

**OPTN/UNOS Ethics Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
January 18, 2018  
Conference Call**

**Elisa Gordon, PhD, MPH, Chair  
Keren Ladin, PhD, Vice Chair**

**Introduction**

The Ethics Committee met via Citrix GoToTraining teleconference on 01/18/18 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Current Projects
2. Proposed New Projects
3. Review Public Comment Items

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

**1. Current Projects**

The Committee Chair provided an update on the status of a new white paper developed by the Ethics Committee (the Committee) addressing *Manipulation of the Waitlist Priority of the Organ Allocation System through the Escalation of Medical Therapies*.

Summary of discussion:

The Chair explained that the Policy Oversight Committee approved this white paper for public comment. The white paper will be considered by the Executive Committee of the Board and if approved it should be distributed for public comment next week. The white paper is on the consent agenda for upcoming regional meetings. The schedule for regional meeting was reviewed. Regional representatives were asked to contact the Committee liaison if they will not attend their regional meeting.

The Chair led the review of a PowerPoint presentation for regional meetings that would be used if any region asked to have white paper moved from the consent agenda to the discussion agenda. Regional meeting presentations must be very concise due time constraints so it will be important to know the content and the background material for the white paper to address any questions that are not address in the presentation. Members were asked to relay any questions they receive to the Committee leadership or the liaison so the questions and responses could be shared with other Committee members.

Members requested that the order of some slides be rearranged. A member suggested adding a new slide to emphasize that the white paper provides an ethical analysis of manipulation of waitlist priority and to disclose that representatives from the Liver and Thoracic Committee participated in the development of the white paper.

Next steps:

Members will be notified when the white paper is posted for public comment. The slide set for use at regional meetings will be sent to members.

**2. Proposed New Projects**

Guidance related to Current Multi-Organ Allocation Policy and Practice

The Committee previously worked on this project (2016). The Committee was later directed to stop work on the project. In the work that has occurred to date, it has been difficult to address

specific types of multi-organ allocation. A member volunteered to lead the development of this white paper.

#### Eligibility of Intellectually Disabled Individuals for Transplant

A member has volunteered to lead the modification of the transplant candidacy white paper to include this topic. A poll to determine a date and time for a first meeting was sent to Committee meeting earlier in the week.

#### Next steps:

The proposed project to address *Eligibility of Intellectually Disabled Individuals for Transplant* will need to be considered by the Policy Oversight Committee. The work group to address the multi-organ allocation white paper will meet by web conference on January 25<sup>th</sup>.

### **3. Review or Public Comment Items**

#### Summary of discussion:

Committee leadership has identified three public comment items for the Committee to review and provide feedback during the next two recurring monthly meetings.

- Improving Committee Structure Concept Paper (Executive Committee)
- Boarder Distribution of Adult Donor Lungs (Thoracic Committee)
- OPTN Strategic Plan 2018 (Executive Committee)

#### **Upcoming Meetings**

- February 15, 2018
- In-Person Committee Meeting - April 9, 2018 – Chicago O'Hare Hilton