

**OPTN/UNOS Kidney-Pancreas Workgroup
Meeting Minutes
August 28, 2018
Teleconference Call**

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Introduction

The Kidney-Pancreas Workgroup (the Workgroup) met via teleconference on 08/28/2018 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Hybrid Points Method Recommendations and Discussion
2. Update on Fixed Circles
3. Metrics Discussion

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

1. Hybrid Points Method Recommendations and Discussion

KP work group members were encouraged to continue participating in conversation on the KP work group Basecamp site. Additionally, they were reminded that our SRTR Modeling request is due at the end of next week's meeting as well as the fact that the Geography Committee is currently considering the issue on non-contiguous states and geographically isolated hospitals.

Workgroup leadership and UNOS staff then outlined their recommendations for the two variations of the hybrid points model approach.

Previously, leadership was considering variations with non-linear curves inside a single circle and then linear slopes outside of that circle. In conversations with UNOS staff, leadership has since changed their approach, in an effort to simplify as well as better reflect the realities of kidney transport. Leadership is now looking at using linear functions both inside and outside of the single circle in the hybrid model.

Furthermore, leadership was previously considering that all candidates within a certain distance (possibly 250NM) should receive the maximum number of proximity points. They have since reconsidered this approach as well.

Leadership and research outlined their recommendations for modeling two single-circle hybrid variations, each with linear decreases in proximity points based on distance from the donor hospital. The first variation would have a steep regression that values proximity more, possibly at 5 points for the closest candidates. The other would have a shallow regression that values proximity points less, possibly at 2 points for the closest candidates.

Leadership then opened the floor up to general discussion of the model. While there was clear broad support for the approach, they were differences in opinion regarding a few of the variables.

Some members believe that there should only be a proximity function outside of the single circle. Others believed that for the sake of efficiency, it didn't make as much sense to send a kidney 499 miles away because a candidate had one more day of waiting time.

Some members believe 5 points is far too many to be considered, even for a steep curve.

Members seemed to agree that a simplified linear function is easiest to understand and that a non-linear function wouldn't offer any clear advantages over a linear function.

2. Update on Fixed Circles

Following the discussion, leadership outlined their new recommendations for the fixed concentric circles variations, based on the feedback from the geography committee. The committee agreed with the following variations:

150 NM / 300NM variation
250NM / 500NM variation
500 NM single circle variation

3. Metrics Discussion

Finally, leadership and research displayed the draft metrics for SRTR modeling for any final feedback from the work group. The list of metrics are as follows:

1. Count of transplants
2. Transplant rates
3. Counts of waiting list deaths
4. Waiting list mortality rates
5. Total life years from transplant
6. Total graft years from transplant
7. Average median years of survival from transplant
8. Post-transplant *graft* survival rates
9. Post-transplant *patient* survival rates

With the meeting concluded, these are the decisions regarding the hybrid model that remain to be decided:

1. Which two variations will be modeled?
2. Should we include a proximity score inside of the single circle?
3. How many points should be considered for steep and shallow functions?