

OPTN/UNOS Histocompatibility Committee
Meeting Summary
April 12, 2016
Conference Call

Dolly Tyan, PhD, D(ABHI), Chair
Robert Bray, PhD, D(ABHI), Vice Chair

Discussions of the full committee on April 12, 2016 are summarized below. All committee meeting summaries are available at <http://optn.transplant.hrsa.gov/>.

Committee Projects

1. Histocompatibility Testing Guidance Document

The committee received an update on this project from the subcommittee's chair. The document was adopted by the full committee during the March teleconference and will be presented for adoption at the upcoming OPTN Board of Directors meeting in June. Clerical feedback from UNOS internal staff has been incorporated into the document, and copies have been distributed to ASHI, CAP, AST, ASTS, and histocompatibility representatives on the OPTN Board of Directors.

2. Annual Review of HLA (2016)

The committee received an update on this project from the subcommittee's chair. This project received approval from both the OPTN/UNOS Policy Oversight Committee and the Executive Committee. The subcommittee is currently evaluating several tools for use in developing a UNOS DPB1 unacceptable antigens equivalency tool. The subcommittee will present several options to the full committee at the in-person meeting for discussion.

3. Addressing HLA Typing Discrepancies

The committee received an update on this project from a subcommittee member. The subcommittee has refined its data review process and is currently considering several different solutions including: making changes to the entry procedures in UNet, educating members, and directed communications to labs. Committee members discussed several other options for solutions and were encouraged to reach out to committee leadership and UNOS policy staff if they notice any other issues not already identified and discussed, or if they have other ideas for solving this problem. Committee members identified that the current discrepancy report does not consider all HLA Loci and that they would like to discuss this during the in-person meeting.

4. KAS: Maintaining Priority Points for Patients Undergoing Desensitization

The committee received an update on this project from the subcommittee chair. This project was not approved during the most recent Policy Oversight Committee meeting. However, because the project was considered at a time when the Histocompatibility Vice Chair was not present to discuss the project and answer questions, it is being reconsidered during the April 14th meeting. The POC will reevaluate approving the project at this time.

Implemented Committee Projects

5. Expanding HLA Typing – Impacts of Rollout

OPTN/UNOS Research presented data showing the number of patients on the waiting list that had DQA1 and DPB1 unacceptable antigens listed. The data showed an increase from 2,772 registrations on January 31 to 4,485 registrations on March 31, with kidney registrations as the largest category. In all, about 3.4% of registrations on the wait list had DQA1, DPB1, or both listed as unacceptable. In addition, there were no reported cases of a member entering a parent DQA1 antigen without the associated subtypes.

The committee provided feedback on the roll out and implementation of this project saying that they noticed very few problems. The committee discussed that the roll out brought to light how the donor HLA data changes are stored and displayed within UNetsm and that they will add that to the discussion of data entry and collection as part of the discrepant typing discussion at the in-person meeting.

Review of Public Comment Proposals

6. Adding A DQA1 Unacceptable Antigens Table

The committee considered the final policy language for the proposal to add a DQA1 Unacceptable Antigens table. The proposal was not changed in response to public comment, which low in volume but largely in favor of the proposal. *The committee voted in favor of submitting the proposal to the OPTN Board of Directors for adoption.*

Upcoming Meetings

- May 2, 2016 – In-person meeting in Chicago, IL
- May 10, 2016 – Teleconference via Citrix GoToTraining.