

**OPTN/UNOS Histocompatibility Committee  
Meeting Summary  
December 13, 2016  
Conference Call**

**Robert Bray, PhD, D(ABHI), Chair  
Cathi Murphey, PhD, HCLD/CC(ABB), Vice Chair**

*Discussions of the full committee on December 13, 2016 are summarized below. All committee meeting summaries are available at <https://optn.transplant.hrsa.gov>.*

## **Committee Projects**

### **1. Guidance Document**

The Histocompatibility Committee (the Committee) worked on finalizing a version of the guidance document for public comment. UNOS staff provided the Committee with a list of edits to review, and committee members gave input on edits they had as well. Several members of the Committee expressed concern about some of the content of the guidance document later morphing into policy. While the guidance document is meant to provide suggestions for good practice, committee members noted that sometimes these suggestions are used to form policy in the future. Due to these concerns, several sections of the guidance document citing practices that were not widely agreed upon by the Committee were removed.

Other edits were made to modernize some of the cited practices in the guidance document. Since the Committee began working on this project, some of the methods of practice mentioned are no longer commonly used or relevant for guidance. The Committee also worked on softening the language of the guidance document to make certain sections less restrictive. Edits were also made to several sections of the document that were identified as confusing or were unclear as to their intended guidance.

As the Committee continued to give substantive edits until the end of the meeting, UNOS staff and the Committee agreed that a vote on the guidance document would not be possible at this time. UNOS staff told the Committee that they would reach out to UNOS policy staff to determine a timeline for when a final vote on the guidance document would need to occur in order for the guidance document to go out for public comment in January and reach back out to the Committee. In the meantime, committee members would continue to review the guidance document independently until the next meeting.

## **Upcoming Meeting**

- December 19, 2016 – this meeting was not part of the regularly scheduled monthly full committee meetings. In order to get a vote on the guidance document before the deadline to go out for public comment in the spring, the Committee scheduled another meeting to vote on the document.