OPTN Data Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
August 12, 2019
Conference Call

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Introduction
The OPTN Data Advisory Committee (DAC) met via teleconference 08/12/2019 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Opening Remarks
2. Operations and Safety Committee: Data Collection to Evaluate the Logistical Impact of Broader Distribution
3. OPO Committee: Expedited Placement of Livers

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

1. Opening Remarks

Summary of discussion:
The Chair presented the Data Element Standards of Review for the Committee to use when reviewing and evaluating public comment proposals.

Next steps:
The DAC will use the Data Elements Standard of Review as a tool to evaluate public comment proposals.

2. Operations and Safety Committee: Data Collection to Evaluate the Logistical Impact of Broader Distribution

Summary of discussion:
The Chair of the Operations and Safety presented the public comment item titled, “Data Collection to Evaluate the Logistical Impact of Broader Distribution.”

The DAC provided feedback on the public comment item and posted a comment to the OPTN Website. The Committee’s comment is provided below:

“The OPTN Data Advisory Committee (DAC) appreciates the opportunity to provide feedback on this public comment item. A DAC member noted that who procures each organ can change throughout the procurement process so the response to this particular data collection element may not be a simple answer. The DAC agreed that the suggested data collection elements should be added to the DDR, except for “organ check-in” which should be added to the TRR. A DAC member suggested that the data included in the proposal be collected prior to the removal of DSA and Region from allocation so that there can be a comparison between the different allocation systems. The DAC also suggested that the Operations and Safety Committee carefully consider the granularity of the expected responses. For example, a DAC member noted that most cases involve the use of a car even if an airplane was the primary method of transportation, and suggested that the Operations and Safety Committee consider if
the use of a car in these instances should be recorded. Another DAC member noted that it would be a burden for OPOs to enter the date/time that each organ is checked-in to the transplant center and suggested that this data be entered by the transplant center instead. Another DAC member commented that the Operations and Safety Committee should consider collecting different data for each organ. The DAC also noted that the use of perfusion should be taken into account when adding the proposed data fields. The DAC also suggested creating a pilot program to evaluate the magnitude of any increased burden caused additional data entry. The DAC looks forward to future collaboration on this project with the Operations and Safety Committee.”

Next steps:

No next steps were identified.

3. OPO Committee: Expedited Placement of Livers

The Vice Chair of the OPO Committee presented the public comment proposal titled, “Expedited Liver Placement.”

The DAC provided feedback on the public comment proposal and posted a comment to the OPTN Website. The Committee’s comment is provided below:

“The OPTN Data Advisory Committee (DAC) appreciates the opportunity to provide feedback on the public comment proposal. The DAC supports the proposal. However, the DAC is concerned with the availability of all data needed to make a well-informed acceptance decision once the expedited placement match run is initiated. It is necessary that all programs on the expedited placement match run have access to the same data, especially biopsy results. The reason that the organ was initially declined and the information supporting that decision should be shared with the programs on the expedited placement match run as well. The DAC also commented that standardizing how the appearance of each liver is documented and shared could help address the concerns noted above. The DAC noted that the acceptance criteria for the expedited placement list should be distinct from the acceptance criteria for primary offers.”

Upcoming Meetings

- September 16, 2019 – Teleconference
- October 10, 2019 – Chicago, Illinois