

**OPTN/UNOS Kidney Transplantation Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**November 19, 2018**  
**Conference Call**

**Nicole A. Turgeon, MD, FACS, Chair**  
**Vincent P. Casingal, MD, Vice Chair**

**Introduction**

The Kidney Committee met via Citrix GoToTraining teleconference on 11/19/2018 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Update on Liver Committee Geography Project
2. In-Person Meeting Review and Action Items
3. Review Kidney-Pancreas (KP) Project Timeline

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

**1. Update on Liver Committee Geography Project**

The Chair of the Liver and Intestinal Organ (Liver) Transplantation Committee provided an update on special public comment and their deliberative process to decide on a framework in a condensed timeline.

Data summary:

The Liver Committee sought feedback on two different allocation models and several variables:

- The community was asked what MELD sharing threshold they recommend.
- The community was asked whether the sizes of the fixed distance circles should be larger, smaller, or remain the same.
- The community was asked whether they prefer the broader 2-circle model (this is the model preferred by the committee), or the acuity circles model.
- Members were asked to comment on both the immediate and long term budgetary impact of resources that may be required if this proposal is approved. This information assists the Board in considering the proposal and its impact on the community

The special public comment period received more than 1,200 comments with mixed opinions. The presenter noted the Scientific Registry of Transplant Recipients (SRTR) modeling as well as the public comment feedback were very helpful to the Committee.

Summary of discussion:

UNOS staff asked the presenter how the Liver Committee worked through some critical decisions throughout their work. The Chair stated the Committee had a reasonable idea of what the modeling would show and anticipated what the decision points were going to be prior to deliberating the results. The presenter stated the metrics the Committee focused on were directly tied to the restraints of the Final Rule.

UNOS staff also asked the presenter how many times the Liver Committee met during their week of deliberation. The Chair explained the Committee held three meetings within the week, plus a leadership meeting, and conducted a considerable amount of correspondence via email.

There were no questions from the Committee

## **1. In-Person Meeting Review and Action Items**

The Chair gave a brief overview of the recent in-person meeting as a productive meeting where the Committee members were very focused on discussing principles and a value system for a potential new kidney-specific allocation policy. The presentations from the Living Donor Committee, Liver Committee, and Pancreas Organ Transplantation Committee were informative and there was good discussion on geography.

The Committee will await SRTR modeling to begin deliberations on kidney allocation.

## **2. Review KP Project Timeline**

UNOS staff presented the proposed timeline for the kidney-pancreas allocation project. The proposed timeline is two meetings per week for two weeks, once SRTR modeling is available. However, staff informed the Committee the modeling may be delayed so the timeline is not finalized. SRTR staff could not specify a specific deliverable date but are hopeful to have modeling ready on December 7<sup>th</sup>. However, if errors occur, the report could be delayed anywhere from additional days to additional weeks.

UNOS staff will continue working with the Pancreas Committee to plan dates for co-committee meetings.

## **Upcoming Meeting**

- TBD