

**OPTN Ad Hoc International Relations Committee
Meeting Minutes
May 7, 2019
Conference Call**

**Kishore Iyer, MBBS, FRCS, FACS, Chair
Barry Friedman, RN, BSN, MBA, CPTC, Vice Chair**

Introduction

The Ad Hoc International Relations Committee met via Citrix GoToTraining teleconference on 05/07/2019 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. 2018 Annual Report of Non-US Resident Transplant Activity
2. Voluntary Program Questionnaire

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

1. Voluntary Program Questionnaire

The Committee reviewed, finalized and voted on the Voluntary Program Questionnaire.

Vote

Do you approve of the voluntary program questionnaire?

- Yes – 100%
- No – 0%

UNOS staff explained the next steps will be to draft a letter to be distributed to pre-identified transplant hospitals along with the questionnaire. The questionnaire will also require Office of Management and Budget approval.

2. 2018 Annual Report of Non-US Resident Transplant Activity

UNOS staff presented a summary of the 2018 annual report. This is the fifth annual report that fulfills the requirements in *Policy 17.1.C: Review of Non-US Citizens/Non-US Resident Registrations and Transplants*.

Highlights of the presentation include:

Waitlist Additions

- During 2018 a total of 63,457 adult and pediatric registrations were added to the US solid organ transplant waiting list.
- Of those, 888 (1.4%) were indicated to be for non-citizen, non-resident (NCNR) candidates, including 248 registrations for candidates in the US specifically for the purpose of transplantation.
- From 2015-2018, OPTN Regions 5 and 9 had the largest numbers of NCNR registrations, with a steady increase showing in Region 5.
- In 2018, the percentage of NCNR registrations for transplant varied by organ. Notably, total NCNR liver transplant waitlist additions appear to be decreasing year over year.
- Over 54% (139) of all programs had no registrations added during 2018 where the candidate citizenship was reported as NCNR.
- There were 45 programs (35 kidney, 12 liver, 3 lung, and 2 heart) with four or more NCNR registrations added to the waiting list.

Deceased Donor Transplants

- During 2018 a total of 29,675 deceased donor adult and pediatric transplants were performed in the United States.
- Of those, 410 (1.4%) were indicated to be for NCNR candidates, including 127 registrations for candidates in the US specifically for the purpose of transplantation.
- OPTN Regions 5, 9, and 10 had the highest percentage of NCNR deceased donor transplants.
- Over 67% (172) of all programs had no deceased donor transplants added during 2018 where the candidate citizenship was reported as NCNR.
- There were 28 programs (13 kidney, 1 pancreas, 7 liver, 1 intestine, 3 heart, and 1 lung) with four or more NCNR deceased donor transplants.

Observations

- Year over year trends in waiting list additions has remained relatively stable for total NCNR candidates.
- The percent of deceased donor NCNR transplants mirrors the percent of NCNR waitlist registrations.
- Half as many living donor NCNR liver transplants performed in 2018 than any of the previous years.

Summary of Discussion:

The Committee discussed the number of NCNR transplants and observed although the total number of NCNR transplants has not changed, how they are being classified has. Committee members also commented on OPTN regional trends described in the report and how they are reflective of transplant hospitals that are represented at international tradeshows.

Next Steps:

The 2018 Annual Report of Non-US Resident Transplant Activity will be provided as part of the materials for the June 2019 Board of Directors meeting.

Upcoming Meeting

- TBD

Attendance

- **Committee Members**
 - Barry Friedman
 - Susan Gunderson
 - Lisa Hinsdale
 - Kishore Iyer
 - Craig Van De Walker
- **HRSA Representatives**
 - Jim Bowman
 - Janet Kuramoto-Crawford
- **SRTR Staff**
 - Alyssa Herreid
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Chris Custer
 - Matt Hahn
 - Robert Hunter
 - Lindsay Larkin
 - Peter Sokol