

**OPTN Transplant Coordinators Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
July 17, 2019  
Conference Call**

**Sharon Klarman, RN-BC, B.S.N., CCTC, Chair  
Stacy McKean, RN, B.S.N., CPTC – Vice Chair**

**Introduction**

The OPTN Transplant Coordinators Committee (here in referred to as “the Committee) met via teleconference on July 17, 2019 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Introduction of New Members
2. Transplant Coordinators Committee Learning Series Development
3. Living Donor Committee (LDC) project update
4. UNet<sup>sm</sup> University
5. Committee Orientation

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

**1. Introduction of New Members**

The Chair introduced and welcomed new members joining the Committee as of July 1, 2019. This included new regional representatives from Regions 1, 2, 3, and 5, and one at-large representative.

**2. Transplant Coordinators Committee Learning Series Development**

The Committee continued discussions on education topics for future TCC Learning Series modules.

Summary of discussion:

The Chair provided a brief history and overview of the TCC Learning Series for call participants. This included a summary of recent discussions over the last few months to identify and prioritize potential topics relevant to the field. Committee members previously shared their input on the prioritization of these topics via an on-line survey. The Chair commented the survey was very helpful and the identified areas where the Committee could have a positive impact in the immediate future:

1. OPTN Site Survey Preparedness
2. Compassion Fatigue
3. Complexities of Organ Procurement & Terminology Crosswalk
4. TIEDI & OPTN Data Submission (very timely with potential policy changes in August 2019 public comment)
5. OPTN Policy Development 101 (likely borrow content from committee member orientation)

Members briefly discussed the aforementioned topics. There was acknowledgement that the TCC is comprised of subject matter experts to help identify opportunities. However, members needed to be mindful that, in principle, TCC may not be the content experts to develop the solutions. The latter may fall on another OPTN committee, and TCC would be a partner in development. Another member shared existing content in other areas may be useful in the learning series modules thereby reducing the producing time and need for new content.

A member commented the idea of the Site Survey Preparedness would help address a topic that generates substantial anxiety for transplant coordinators. This may be an opportunity to enable better understanding what is involved in an on-site survey and share effective practices on readiness.

Members discussed the issue of Compassion Fatigue, noting it was a real issue in the field. The acknowledged a potential difficulty identifying good literature resources, but this was a good first step.

Another member commented the idea of the Terminology Crosswalk would be very timely. She has seen delays and miscommunications on donor cases that can manifest in allocation confusion. This can be exacerbated with the involvement of a third part call center contracted to cover multiple transplant programs in different regions. The Chair shared there are OPO members on TCC that could help develop this module.

Members also mentioned the need to consider the timing of these modules. As an example, it may be ill advised to develop an educational module on OPTN data submission while proposed policy changes are in the later stages of development. The Chair agreed with this sentiment, noting that the educational offering on this topic must be timed appropriately and include content *why* data submission was important.

A member shared that her OPTN committee on-boarding was very well done, inclusive of content on OPTN policy development. This content could potentially be refreshed for the TCC learning series and be a benefit to the community. The upside of this is the development time would be minimal.

The Chair thanked members for their thoughtful comments. Members were asked to consider topics that were aligned with their subject matter expertise and areas of interest, and respond to UNOS staff with willingness to participate on working groups to develop the module content. UNOS staff thanked members in advance for their dedication to this important and value-add initiative. They added work group members will be asked to periodically provide progress updates at Committee calls or meetings.

#### Next steps:

Committee members interested in participating with development working groups are asked to email UNOS staff.

### **3. Living Donor Committee (LDC) project update**

Two Committee members assigned to the OPTN Living Donor Committee's project *Guidance on Identifying Potential Living Donors through Social Media* provided a status update.

#### Summary of discussion:

The two members assigned to the Liver Donor Committee project shared the recent conference calls have been very productive. There has been robust sharing of challenges experienced in the field. This has led to the identification of two areas of focus:

- Guidance to transplant teams on counseling patients re: social media
- Effective practices for managing a spike in living donor interest

Members reported that an on-line survey is under developed to assess the current processes in use and challenges seen by transplant programs involved in living donation. Further two focus groups were formed to address the patient guidance and administrative challenge components.

The assigned members reminded the Committee of the project development timeline and their understanding that the project appeared on track to meet the outlined milestones (public comment and Board consideration).

The Chair thanked members for their ongoing commitment to this important project with the Living Donor Committee.

Next steps:

A project update will be during a future Committee call or meeting.

**4. UNet<sup>SM</sup> University**

UNOS Professional Education staff profiled a new initiative to provide new user training to Secure Enterprise<sup>SM</sup>, Waitlist<sup>SM</sup>, DonorNet<sup>®</sup>, TIEDI<sup>®</sup>, and Kidney Paired Donation (KPD<sup>SM</sup>)

Summary of discussion:

UNOS Professional Education is in the finishing stages of a new educational product targeted at new transplant staff interacting with OPTN computer applications in Secure Enterprise. TCC members are being sought for their clinical expertise in order to help with soft launch testing. The request is for volunteers (transplant hospital - 4, OPO-3) to commit to two hours of testing from August 19-30, 2019 and provide feedback to UNOS staff.

The Chair thanked UNOS staff for sharing this opportunity, commenting that this type of educational resource will be extremely valuable for transplant hospitals training new staff members. An on-line survey will be following shortly to identify members who spend substantial time in the respective applications each week.

Next steps:

Members are asked to complete the on-line survey and email UNOS staff if they are interested in assisting with the soft launch testing.

**5. Committee Orientation**

UNOS staff provided a brief orientation for new members to facilitate their on-board process with the Committee.

Summary of discussion:

UNOS staff reviewed new member orientation materials intended to expand on the foundational content members did on their own. The goal of this committee-specific review was to make new members feel well informed on current initiatives and to facilitate their engagement with these projects. The orientation included:

- Introduction to Committee leadership
- Roster of members
- Expectations of at-large members and regional representatives
- Cadence of monthly conference calls
- Approaching in-person meeting
- Dates/locations for OPTN Regional Meetings
- Committee member resources
- Key UNOS staff contact information
- Synopsis of Policy Development
- Approaching initiatives of interest from other OPTN committees
- Sneak peak of content in the coming months

Members thanked UNOS staff for this helpful introductory content

The Chair thanked everyone for attending the call and encouraged members to arrive a little early for the in-person meeting in September 2019. This will allow a fantastic opportunity to network with your transplant colleagues and be a part of UNOS for the time in Richmond.

With no other business to discuss, the conference call was adjourned.

### **Upcoming Meetings**

- Conference calls - Third Wednesday of each month from 2-3 PM (Eastern)
- In-person meeting – September 9, 2019 8:30 AM-3:30 PM (Eastern), UNOS Headquarters in Richmond, VA