

OPTN/UNOS Pediatric Transplantation Committee
Meeting Summary
September 21, 2016
Conference Call

William Mahle, M.D., Chair
George Mazariegos, M.D., Vice Chair

Discussions of the full committee on September 21, 2016 are summarized below. All committee meeting summaries are available at <https://optn.transplant.hrsa.gov>.

Committee Projects

1. Reduce Pediatric Liver Waiting List Mortality

The OPTN/UNOS Policy Oversight Committee (POC) reviewed the project submitted by the Pediatric Committee on August 29, 2016. Discussions during the POC meeting noted support for alignment with Goal III of the OPTN Strategic Plan. The POC supported the project and unanimously approved to “on-hold” status (the sponsoring committee is unable to actively work on the project for a short period of time). This status was due to an insufficient amount of UNOS staff resources to accommodate a new project at this time. The Vice Chair shared that additional staff resources were anticipated in the next few months and the POC would need to be engaged to transition the project from “on-hold” to “evidence gathering”. UNOS staff will continue to update the Pediatric Committee on the availability of resources and coordinate discussions with POC.

Review of Public Comment Proposals

2. White Paper – Split Versus Whole Liver Transplantation

The Pediatric Committee heard the presentation from a representative of the OPTN/UNOS Ethics Committee. Following the presentation, the Pediatric Committee discussed several elements of the proposal. The Committee felt the document was very well written and unanimously supported the proposal.

3. Adult MELD Exception Review Guidance

The Pediatric Committee heard the presentation by the Vice Chair of the OPTN/UNOS Liver and Intestine Committee. Following the presentation, the Pediatric Committee discussed several elements of the proposal. The Pediatric Committee understands there is likely the belief in the transplant community that the MELD exception system is working well. However, this is not the case in all regions. The Committee supports the proposal as written and believes a great deal of thought has been put into the guidance.

4. Infectious Disease Verification to Enhance Patient Safety

The Pediatric Committee heard the presentation by the Vice Chair of the OPTN/UNOS Operations and Safety Committee. Following the presentation, the Pediatric Committee discussed several elements of the proposal. The Committee felt the intent of this proposal is good, but was concerned about the administrative burden of additional paperwork. An optimal solution may be to integrate an electronic verification process in DonorNetSM. Additionally, there was some confusion about the definition of “pre-recovery” as related to living donor cases.

The Committee questioned why there is the need to *require* verification of CMV test results on transplant cases. Members of the Committee felt this is not a clinically relevant concept. The Committee would support the proposal if the requirement for CMV test result verification was removed.

Other Significant Items

5. Proposals from OPTN/UNOS Membership and Professional Standards Committee

Due to time limitations, the Chair asked members of the Committee to review two proposals from the OPTN/UNOS Membership and Professional Standards Committee off-line. These proposals are:

- Consider Primary Transplant Surgeon Requirement- Primary or First Assistant on Transplant Cases
- Updating Primary Kidney Transplant Physician Requirements

The Chair asked reviewers to share their feedback by email to the UNOS staff liaison.

Upcoming Meetings

- October 19, 2016 10:00 AM-4:00 PM Eastern (Chicago, IL)
- November 16, 2016 4:00-5:00 PM Eastern (conference call)
- December 21, 2016 4:00-5:00 PM Eastern (conference call)
- January 18, 2017 4:00-5:00 PM Eastern (conference call)
- February 15, 2017 4:00-5:00 PM Eastern (conference call)
- March 15, 2017 4:00-5:00 PM Eastern (conference call)
- April 21, 2017 10:00 AM-4:00 PM Eastern (Chicago, IL)
- May 17, 2017, 4:00-5:00 PM Eastern (conference call)
- June 21, 2017 4:00-5:00 PM Eastern (conference call)