

**OPTN/UNOS Executive Committee
Meeting Summary
December 5, 2016
St. Louis, Missouri**

**Stuart Sweet, MD, PhD, Chair
Yolanda Becker, MD, Vice-Chair**

Discussions of the full committee on December 5, 2016 are summarized below. All committee meeting summaries are available at <https://optn.transplant.hrsa.gov>.

Approval of Policy Clarifications

1. Retrospective Review of Clerical Policy Changes

In November 2014, the Board approved changes to the OPTN Bylaws that enable staff to make clerical, or non-substantive, changes to the Bylaws and Policies as they're identified, without prospective approval from the Executive Committee or Board of Directors as was previously required. This enables staff to make simple, clerical corrections such as:

- Capitalization or punctuation, as needed to maintain consistency with current policy
- Typographical, spelling, or grammatical errors
- Lettering and numbering of a rule or the subparts of a rule, according to style conventions in current policy
- Cross-references to rules or sections that are cited incorrectly because of subsequent repeal, amendment, or reorganization of the sections cited

UNOS staff presented the Committee with the following clerical changes:

Clerical Change	Reason
Updated cross-references in Policy 10.2.B: Lung Candidates with Exceptional Cases	The Thoracic Committee's proposal to the Board in December 2015 (Modify Pediatric Lung Allocation Policy) changed headings and the allocation table captions but neglected to update one of these related cross-references.
Removed extra word "will" from Policy 10.2.B.iii: Estimated Values Approved by the LRB	A typo added an extraneous word "will" in the sentence. Grammatically incorrect.
Added missing word "is" to Policy 15.5.C: Transplant Program Requirements for Post-Reporting Follow-up	The Ad Hoc Disease Transmission Advisory Committee's proposal to the Board in June 2016 (Improving Post-Transplant Communication of New Donor Information) inadvertently omitted the word "is" even though the Committee voted on the version of the policy language that included the word "is."

After reviewing the changes, the Committee unanimously approved (11-Y, 0-N, 0-A) the changes.

Committee Projects

The Policy Oversight Committee chair presented the Committee with an update on committee projects and alignment with the OPTN strategic plan and resource benchmarks. If all proposals are approved by the Board at this meeting, the strategic plan alignment for goal 1 (increase the number of transplants) and goal 2 (improve equity in access to transplant) will be very close to the Board's goals for resource allocation. The Committee members were pleased with the update and asked that the committees continue to bring forward ideas to increase the number of transplants but also to focus on projects that will improve long-term transplant outcomes, which is a goal that is currently under-allocated in the portfolio.

Other Committee Requests

In June 2013, the Board of Directors approved changes to the imminent and eligible death definitions. The Board of Directors subsequently approved two delays to the effective date in order to allow the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) time to make the necessary regulatory changes.

In November, CMS published regulatory changes in the Federal Register that proposed replacing the current definition of "eligible death" at §486.302 with the revised OPTN definition. During the review of the final CMS language, HRSA and OPTN staff identified inconsistencies between the two sets of definitions.

The OPO Committee is proposing to request the Board's approval of changes to the eligible death definition, in order to align with CMS' recently proposed rule changes. Since this is a request that was made after the Board's policy groups met to review Board meeting action items, the Executive Committee was asked to review the item and make a recommendation to the Board on whether or not to approve the change.

The Committee unanimously endorse recommending the Board approve the change and that the action item be placed on the non-discussion agenda.

Upcoming Meetings

- January 19, 2017
- February 27, 2017
- March 20, 2017