 12, 2016 Conference Call

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Discussions of the full committee on January 12, 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. Adding an HLA DQA1 Equivalency Table

The Histocompatibility Committee met to vote on approving adding a DQA1 equivalency table to UNOS/OPTN policy and sending this out for public comment. The Committee was updated on an issue that likely would pose a problem with unacceptable antigen selection and entry when the DQA1 entries go live on January 21, 2016. Committee members asked questions about the programming that led to the issue in order to clearly analyze the problem. The Committee reviewed what UNOS staff planned to implement in the various entry forms in order to (1) warn users about the issue, (2) explain the temporary fix, and (3) avoid delaying the project. The Committee expressed concern over how the DQA1 unacceptable antigens entry options were programmed, the need for enhanced communication between the programmers and the committee, and strongly supported the need to get the information on this out to the transplant community by all means available.

The Committee then considered the DQA1 equivalency tables that made up the public comment proposal. Histocompatibility leadership and UNOS Staff explained to the Committee what the tables will allow UNOS staff to program in order to solve the DQA1 unacceptable antigens input problem they just became aware of, and a preliminary timeline for when the solution can be programmed. Committee members asked questions about the solution, providing feedback and concerns.

The committee voted unanimously to send the proposal out for public comment without modification.

Upcoming Meetings

- The Histocompatibility Committee meets on the second Tuesday of every month at 12pm EST via teleconference through June of 2016.
- May 2, 2016 (Chicago, Illinois) In person meeting.