

**OPTN/UNOS Executive Committee
Meeting Summary
July 18, 2016
Web Conference**

Stuart Sweet, MD, PhD, Chair

Discussions of the full committee on July 18, 2016 are summarized below. All committee meeting summaries are available at <https://optn.transplant.hrsa.gov>.

Committee Projects

1. Approval of new committee projects

Sue Dunn, Chair of the Policy Oversight Committee, recommended approval of one new project requested by the Pediatric Transplantation Committee. The project, "Revisions to Pediatric Emergency Membership Exception" is a joint effort between the Pediatric Transplantation and Membership and Professional Standards Committees to clarify when a transplant program not otherwise approved to perform pediatric transplants can perform an emergency transplant. Since this project is the result of direction from the Board at the December 2015 meeting, the Committee unanimously approved it to move to the next phase. The primary strategic goal for the project is to improve transplant recipient outcomes.

Other Significant Items

2. Addressing regional councillor vacancies in regions 1 and 7

Regions 1 and 7 councillors (Dr. David Axelrod and Dr. David Cronin) recently offered their resignation due to relocation outside of the region. Upon the recommendation of the regional nominating committees, the Executive Committee voted unanimously to sponsor a Board resolution to fill these vacancies by extending the most recent regional councillors (Dr. Heung Bae Kim in Region 1 and Dr. Julie Heimbach in region 7) for a one-year term ending June 30, 2017. The Executive Committee will present this resolution on a Board of Directors web conference.

3. Annual report from Ad Hoc International Relations Committee (AHIRC)

As outlined in Policy 17.1C, the AHIRC recently published the third addition of the annual report of transplant hospital activities related to the registration and transplantation of non-US citizens/non-US residents. Susan Gunderson, Chair of the AHIRC, presented the Executive Committee with an overview of the most recent report and trends among the past three reports.

During the most recent review of this data, the AHIRC found that the overall number of transplants into non-citizens/non-US residents is low, but has increased over the last 3 years. The AHIRC also reported that the data identifies several transplant hospitals with a noticeably higher percentage of registered and transplanted non-US residents than other hospitals. Policy 17.1.B states that the Committee may request that transplant hospitals voluntarily provide information about registrations or transplants of non-US citizens/non-US residents.

The AHIRC sought feedback from the Executive Committee about the original intent of the policy and how to proceed with requesting additional data from transplant hospitals. Members of the Executive Committee stated that the original intent of the policy was to

ensure a greater degree of transparency (prior to passage of this new policy, no such data was collected and it was hard to determine the volume of these transplants) and that the AHIRC's report is fulfilling its purpose in that regard. The Executive Committee encouraged the Committee to publish the report publicly and to present the findings to other OPTN/UNOS committees. The AHIRC also inquired about the appropriate way to approach transplant centers who have higher volumes of transplants for non-US citizens and non-US residents. Members of the committee requested that the AHIRC develop some questions to survey these programs and bring those back before the Executive Committee at a later date.

Upcoming Meeting(s)

- August 12, 2016
- September 12, 2016
- October 5, 2016
- November 14, 2016
- December 5, 2016