

**OPTN Histocompatibility Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019  
Conference Call**

**Cathi Murphey, Ph.D., HCLD/CC (ABB), Chair  
Peter Lalli, Ph.D., Diplomat (ABHI), Vice Chair**

**Introduction**

The Histocompatibility Committee met via Citrix GoToMeeting teleconference on 07/09/2019 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Proposal Update: Modify the Histocompatibility Vice Chair Appointment Process
2. Project update: HLA Equivalency Table Review
3. Research Presentation
4. Project Update: Change CPRA Calculation
5. Orientation to the OPTN Histocompatibility Committee

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

**1. Proposal Update: Modify the Histocompatibility Vice Chair Appointment Process**

The Committee will receive a brief update on this proposal slated to go out for public comment August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019.

Data summary:

- UNOS staff gave a brief recap on the background of this project for new committee members.
- Currently the public comment proposal is being drafted and in the review process by UNOS leadership.
- This proposal will be presented to the OPTN Policy Oversight Committee (POC) on July 31, 2019 and the OPTN Executive Committee on August 1, 2019 before going out to public comment on August 2, 2019.
- Fall 2019 Public Comment is from August 2 to October 2, 2019.

Summary of discussion:

- The Chair emphasized that this was put forward for public comment because the OPTN Histocompatibility committee is the only committee with an election process for their vice chair and in removing this language, we would be more consistent with other OPTN Committees.
- Committee leadership stated that this proposal would not be controversial after a member posed the question to the group.

**2. Project Update: HLA Equivalency Table Review**

The Committee will consider recommending this project to the OPTN Policy Oversight Committee (POC).

Data summary:

- The Chair of the subcommittee working on this project gave a summary of the committee's past discussions regarding this project.

Summary of discussion:

- There were no questions.
- UNOS staff asked the committee to vote to recommend this project for POC approval in late July or August. Votes 13 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain.

Next steps:

- UNOS staff will work to strengthen the project form to prepare for POC review.

### **3. Research Presentation**

UNOS research staff will present data on DR51/52/53 allele frequencies as requested by the Committee.

Data summary:

- UNOS research staff presented a data request made by the Committee on last month's call about Frequencies of loci DR51, DR52, and DR53 alleles for donors, candidates and as Waitlist<sup>SM</sup> unacceptable antigens (UAs).
- Conclusions:
  - Most of the data entered is at the antigen level and not at the allele level for the loci mention above.
  - Additional data collection is needed before the allele frequencies can be determined accurately.

Summary of discussion:

- Committee leadership gave a brief explanation to why this data request was made in relation to the Change CPRA Calculation project.
- The Chair stressed that from this data, approximately 36 to 49% of candidates have the loci discussed and that is a significant number. She expressed that this illustrates the need to add these loci to CPRA so these candidates can have equal access to transplant. She went on to further state that that currently the OPTN does not have enough allele level data for these loci.
- Another member questioned how CPRA values would change if these loci would be added? And if statistical analysis had been done on this? Research responded by stating that the analysis would be a part of the larger Change CPRA Calculation project.

### **4. Project Update: Change CPRA Calculation**

The Committee will hear a brief update on the status of this project.

Data summary:

- Project subject matter experts (SMEs) sent a statement of work to UNOS and that is currently under review by UNOS management.
- UNOS staff are in the process of contacting NMDP (National Bone Marrow Database) about their data availability.
- Timeline is January 2020 for Public Comment.

Summary of discussion:

- Committee leadership gave a brief summary of the status of the project for new members joining the call.
- A member asked how data intensive would the data calculation be. How would it affect vendor products and would there be an API?

- UNOS staff thanked the member for their insightful questions and will follow up with them about their questions.

## **5. Orientation to the OPTN Histocompatibility Committee.**

New committee members will be introduced and provided a brief overview of the role and responsibilities of the OPTN Histocompatibility Committee.

### Data summary:

- At the start of the meeting, UNOS staff introduced new members and the policy development process was explained.
- Staff conducted a brief orientation for new members about committee member expectations, where to access materials, subcommittees/ workgroups the committee has and who and how to contact the UNOS support staff.
  - Regional meeting expectations and upcoming dates were also discussed.

### Summary of discussion:

- The Chair would like moving forward for the committee to be more involved on other projects by other committees that required histocompatibility expertise in the form of liaisons to those committees.

### **Upcoming Meeting**

- August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Full Committee Call