

**OPTN/UNOS Ad Hoc International Relations Committee  
Meeting Summary  
April 27, 2016  
Teleconference**

**Jorge Reyes, MD, Chair  
Susan Gunderson, MHA, Vice Chair**

*Discussions of the full committee on April 27, 2016 are summarized below. All committee meeting summaries are available at <https://optn.transplant.hrsa.gov/>.*

**Committee Projects**

**1. Exhausting the Match Run Project**

During their October 5, 2015 and November 23, 2015 conference calls, the Committee reviewed updated data to determine reasonable cut-off points on heart/lung and lung match runs where OPOs could consider allocating organs outside the US. The Committee agreed to the following based on the percentage of accepted organs in Zones C through E:

- Heart, Heart/Lungs, and Lungs – offers must be made through Zone B before considering making offers internationally.

The Committee sent a memorandum to the Thoracic Organ Transplantation Committee requesting feedback. Committee leadership presented the information to the Thoracic Committee on April 11, 2016. While the Thoracic Committee supported the concept of reducing discards and maximizing organ placement, they had concerns about allocating organs outside the US. The Thoracic Committee is developing a project to facilitate a more expedited placement of thoracic organs within the US and recommended that the AHIRC project be incorporated into the new project.

The AHIRC discussed the Thoracic Committee's recommendations during their call on April 27, 2016. The Committee agreed that the intent of the "exhausting the match run" project was to reduce organ discards, not necessarily to facilitate organ placement outside the US. The Committee unanimously supported incorporating the project into the new Thoracic Committee project. The Committee will provide representation on a joint work group once the new project is approved by the Policy Oversight Committee and Executive Committee.

**Other Significant Items**

**2. IRC Annual Report**

*Policy 17.1.C: Report of Activities Related to The Transplantation of Non-US Citizens/Non-US Residents* states that the Ad Hoc International Relations Committee will prepare and provide public access to an annual report of transplant hospital activities related to the registration and transplantation of non-US citizens/non-US residents.

The Committee reviewed information from the 2014, 2015, and 2016 reports in an effort to identify transplant centers with a higher percentage of registrations and transplants of non-US citizens/non-US residents. The Committee focused on centers where the

numbers for waitlist additions and transplants of non-US residents exceeded 10% for any year. The Committee acknowledged that there is no standard process to guide the committee in the review of this information. The annual report was designed to collect baseline information and observe trends. With this third edition of the annual report, the Committee can better identify trends and begin to develop a process moving forward.

The Committee requested that regional trend data be added to the report. The Committee will review an updated version of the report in June 2016 and submit a request to present at a future Executive Committee meeting. The Committee will request feedback from the Executive Committee in an effort to better understand the expectations when reviewing the annual reports.

#### **New Business**

None

#### **Upcoming Meeting**

- TBD