

**OPTN Operations and Safety Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
August 29, 2019  
Conference Call**

**Michael Marvin, MD, Chair  
Christopher Curran, CPTC, CPTBS, CTOP, Vice Chair**

## **Introduction**

The OPTN Operations and Safety Committee (OSC) met via Citrix GoToMeeting teleconference on 08/29/2019 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Modify Data Submission- Data Advisory Committee (DAC)
2. Expedited placement of Livers- Organ Procurement Organization (OPO) Committee
3. Committee Charge
4. Data Collection Public Comment Update

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

### **1. Modify Data Submission- Data Advisory Committee (DAC)**

A representative from DAC presented *Modify Data Submission Policies* and OSC gave their feedback.

#### Summary of discussion:

Members asked why data entry requirements are changing from 30 to 90 days. One member thought it would be easier to obtain data right after transplant as opposed to waiting to submit this data. The presenter explained that this extended deadline aims to ensure greater accuracy of submitted data. The representative from DAC added that some data elements can take more time to gather and this new timeline will ensure these data are captured before the data is locked.

Another committee member asked about the impact the deadline extension will have on the Living Donor Follow-up (LDF) form. The submission requirements for this form are at 30 and 90 days. This member wanted to know if this would cause 6 and 12 month data to overlap. A UNOS staff member told the committee that this window of time can be considered a data collection period. The deadlines are for submission.

#### Next steps:

VOTE: Strongly Support 33%, Support 67%.

Committee members were asked to post comments to the OPTN website.

### **2. Expedited placement of Livers- Organ Procurement Organization (OPO) Committee.**

A representative from the OPO committee presented *Expedited Placement of Livers* and OSC gave their feedback.

Summary of discussion:

Members asked how the required procurement of a liver would be enforced and how the committee plans to set up guardrails to prevent a team from abandoning a liver. Another member asked what should be done if another program does recover an organ and cause surgical damage. The OPO representative reported that this policy change brings about a need for standardization on these issues in order to avoid discarding livers that are suitable for transplant.

A member acknowledged that that proposal addressed the 60% of cases where turndown occurs in the OR. This member asked if this policy would be extended to the other 40% of cases in which a patient becomes unstable or has major time constraints. The presenter reported that the OPO committee did discuss this, but would like to see how initial implementation pans out.

Another member added that they felt as though the entrance to the OR is still too late and worries that finding a place for the liver or a surgeon will be difficult. He suggested looking at timing before the OR. This way should a last minute decline occur, another program could come get the liver themselves.

Next steps:

VOTE: Strongly Support 31%, Support 69%.

Committee members were asked to post comments to the OPTN website.

**3. Committee Charge**

The committee reviewed their proposed committee charge and asked for feedback.

Summary of discussion:

OSC agreed that they are comfortable with the presented committee charge.

Next steps:

- August 30: All proposed revisions are due.
- September 20: OPTN Executive Committee will provide feedback and guidance.
- November 1: All final proposed charges are due.
- December: Board review and approval of committee charge.

**4. Data Collection Public Comment Update.**

UNOS staff presented an update on the feedback received during this public comment period so far. Suggestions and themes were presented to the committee.

Summary of discussion:

UNOS staff asked for input about any feedback heard so far.

A member placed emphasis on the impact of donor families along with multifactorial delays with getting into the operating room. It may be challenging to pinpoint where the delay occurred and asked for an OPO's point of view on length of case time. Another member responded that case times can vary greatly due to differences throughout the country. This member thought that collection of this data point would be important because it is not a standard data point all programs and OPOs collect. A member suggested offering a pilot to collect delay and timing data. It was discussed that UNOS labs has a potential project on this.

Next steps:

UNOS support staff will inform UNOS Labs of this conversation.

**Upcoming Meeting(s)**

- September 26, 2019 (Teleconference)
- October 24, 2019 (In- person meeting)