Introduction

The Histocompatibility Committee (Committee) met via Citrix GoToTraining teleconference on 07/10/2018 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Geography Update
2. Committee Project Updates
3. Heart Allocation: CPRA

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

1. Geography Update

Summary of discussion:

UNOS staff provided the Committee with an update on recent letters sent to the Department of Health and Human Services regarding geographic distribution in OPTN policy. The Committee was also briefed on actions taken by the OPTN in response to the letters, including information about how the organ specific committees will address allocation policies to address donor service areas (DSAs) and regions.

2. Committee Project Updates

Summary of discussion:

The Committee reviewed the status of all active projects in light of the news about the upcoming work on geography. The Addressing HLA Typing Errors project will continue on as planned by going out for public comment on August 3, 2018. The Review of HLA Tables (2016) project will still be implemented according to schedule. The Change CPRA Calculation project will continue in the evidence gathering phase, as it will not be impacted by ongoing geography work by the organ committees. UNOS staff will continue to monitor this project as the geography work progresses in case efforts need to be altered. The Improving Access to Pediatric and Highly Sensitized Kidney Candidates project sponsored by the Kidney Committee will be placed on a temporary hold as the Kidney Committee assesses kidney allocation policy. Several members from the Histocompatibility Committee that were participating in the Highly Sensitized Candidates Work Group will be impacted by this change.

3. Heart Allocation CPRA

Several Committee members expressed concern over the upcoming heart allocation implementation and several risk stratification fields (such as CPRA) that will go into effect with this new policy. Committee members were concerned that histocompatibility expertise was not sought during the development of these data fields. UNOS staff confirmed that a member of the Histocompatibility Committee worked with the Thoracic Committee during the development of this policy. UNOS staff also clarified that these risk stratification fields are not going to be used for allocation. Committee members generally concluded that the data that would be collected from these fields would not be useful in the way that the Thoracic Committee wanted due to
variability in laboratory practices. UNOS staff agreed to communicate these concerns to the Thoracic Committee.

Upcoming Meeting

- August 14, 2018
- September 11, 2018