

OPTN Pediatric Transplantation Committee

Meeting Minutes

July 17, 2019

Conference Call

George Mazariegos, MD, Chair

Evelyn Hsu, MD, Vice Chair

Introduction

The Pediatric Transplantation Committee (the Committee) met via teleconference on 07/17/2019 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. New Committee Member Orientation
2. Pediatric Bylaw Implementation Update
3. Kidney Allocation System (KAS) – 4 Year Results
4. National Liver Review Board (NLRB) Pediatric Update

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

1. New Committee Member Orientation

Summary of discussion:

UNOS staff provided new Committee members with an orientation to their role and the work of the Committee.

Next steps:

No next steps were discussed.

2. Pediatric Bylaw Implementation Update

New bylaws governing the pediatric components of transplant programs are set to be implemented. The applications for the pediatric components will be distributed in the coming months.

Summary of discussion:

The Chair informed the Committee that individuals already approved as primary personnel will not need to document that they meet the current primary personnel requirements. Kidney, liver, and heart primary personnel will still need to meet additional pediatric requirements. If an individual applying to be primary personnel at a pediatric component is not currently an approved primary personnel, they will need to meet the current primary personnel requirements.

The Chair then presented the timeline for implementation of the bylaws. A Committee member noted that the information provided above mostly benefits members who already have primary personnel that serve a pediatric population. A Committee member also requested that the Committee be informed when the applications are released.

Next steps:

UNOS staff will keep the Committee informed of future developments in the implementation of the bylaws.

3. Kidney Allocation System (KAS) – 4 Year Results

The Committee previously submitted a data request to examine the four year outcomes under KAS for the pediatric population.

Summary of discussion:

UNOS staff presented the data request to the Committee. The Chair asked if any of the data presented was statistically significant. UNOS staff noted that tests for statistical significance were not included in the data request, but it could be something that they include if the Committee wants.

A Committee member stated that it was particularly notable that transplant rates decreased for zero to five year olds. The Committee member was also concerned that waiting time increased for candidates over the age of six, that delayed graft function increased, and DR matching was worse. The Committee member also noted that there could be many reasons why one-year graft survival improved.

Another Committee member commented that many kidneys from pediatric donors go to adult candidates, which may be part of the reason why the transplant rate for candidates between ages zero and five decreased.

A Committee member asked if it would be possible to see the number of offers that pediatric candidates typically receive. The Committee member noted that many organs are turned down because they are labelled as increased risk.

A Committee member suggested that the Committee draft a manuscript to submit for publication.

Next steps:

UNOS staff will reach out to the Kidney Committee to see if they would be interested in helping draft the manuscript.

4. National Liver Review Board (NLRB) Pediatric Update

The NLRB was implemented in May 14, 2019. UNOS staff recently released the first report on the NLRB with six weeks of data.

Summary of discussion:

UNOS staff presented data on the pediatric review board of the NLRB. The Chair noted that the denial rate for the pediatric review board was roughly 30% and asked if the Committee should look into the denials more closely. UNOS staff noted that the Liver Committee will be tracking this.

Next steps:

The Committee will continue to monitor the results of the pediatric review board.

Upcoming Meeting

- August 21, 2019 – Teleconference
- September 18, 2019 – Teleconference
- October 15, 2019 – Chicago, Illinois