

**OPTN/UNOS Executive Committee
Meeting Summary
July 28, 2017
Web Conference**

Yolanda Becker, MD, Chair

Discussions of the full committee on July 28, 2017 are summarized below. All committee meeting summaries are available at <https://optn.transplant.hrsa.gov>.

Committee Projects

1. Public Comment Approval

The Committee approved the following 12 proposals to be distributed for public comment:

1. Enhancing Liver Distribution (Liver and Intestinal Transplantation Committee)
2. Addressing Approved Transplant Fellowship Training Program Bylaws (Membership and Professional Standards Committee)
3. Broadened Allocation of Pancreas Transplants Across Compatible ABO Blood Types (Pancreas Transplantation Committee)
4. Guidance on the Benefits of Pancreas After Kidney (PAK) Transplantation (Pancreas Transplantation Committee)
5. Implementation of A2 A2B to Blood Group B Deceased Donor Kidney Transplant Allocation Guidance (Minority Affairs Committee)
6. Improving Allocation of Dual Kidneys (Kidney Committee)
7. Improving Allocation of En Bloc Kidneys (Kidney Committee)
8. Improving the Efficiency of Organ Allocation (OPO Committee)
9. Resource: Living Organ Donation by Persons with Certain Fatal Diseases (Ethics Committee)
10. Review Board Guidance for CHD Exception Requests (Thoracic Committee)
11. Review of HLA Equivalency Tables (Histocompatibility Committee)
12. Revisions to Pediatric Emergency Membership Pathway (Pediatric Committee)

The Executive Committee did not approve the distribution of the Ethics Committee's proposed white paper discussing financial incentives for donation. UNOS leadership reported that HRSA had contacted them with concerns over whether the discussion of changes to the National Organ Transplant Act (NOTA) in the draft document were outside the scope of the OPTN (because it could be seen as an endorsement of changing federal legislation). UNOS leadership requested that the Executive Committee not approve the proposal for distribution until this discussion had been worked out with HRSA.

The Committee also discussed whether to approve the Liver and Intestinal Organ Transplantation Committee's proposal, "Enhancing Liver Distribution" for public comment. A few members of the committee were concerned that the most recent SRTR modeling was not yet available. UNOS staff informed the Executive Committee the initial modeling report would be ready in August and the full confirmatory modeling in early October. Previous models have not shown to be substantially different in terms of impact and if the updated modeling does not confirm the expected, there will be additional consideration by the Liver

Committee. UNOS leadership also relayed that the Liver Committee planned a webinar to present the confirmatory modeling results.

The Executive Committee then discussed the fact that the Board had previously directed the Liver Committee to prepare a proposal for public comment for this summer/Fall due to the continued risk that geographic disparities poses for the OPTN. Those risks include possible legal challenges, congressional intervention, and/or changes in government regulations. Any of these actions could result in changes to the transplant community's ability to self-govern through the OPTN/UNOS policy development process. After careful consideration of these risks, the Executive Committee voted unanimously to distribute the proposal for public comment.

2. Approval of new committee projects

The Committee approved 3 new committee projects:

- Update Guidance for ABO Subtyping Organ Donors for Blood Groups A and AB (Operations and Safety Committee)
- Extra Vessels: Reducing Reporting Burdens (Operations and Safety Committee)
- Informed Consent Clarification (Disease Transmission Advisory Committee)

Policy Changes

3. Retrospective approval of clerical changes to OPTN/UNOS policies

The Committee approved retrospectively 3 clerical policy changes made by staff.

4. Policy clarifications

Upon recommendation from the Thoracic Transplantation Committee, the Executive Committee approved several clarifications to the approved but not yet implemented adult heart allocation policy.

Upon recommendation from the Kidney Transplantation Committee, the Executive Committee approved a clarification to policy 5.1.A regarding kidney minimum acceptance criteria.

Strategic Planning

The Committee reviewed themes from the June 2017 strategic brainstorming session. The UNOS leadership update provided at the regional meetings will include information on these themes and the timeline for developing the plan.

Upcoming Meeting

- September 18, 2017