

**OPTN/UNOS Liver & Intestinal Organ Committee Meeting Summary  
November 17, 2016  
Conference Call**

**Ryutaro Hirose MD, Chair  
Julie Heimbach MD, Vice Chair**

*Discussions of the full committee on November 17, 2016 are summarized below. All committee meeting summaries are available at <https://optn.transplant.hrsa.gov>.*

**Committee Projects**

**Adult MELD Exception Guidance for Public Comment January 2017**

The Liver Committee reviewed the proposed changes in the Adult MELD Exception Guidance document. The purpose of the revisions is to address a liver candidate's MELD score that is used for liver allocation. The MELD score is intended to reflect the candidate's disease severity, or the risk of 3-month mortality without access to liver transplant. However, the MELD score does not reflect certain candidates' mortality risk, and they are permitted to request exceptions under policy. The guidance document will help Review Board members make more consistent decisions regarding the award of exceptions for candidates with various conditions. This guidance document builds upon the proposed guidance that was previously distributed for public comment in January 2016.

The committee voted to approve the language to be sent for public comment in January of 2017.

**Pediatric Exception Guidance for Public Comment**

Liver candidates less than 18 years old receive a MELD or PELD score that is used for liver allocation. The score is intended to reflect the candidate's disease severity, or the risk of 3-month mortality without access to liver transplant. Currently there is no guidance to help review board members make decisions on pediatric exception requests. A group of pediatric liver transplant experts have been meeting to create such a document, and it was presented to the Liver Committee for review. The Committee members reviewed the current state of the pediatric exception guidance document, and moved to further review the updated guidance document before voting for approval to be sent for public comment in January of 2017.

The Liver Committee will review and vote on the Pediatric Exception Guidance for public comment at the next committee meeting on December 15, 2016.

**Upcoming Meeting**

- December 15, 2016