OPTN HLA Equivalency Table Subcommittee
Meeting Minutes
May 16, 2019
Conference Call

John Lunz, PhD D (ABHI), Chair

Introduction

The HLA Equivalency Table Subcommittee met via Citrix GoTo teleconference on 05/16/2019 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Updates to existing tables (4-2 through 4-13 and 4-15)
2. Programming Concerns, issues
3. Project Development:
    a) DPB1 Table 4-14
    b) New DPB1 Epitope-based Matching Table
    c) Expedited Pathway for Future Updates

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

1. Updates to existing tables (4-2 through 4-13 and 4-15)

Summary of discussion:

- Members of the subcommittee reviewed the existing tables (4-2 to 4-13 and 4-15) for accuracy and concluded that these tables appear updated and members did not want any additions or deletions during this review.

2. Programming Concerns, issues

Summary of discussion:

- There were programming concerns if this would affect DonorNet®, Waitlist℠ and how the equivalency table will look in policy and how it will be mapped out on the IT side.
- There was discussion on whether this project is ready for OPTN Policy Oversight Committee (POC) approval.
    - Members were concerned about the depth of the current proposed changes and possibly suggested this project be split into two project with the first being the table update and the second adding the expedited policy language. However there were concerns on postponing this project and staff assured members that it could be done in one project.

3. Project Development

Summary of discussion:

- **New DPB1 unacceptable antigen table (Table 4-14)**
    a. The Chair of the subcommittee created a new table for DPB1 based upon:
        i. The most common donor alleles selected in UNet ℠ since DPB1 loci was a required field.
        ii. Alleles listed in the Canadian CPRA Calculator

iii. Alleles preset on single antigens beads from One Lambda (Standard & supplemental kits) and Immucor.
iv. Alleles that have a G-group designation with more than 1 allele, if a G-group is available.
v. However under consideration is to keep other DPB1 alleles which would only have an equivalency to themselves.

b. The use of NMDP HLA typing data was suggested but staff reminded members that there is currently a discussion of the accuracy of the frequencies and the validity of its usage at this time for equivalency tables.

- **Epitope based UA assignment for the DPB1 loci discussion:**
  a. Members wanted to make UA DPB1 equivalents based on epitopes and decided this will be up to the histocompatibility lab to use/exclude a person from a match run, allowing them to have the choice and not require any additional testing.
  b. Suggestions of a new table for epitope-based UA DPB1 equivalencies was considered.
  c. What epitopes to use was discussed and members were going to look into the literature to decided.
  d. Some disagreement on if the whole community can use this type of matching
- **New Epitope table for DPB1**
  a. A member suggested a table by Emory University that the OPTN can use as a model. The creator of this model is willing to work with the OPTN.
  b. Members stressed the need to use a common language when discussing/ explaining this.
- **Expedited policy pathway**
  a. Members were still concerned about the enormity of this project and would like this expedited policy to be a second project. Staff shared that a second project is not needed and the following timeline was presented:
     i. June 2019 staff will work on creating the project form and distribute to leadership and subcommittee members for their review
     ii. July 9th 2019: presented to the full committee; to secure the Committees approval to go to POC/ Executive Committee.
     iii. Aug 22, 2019: Going to POC to request their approval for this project.

Next steps:

UNOS staff will work on creating the project form and distribute for review. Then present to the full committee in July 2019 for approval.

Upcoming Meeting

- No subcommittee meeting scheduled