OPTN/UNOS Policy Oversight Committee
Meeting Summary
August 11, 2016
Conference Call

Sue Dunn, RN, BSN, MBA, Chair
Jennifer Milton, BSN, CCTC, MBA, Vice Chair

Discussions of the full committee on August 11, 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 https://optn.transplant.hrsa.gov/.

Committee Projects

1. None

Committee Projects Pending Implementation

2. None

Implemented Committee Projects

3. None

Review of Public Comment Proposals

4. **POC Review of Public Comment Proposals**

   The Policy Oversight Committee (POC) met on August 11 to review public comment proposals from the Committees. In reviewing the proposals, the POC focused on whether the proposals were well formulated (i.e., followed our standards for policy development) and supported the Final Rule and Strategic Plan.

   POC members completed a survey that asked questions regarding the quality of the problem statement, whether the solution addresses the problem, whether the proposal has evidence to support the problem and solution, and how well the sponsoring Committee collaborated with others. The second purpose (supporting the Final Rule and Strategic Plan), was also reviewed when the Committee proposed the project, and the public comment survey served as a check on those projects that may have evolved since they were first proposed to the POC.

   The POC used the results of the survey to make a recommendation to the Executive Committee on August 12, 2016 regarding which proposals should be released for public comment.

   The POC voted unanimously (14-0-0) to recommend the following 15 proposals for public comment:

   1. Adult MELD Exception Guidance -Liver and Intestines Committee
   2. Changes to HCC Criteria for Auto Approval - Liver and Intestines Committee
   3. Ethics of Deceased Donor Organ Recovery without Requirement for Explicit Consent or Authorization - Ethics Committee
   4. Split Versus Whole Liver Transplantation - Ethics Committee
   5. Ethical Implications of Imminent Death Donation- Ethics Committee
   6. Liver Distribution Redesign Modeling (Redistricting of Regions) - Liver and

Intestines Committee

7. Modifications of Existing and Potential New Requirements for the Informed Consent of Potential Living Donors - Living Donor Committee
8. Consider Primary Transplant Surgeon Requirement- Primary or First Assistant on Transplant Cases - Membership and Professional Standards Committee
9. Elimination of OPTN Bylaws Regarding the Approval of Transplant Fellowship Programs - Membership and Professional Standards Committee
10. Proposal to Modify the Adult Heart Allocation System - Thoracic Committee
11. Proposed Changes to the OPTN Transplant Program Outcomes Review System - Membership and Professional Standards Committee
12. Subspecialty Boards for Primary Liver Transplant Physicians - Membership and Professional Standards Committee
13. Transplant Program Performance Measures (Outcome Measures) - Membership and Professional Standards Committee
14. Updating Primary Kidney Transplant Physician Requirements - Membership and Professional Standards Committee
15. Updating the OPTN Definition of Transplant Hospital - Membership and Professional Standards Committee

The POC voted against recommending the Operations and Safety Committee's Infectious Disease Verification Process to Enhance Patient Safety proposal for public comment.

The vote was 11 *No*, one *Yes*, with two abstentions. Primary comments and concerns from POC members included:

- Some members disagreed with the complexity of the proposed verification system so soon after implementing the ABO verification proposal.
- An identified stakeholder, the Living Donor Committee, was not included in the policy development.
- The proposal's alignment is with goal #4 (safety) and we're already over-allocated in that goal. (*Note*: Extending the length of the proposal will not decrease the amount of resources allocated to Goal 4.)

Other Significant Items

5. **None**

Upcoming Meetings

- September 15, 2016, 4:00 PM EDT Conference Call
- October 13, 2016, 12:00 PM EDT Conference Call
- November 10, 2016 4:00 PM EST Conference Call
- December 15, 2016 12:00 PM EST Conference Call