

OPTN/UNOS Transplant Coordinators Committee (TCC)
Meeting Minutes
May 16, 2018
Monthly Conference Call

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Introduction

The Transplant Coordinators Committee met via teleconference on 05/16/2018 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Welcome
2. Policy Oversight Committee (POC) update
3. PHS resource document update/release
4. Donor management work group update
5. Expert council proof of concept

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

1. Welcome

Meeting attendees were welcomed and there was a quick overview of the agenda items.

2. POC Update

Summary of discussion:

At the last POC meeting, vice chairs participated in a media training session and discussed how to deal with social media with patients and media representation of transplant programs. Collaboration and consensus was discussed. Making conference calls effective was also discussed, in which attendees should be encouraged to speak up and ask questions.

Geography Committee update. The change in the lung allocation system last November was discussed. A basic overview of how law is involved in the final rule was provided. The Geography Committee will look at metrics of disparity and strategies to increase organ donation, look at ways to allocate organs, and acknowledge financial implications and logistical and transportation challenges.

Committee on Committees. A concept paper with suggested changes for the committee structure went out for public comment last cycle. There were concerns about ways to measure success of any changes that are implemented and the need to understand the goals of these changes. As a result of the concerns received during public comment period, a proof of concept will occur. This is a part of project management where one looks at solution designs, implementation plans and success criteria. The Patient Affairs Committee (PAC) and the TCC were selected to test the proof of concept.

Project review. The POC discussed the progress of current projects. TCC has representation on all projects. The Vice Chair of Living Donor Committee (LDC) spoke about a project they are developing. This project would create guidelines regarding how to reach out to living donors via social media for transplant centers to use with patients. He felt it would be important for TCC to work with the LDC on this project.

3. PHS resource document update/release

The PHS resource document was posted to UNOS Connect April 30th. Promotional efforts included posting on listservs, Transplant Pro, and UNOS Connect.

Summary of discussion:

To find the resource document, go into UNOS Connect, click on learning series and then PHS learning series. Scroll down to the additional resources marker. TCC's resource lists effective practices, journal articles, and websites for additional information.

4. Donor management work group update

The timeline for this project was reviewed. Currently, the group is looking at dividing the main scenario into two parts, focusing on donor management, the allocation phase and the interactions back and forth. Reflection will be at the end of each section. Planned release date is the end of July.

5. Expert council proof of concept

The expert council proof of concept idea was presented. The goal of this proof of concept is to decrease siloing between committees, trying to amplify and bolster the voice throughout the policy development process, and facilitate real time communication. The TCC will test the proof of concept along with the PAC. This proof of concept will not change bylaws or the committees' ability to propose or sponsor projects, change any current member status, or interfere with any current projects.

The proposed structure is the current committee will serve as the core with official coordinator members from other committees. There will be representation from all the committees.

The proposed timeline through December was presented, which includes public comment in August-October and report of progress at regional meetings. November will be the closing survey and December will be the report to the Board of Directors.

Basecamp will be used by the committees as a communication tool which will also be used to measure and increase participation, meeting attendance, submitting public comments, and volunteering on other committees. The idea is to get earlier participation and earlier involvement from constituent committees.

Summary of discussion:

A member asked how many committees would participate and whether more would be joining later. The organ-specific committees' representatives would join all the TCC calls and in-person meetings to present any projects their core committees are working on and report and feedback from the TCC back to their committees as needed. The model could be modified to allow for more opportunity for involvement on a consistent basis.

For committees without transplant coordinators, it was suggested that a TCC member volunteer to participate on those committees (as an additional responsibility and time commitment).

As of now, only PAC and TCC are participating. Initial roll out is scheduled for July 1st. Eventually, there will be a way for people from the broader coordinator community to get involved.

Next steps:

Weekly internal meetings at UNOS. Weekly TCC leadership meetings. The next full committee call would be on May 30th after 1 pm to discuss expectations, charge, participant description and communication tools in more detail.

Upcoming Meetings

- May 30, 2018, afternoon conference call
- September 13, 2018, in-person meeting, Chicago, IL