

OPTN/UNOS Pancreas Transplantation Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 19, 2018
Conference Call

Jon Odorico, M.D., Chair
Silke Niederhaus, M.D., Vice Chair

Introduction

The Pancreas Transplantation Committee (Committee) met via teleconference on 09/19/2018 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Geographic Frameworks
2. Public Comment Update

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

1. Geographic Frameworks

The Committee heard a presentation on the Geographic Frameworks proposal that is currently out for public comment, and discussed the different frameworks under consideration as they related to the pancreas transplantation community.

Summary of discussion

The Committee found the background on the history of the DSA and region helpful to contextualize the geographic changes. The Committee discussed the need for a framework that can be adjustable to avoid disadvantaging certain candidates and making sure disease severity is not over inflated. A Committee member asked a question about how local back up for non-mandatory shares could change if DSA is removed. Another Committee member expressed concern about the potential impact of changing geographic allocation for small volume programs compared to larger volume programs. There was also a comment that it may be difficult to implement continuous distribution for the pancreas allocation system because of challenges in defining medical urgency and donor matching. For the fixed distances model, there could be some concentric circles with no pancreas transplant programs and some with several large volume pancreas programs. Looking at where patients are waiting on the list may be helpful in considering changes to allocation.

Next Steps

The Committee liaison will summarize the Committee's comments and submit them to be posted on the OPTN public comment site.

2. Public Comment Update

The Committee heard a brief update on the status of public comment feedback for the Functional Inactivity and Islet Bylaws proposal. Overall, feedback on both proposals has been positive and a majority of commenters and regions have supported the proposals. At the in-person meeting on October 10, 2018 in Chicago, the Committee will review the public comment feedback in more depth, discuss themes, and decide whether to vote to send the proposal to the Board in its current or in a modified form. Committee members had no comments about the update.

Upcoming Meetings

- October 10, 2018 (Chicago, IL)
- November 7, 2018 (teleconference)