Introduction

The OPO Committee met by teleconference on 10/31/2018 to discuss the following agenda item:

1. Liver and Intestine Distribution Using Distance from Donor Hospital

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

1. Liver and Intestine Distribution Using Distance from Donor Hospital

The OPO Committee discussed this proposal and submitted the following comments:

- The Committee supports the proposed size of the fixed distance circles. The Committee acknowledged that there are differences in populations across the country, but for simplicity it is best to keep the distances the same until further evaluation of population density can be completed.
- The Committee supports the broader 2-circle model and recommend that the Liver Committee continue to evaluate this model based on the data.
- The Committee supports the expansion of the Hawaii variance to Puerto Rico in order to mitigate the negative impact on candidates in Puerto Rico with the proposed change from regions to fixed distance circles in organ allocation.
- The Committee agreed that there will be a budgetary impact for both the OPTN and OPO community. The Committee agreed that upgrades to DonorNet® are needed as broader distribution models are evaluated and implemented. This will help ensure that organ placement is transparent and efficient and could potentially provide important data for future efforts. The Committee also agreed that OPOs will have an increase in costs related to data collection, transportation, and logistical issues such as coordinating OR times.

Upcoming Meeting

- Dec. 10, 2018 (Teleconference)