

**OPTN/UNOS Transplant Coordinators Committee (TCC)**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**January 17, 2018**  
**Conference Call**

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**Introduction**

The Transplant Coordinators Committee met via teleconference 01/17/2018 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. TCC Learning Series - UNet<sup>sm</sup> Reports Updates
2. Epic/Phoenix Electronic Medical Records (EMR) Discussion
3. Board Update
4. Learning Series Update

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

**1. TCC Learning Series - UNet<sup>sm</sup> Reports Updates**

Summary of discussion:

The 2018 TCC Learning Series will have 4 releases. Leveraging UNet Reports will be the series' first interactive e-Learning module for the year and will be released on January 31, 2018. This offering highlights reports available in UNet, how to cross reference them, how to use them to address common challenges and ultimately make data-driven decisions to optimize patient care and improve waiting list management. The work group tested and provided feedback on the offering. UNOS staff is finalizing the module for the scheduled release. The offering will be promoted through Transplant Pro, appropriate listservs, and professional organizations.

Other 2018 Learning Series topics include (release dates are tentative):

- PHS Increased Risk toolkit - April
- Donor Management - July
- Explaining the Candidate Registry - October

**2. Epic/Phoenix Electronic Medical Records (EMR) Discussion**

Summary of discussion:

The Committee shared lessons learned from their experiences using Epic/Phoenix EMR system.

The interface with outpatient labs are still a problem and there is still a question as to whether the connection between UNOS and Epic will transfer information successfully. There are many places in Epic to put the same piece of information and it makes running reports difficult. One universal way needs to be found to input the same information.

For access to Epic during downtime there is a Read Only option or prior to the scheduled downtime current reports can be run for reference.

The Epic website that allows access to other programs <http://userweb.epic.com> can be filtered down to transplant centers. There are letters, templates, progress notes, reports, and also

dashboards from other centers for you to review and add to your system. The key is to figure out what is best for your program to be consistent.

### **3. Board Update**

#### Summary of discussion:

All consent agenda items were approved. These included improve allocation of dual kidneys, the Hope Act variance extension was moved to 2020, a thoracic guidance document, a guidance document on A2/A2B to blood type B candidates, updates to HLA equivalency tables, revisions to pediatric emergency exception, approved transplant fellowship training policy, and the Ethics White Paper on living donation by person with life-limiting illnesses.

All discussion items were approved. There was a lot of discussion around enhancing liver distribution and this ended up being approved as originally written. Also new board nominees, improving en bloc allocations, and efficiency of organ placement, in which the issue was the time limit. That time limit has been lowered to 30 minutes from 60. There was also guidance on Benefits of Pancreas After Kidney (PAK) Transplantation.

A discussion item not approved was pancreas allocation. It was recommended the Pancreas Committee work on updates and bring them back to the board for approval before they move forward.

The next public comment cycle is January 22, 2018 through March 23, 2018. The Committee will review the following proposals:

- Distribution of Adult Lungs (Thoracic Committee)
- Expedited Organ Placement Concept Paper (OPO Committee)
- Improving the OPTN/UNOS Committee Structure Concept Paper (Executive Committee)

UNOS is piloting a new way of receiving comments through a RedCap survey for four proposals. Of those in the pilot, the TCC is reviewing the Expedited Organ Placement Concept Proposal Paper and Improving the OPTION/UNOS Committee Structure Concept Paper. All committee members are encouraged to make individual comments independent of the TCC comments.

### **4. Learning Series Update**

#### Summary of Discussion:

PHS Increased Risk

The PHS call scheduled for January 17, 2018 will be rescheduled for February.

One of the main discussions from the September meeting was the amount of confusion with the interchange of the terms CDC high-risk versus increased risk, and how much information can or should be explained to the recipient without putting the identity of a donor at risk. There are no clear guidelines on what you can tell a patient about a donor and why they are considered an increased risk donor. The Work Group would like to provide information that will correct the misuse of high-risk versus increased risk terminology. The take-away was to use best judgement, know the recipient, how much information they can hear, and what is important.

The question also needs to be asked if during the consent process patients are made fully aware of all testing needing to be done pre- and post-transplant before accepting offers.

A survey might be sent out to other committee members to gather information as to their consent processes.

There is discussion around changing the informed consent requirements and this may affect the TCC's discussions on this topic. There are many discussions taking place trying to clarify language for transplant centers for auditing purposes and there seems to be confusion around the criteria as well.

Donor Management (call scheduled for January 23)

This was brought forth as a project idea to create a guidance document regarding donor management decisions that could impact recipient outcomes. Rather than a guidance document, we are looking to create a resource document geared toward onboarding newer coordinators. The goal is to explain the basics behind general donor management as well as provide understanding of why things are done the way they're done. It should also convey the understanding of the effects management can have on recipient and donor outcomes. Thoracic examples have been developed and abdominal examples are being drafted. This could provide a resource or tool OPOs and transplant centers can use to train coordinators and might encourage consistency. We are asking the group for your real-life experiences with this on either side; consistent things that you feel would be good educational tools or updated resources on donor management. The goal is to start the conversation to find common areas as well as what may be outliers or unique scenarios that can be included in this document.

Explaining the Candidate Registry (call scheduled for January 23)

The Work Group will streamline basic information for new oncoming coordinators and provide them with a visual and audio learning series to guide them. Pamphlets can be created to add to the audio educational offering if the group feels it's needed or specific center-specific information can also be added. Organ groups and coordinators will be contacted for additional ideas.

The group is exploring whether or not the term "waitlist" is the right term. The goal is to try and educate people and change the stigma associated with that term.

More information will be provided at the next meeting.

### Next Steps

A review will be prepared referencing what each group is requesting for feedback. Information will be collected from all work groups and added to each topic's resource packet.

### **Upcoming Meeting**

- February 21, 2018 (Conference Call)
- March 20, 2018 (Chicago, IL)