

OPTN/UNOS Transplant Coordinators Committee (TCC)
Meeting Minutes
January 17, 2017
Conference Call

Jamie Bucio, EMT-P, CPTC, Chair
Sarah Nicholas, BSN, RN, CCTC, Vice Chair

Introduction

The Transplant Coordinators Committee (TCC) met via Citrix GoToTraining teleconference on January 17, 2017 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Policy Review Project
2. TCC Learning Series Progress
3. Other Significant Items

The following is a summary of the Committee's discussions.

1. Policy Review

The Committee will begin a process of reviewing the OPTN policies for relevance in current practice and provide recommendations to the appropriate OPTN committee. The Committee that receives the TCC's recommendations will then consider if further action is required. This project does not require approval from the Policy Oversight Committee (POC). It will become part of the Committee's regular work.

Summary of discussion:

The proposed scope of this project is to review existing OPTN policies for the following:

- Clarity and accuracy
- Usefulness and relevance
- Usability and findability

A work group will be formed that will be comprised of 5-6 committee members that have a vested interest in reviewing a particular policy. The policies suggested for review are as follows:

- Policy 1: Administrative Rules and Definitions
- Policy 3: Candidate Registrations, Modifications, and Removals
- Policy 5: Organ Offers, Acceptance, and Verification
- Policy 6: Allocation of Hearts and Heart-Lungs
- Policy 7: Allocation of Intestines
- Policy 8: Allocation of Kidneys
- Policy 9: Allocation of Livers and Liver-Intestines
- Policy 10: Allocation of Lungs
- Policy 11: Allocation of Pancreas, Kidney-Pancreas, and Islets
- Policy 13: Kidney Paired Donation (KPD)
- Policy 14: Living Donation
- Policy 15: Identification of Transmissible Diseases
- Policy 16: Organ and Vessel Packaging, Labeling, Shipping, and Storage
- Policy 18: Data Submission Requirements

Review of the OPTN Bylaws will not be included in the scope of this project.

The suggested process is for the Work Group to review a copy of the policy posted on the TCC SharePoint site. Each member of the Work Group will make comments using track changes. Review deadlines will be determined for each policy depending on its length and complexity. This project is estimated to take one year to 18 months to complete.

Next steps:

Committee members were asked to volunteer to participate on the Policy 1 Review Work Group. A conference call will be scheduled in February to develop specific details of the review process for this policy.

2. TCC Learning Series

The Committee received a progress update on the TCC Learning Series project. This project addresses processes that aid to mitigate waitlist mortality while increasing the number of transplants performed. The end product of this project will provide transplant professionals with information/tools/and resources that they can implement in order to facilitate process changes within their organization.

Summary of discussion:

The Work Group decided to produce a four part series for the first year. Below are the topics and release dates for the first series:

1. Role of a Transplant Coordinator video (Released November 1, 2017)
2. Waitlist Management (active and inactive) (Scheduled release February 20, 2017)
3. Training on how to take organ offer calls (Scheduled Release May 2017)
4. Coordinator retention (Scheduled release August 2017)

The group decided to produce a multi-organ presentation that focused on how to manage the active waitlist and also incorporated how to utilize the UNOS reports that are available in UNetsm. Information and data for liver, heart, lung, kidney, and pancreas was reviewed and included.

The Waitlist Management Learning Series recording will be completed on January 17, 2017, and a demonstration of UNet custom reports will be recorded the following week. The full recording is scheduled to be released on February 20, 2017.

While the Waitlist Management offering highlights some information about the inactive waitlist, the group decided it was necessary to produce a separate offering for managing the inactive waitlist. Details of how transplant centers notify patients of their inactive status, more custom UNet reports, and resources centers can use to help manage their inactive waitlist will be reviewed in this recording and made available in April 2017 through UNOS Connect.

Next steps:

The next call will be on February 14, 2017 to discuss the details of the third and fourth offerings, inactive waitlist and the how to take organ offer call.

3. Other Significant Items

A summary of the outcomes from the December OPTN/UNOS Board meeting was provided. Members of the committee were made aware that they can find information on the Board meeting on Transplant Pro at <https://www.transplantpro.org/news/december-2016-board-meeting-actions/>.

Board actions:

- Approved revised adult heart allocation system
- Clarified exception points for liver transplant candidates with hepatocellular carcinoma

Upcoming policy changes:

- Effective March 1, 2017
 - Post-implementation changes to ABO verification policies
 - Primary transplant surgeon requirement changes
 - Primary transplant physician subspecialty requirement changes
 - Remove donor location from required procurement log info
- Pending implementation and notice to members
 - HCC auto approval criteria changes
 - Kidney transplant physician update
 - Update transplant hospital definition
 - Modify adult heart allocation
 - Informed consent changes for potential living donors

Updates on the following TCC cross-committee work groups were provided:

- Systems Optimization and Utilization Work Group (OPO Committee)

The TCC representative that participates in this Work Group provided a progress update. The Work Group supported the plan for the OPO Committee to sponsor an expedited organ placement project. A project form will be submitted for the Policy Oversight and Executive Committees' approval. The Work Group agreed that increasing the number of simultaneous organ offers will not increase the efficiency of organ placement but will increase the number of provisional yes acceptances. DonorNet[®] enhancement updates were provided to the Work Group. Members of the Work Group also discussed issues related to setting time limits for organ offers and policy changes that would need to be made to improve organ placement.

- TransNetsm Work Group (Operations and Safety Committee)

The Committee has one representative participating on the Operations and Safety Committee's TransNet Work Group. This Work Group's goal is to expand TransNet to full transplant hospital functionality since implementation at the OPOs is almost complete. There are several centers that are currently participating in beta testing for TransNet. On the December 15, 2017 teleconference, the TransNet Work Group discussed the following:

1. OPO TransNet transfers
2. OPO Not on match run (NOMR) data and possible functionality
3. OPO TransNet data use

Upcoming Meeting(s)

- February 21, 2017 (teleconference)
- March 22, 2017 (Chicago, IL)

Attendance

- **HRSA Representatives**
 - Raelene Skerda RPh, BS, PharmD
 - Joyce Hager MPH
- **SRTR Staff**
 - Katie Audette
- **OPTN/UNOS Staff**
 - Kelly O'Brien
 - Leigh Kades MA
 - Melinda Woodbury
 - Jeff Davis
 - Elizabeth Miller
 - Angel Carroll MSW
- **Other Attendees**
 - Jamie Bucio EMT-P, CPTC
 - Sarah Nicholas BSN, RN, CCTC
 - Dawn Freiburger RN, CNS, MSN
 - Cynthia Thorn BSN, MSN, MHA
 - Jennifer Maddox RN, CPN, CCTC
 - Craig Van De Walker MS, CPTC
 - Pam Hill
 - Donna Ferchill RN, BSN
 - Kathleen Jacot RN, BSN, CCTC
 - Mimi Butler-LeBair RN, MSN, CCTC
 - Amanda Sesti RN, BS
 - Stacy McKean RN
 - Sharon Klarman RN-BC, BS, CCTC