

**OPTN/UNOS Transplant Administrators Committee (TAC)**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**October 3, 2018**  
**Chicago, IL**

**James E. Pittman, Chair**  
**Nancy Metzler, Vice Chair**

**Introduction**

The Transplant Administrators Committee (TAC) met in Chicago, IL on 10/03/2018 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. CMS Proposed Rule Changes
2. Liver & Intestine Transplantation Committee Updates

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

**1. CMS Proposed Rule Changes**

Summary of discussion:

The TAC reviewed and discussed the CMS Proposed Rule changes during its October 3<sup>rd</sup> in person committee meeting. The TAC supports the proposed changes and agrees that many of the rules in Section 482 were '...duplicative, or unnecessary requirements' as stated in the executive summary. Below is a list of comments and concerns discussed during the meeting.

- Mitigating factors – how can centers submit mitigating factors when programs don't know the metrics being used and how they are being measured
- Role of state reviewers specifically in regards to recertification reviews and the criteria being used for recertification
- How is CMS defining condition level deficiencies and what options will a program have if they receive a condition level deficiency?
- The intended role of the MPSC in outcomes reviews
- Who is surveying from the state agencies? How will they be trained and how will they be interpreting the proposed rule? (Are they hospital surveyors or surveyors specifically trained in transplant?)
- Will there still be an SIA process? If yes, what will trigger an SIA?
- What will be the process to shut down a severely underperforming program? What recourse will a program have if they are threatened with termination of Medicare payment for transplant?

The Committee stated that centers never submit data to CMS. They submit data to the OPTN and CMS just used the OPTN data thus not a reduction in burden.

The TAC commends the progress made with this proposal and believes transplant patients and the community are better served through singular federal oversight via the OPTN.

Next steps:

The Committee will submit a statement based off of the above discussion for the OPTN/UNOS Executive Committee's review and consideration.

## **2. Liver & Intestine Transplantation Committee Updates**

### Summary of discussion:

The Committee received a committee update from the Liver & Intestine Transplantation Committee on liver and intestine distribution using distance from the donor hospital. After the presentation, the Committee had a few clarification questions that the presenter addressed. No further discussion occurred.

### Next steps:

The TAC will not submit a Committee comment on the proposal out for the special public comment period. Individual members will provide comment as appropriate.

### **Upcoming Meetings**

- October 23, 2018 (Tentative Conference Call)
- November 28, 2018 (Conference Call)