

OPTN Histocompatibility Committee

Meeting Minutes

August 13, 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 GoTo teleconference on 08/13/2019 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Public Comment Proposal Presentation: *Modify Data Submission Policies*
2. Project Update: Change CPRA Calculation
3. Project Update: HLA Equivalency Table Update
4. Opportunities for Collaboration/Volunteer
5. Other Significant Items

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

1. Public Comment Proposal Presentation: *Modify Data Submission Policies*

The Vice Chair of the OPTN Data Advisory Committee will present their proposal and will seek feedback from the committee.

Data summary:

- The Vice Chair of the OPTN Data Advisory Committee presented key concepts of the Modify Data Submission Policies Proposal to the Committee.

Summary of discussion:

The Committee discussed the proposal and were overall supportive but shared the following concerns:

- A member asked what fields are most commonly changed within the Tiedi® forms in order for the transplant community to see what the specific concerns are and if the solutions presented are accurate.
 - The speaker stated that in general, factors included in the SRTR model and comorbidities are most commonly changed.
- The Chair asked about the QA dashboard, and was wondering if this dashboard would encompass HLA typing discrepancies.
 - The speaker said that they have outlined their dashboard, however commented that the DAC does not have any histocompatibility members that have brought up this issue and urged the Committee to bring this issue up in a public comment.
- The Vice Chair of the Committee asked what the goals of the proposal were and if it including updating any forms.

- The speaker said that this proposal did not include updating any forms however, DAC does have an upcoming project to tackle those and a histocompatibility liaison to DAC is welcome.

The Committee's votes are as follows 6 Strongly support; 4 Support; 1 Abstain.

Next steps:

- UNOS staff will summarize the committee discussions and publish their comment on the OPTN site.

2. Project Update: Change CPRA Calculation

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

Data summary:

- Status Update:
 - UNOS received: subject matter expert's (SME's) statement of work (SOW) for this project
 - UNOS legal and information technology department reviewed this statement
 - UNOS Leadership had a meeting to review the SOW and plan to reach out to the SME with a response
 - UNOS research have been in contact with NMDP about using their data and data use agreement.
- Project Update:
 - SME's have created a functional prototype CPRA (Calculated Panel Reactive Antibodies) Calculator based on the count method.
 - UNOS staff have had discussions with committee leadership on the possibility of using the OPTN or NMDP (National Bone Marrow Database) values for CPRA.

Summary of discussion:

- SME's gave an update on their work:
 - Lots of progress and have shared that the haplotype CPRA calculator is almost complete.
 - The haplotype and counts CPRA calculator are comparable (data will be similar in both).
 - Shared they would like to share some preliminary data at the Committee's in person later on this year.
 - This preliminary data will be looking at recipients from OPTN database and how their CPRA differ from 5 loci to 11 loci, comparison values of a counts/ genotype CPRA calculator, haplotype CPRA calculator, and comparisons to the Canadian CPRA calculator.
 - Asked members to test out the calculator and give feedback, they acknowledged that these calculators need more validation and testing.
- A member asked the SME's how the workload differ between the counts and haplotype calculation.

Next steps:

- UNOS staff will create a timeline to outline the project to help illustrate next steps.

3. Project Update: HLA Equivalency Table Update

The Committee will hear an update on the status of this project. This project will be going to the OPTN Policy Oversight Committee (POC) on 8/22.

Data summary:

- The Chair of the Subcommittee gave a brief update:
 - POC will be reviewing this project for approval on August 22, 2019.
 - Reminded the committee of the main goals of the project:
 - 1. Review and update current tables
 - 2. Reconfigure DPB1 unacceptable antigens table
 - 3. Incorporating DPB1 epitopes as an option
 - The project outline will be sent to POC for their review as well as to the committee.

Next steps:

- UNOS staff will send out a poll for members to volunteer for the subcommittee working on the table review as well as for dates for the subcommittee to reconvene.

4. Opportunities for Collaboration/Volunteer

The Committee will:

- Ask for liaisons to other committees and for subcommittee participation.
- Discuss the directive to review the OPTN Histocompatibility Committee Charge.

Data summary:

- The committee charge was presented to the committee and members were asked to send their feedback to UNOS staff.
 - The timeline of this project was presented as well.
- Staff asked members to think about what committees they would like to be a liaison to.

Summary of discussion:

- During the charge presentation, the chair asked members to keep in mind during their review that the committee is also charged with discrepant typing reports and equivalency table updates.
 - A member asked staff to send out the policy language that outlined the other tasks the committee is charged with.

Next steps:

- UNOS Policy and Community Relations staff with:
 - Send out the charge to all members for their review.
 - Create a poll for which committees/subcommittee members would like to volunteer for.

5. Other Significant Items

- The Chair reminded the Committee about the 2019 ASHI Standards that are out for public comment.
 - The Chair highlighted a memo from ASHI-ARB about Bw4/Bw6 typing
 - Problem: Some PCR (polymerase chain reaction) methods do not use amplification of the well for assigning Bw4 and Bw6 more specifically certain software being used is assigning based on association and not on direct

amplification of the primer/probe. The ARB wanted to reiterate that all labs that do typing for donor and candidates that do typing for the OPTN, that they have to do some sort of typing that physical types for and uses amplification data to assign Bw4/Bw6 antigen.

- Chair discussed with the vendors in the community, and asked if their software is using associations or using results?
 - One vendor is using the results to assign bw4/bw6 but other vendors are going off associations.
- Solution: The Chair reminded the committee that to be compliant with OPTN policy, if you are using vendors that go off associations then you need to look at primers/probes and score them as positive or negative and make an assignment of Bw4 or Bw6.
 - UNOS staff with work with committee leadership to draft an educational communication about this issue.
- UNOS Staff reminded the committee about the timeline on the Modify the Histocompatibility Vice Chair appointment Process project, dates of Fall 2019 Regional meetings, and OPTN Committee and Board vacancies for 2020.

Upcoming Meeting(s)

- September 10, 2019 Full Committee Call
- October 16th, 2019 Committee In-person meeting in Chicago, IL