

**OPTN/UNOS Operations and Safety Committee**  
**Meeting Summary**  
**November 3, 2016**  
**Conference Call**

**David Marshman, Chair**  
**Dr. Michael Marvin, Vice Chair**

*Discussions of the full committee on November 3, 2016 are summarized below. All committee meeting summaries are available at <https://optn.transplant.hrsa.gov>.*

**Committee Projects**

**1. Infectious Disease Verification/ ABO Post-Implementation Policy Modifications**

The Committee decided at their in-person meeting not to send a full infectious disease verification proposal forward at this time for OPTN Board of Directors (BOD) consideration. The Committee has referred the proposal back to the Infectious Disease Work Group to develop alternative solutions following public comment. The proposal would have modified sections of ABO verification policies recently implemented in June 2016.

In the public comment infectious disease proposal, two items were modifications to provide clarification and ease of use. One would rework policy language allowing use of “organ tracking system” that is now defined in OPTN policy for OPOs, transplant hospitals, and recovery hospitals. The other change would move language containing who performs the verification into the existing table format versus list format (no change in actual requirement). This was done so that programs can cut out and use the tables as needed.

In addition, the Committee has received requests from the transplant community to clarify certain parts of policy or to allow additional sources to be used as part of verifications. The requests were received through a variety of channels including discussions with the Transplant Administrators and Transplant Coordinator’s Committees, written and verbal communications, and member questions or feedback through regional administration and site survey.

These requests would:

- Modify language to alleviate confusion between acceptable source and source document. Source document is defined in OPTN/UNOS policy.
- Modify language regarding use of donor identification band (and OPTN computer system) to identify OPTN/UNOS issued donor ID
- Add attestation as a method to verify correct donor organ/correct intended recipient for living donor recovery verifications
- Add the OPTN computer system as an item that can be used for verification of certain information, where applicable, to allow use of the organ verification link added in UNet<sup>sm</sup>
- Remove the requirement to verify organ laterality at pre-transplant verifications

The Committee first discussed the concepts at their in-person meeting on October 25, 2016. The Committee reviewed proposed language during the conference call. The

Committee debated about whether to remove the requirement to verify organ laterality at the pre-transplant verification prior to organ receipt (in the OR) and the pre-transplant verification upon organ receipt (in the OR).

The Committee voted 10 (in favor) to 1 (opposed) to remove the requirement to verify laterality at the pre-transplant verification prior to organ receipt (in the OR). It was noted that often kidney laterality is unknown or that the OPO has not entered the information.

The Committee did not support removing the requirement to verify laterality at the pre-transplant verification upon organ receipt (in the OR). The vote was 5 (in favor) to 6 (opposed) to removing this requirement. Those opposed to removing the requirement felt that it was still a reasonable expectation as the organ received is used for verification. Others who had wanted this removed did not feel it was needed as laterality had been noted at check-in. It was also noted though that at check-in the organ itself has not been visually examined.

The Committee unanimously voted (11-in favor, none opposed) to send the proposed modifications for consideration by the OPTN BOD in December 2016.

### **Upcoming Meetings**

- December 1, 2016 (Monthly Conference Call)