Introduction

The OPTN Operation and Safety Committee (the Committee) met by teleconference on November 21, 2019 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. ABO Project Discussion
2. Fiscal Impact
3. IT Customer Advocacy Update
4. Data Collection Feedback Update

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

1. ABO Project Discussion

The Committee reviewed the ABO guidance document and suggested policy language in their final draft forms. They voted on whether or not these documents should be considered for public comment submission.

Summary of discussion:

A member informed the Committee that both documents should use consistent language and match language used by the OPTN. For this reason, any mention of “ABO blood typing in the documents will be changed to “blood typing”.

During an ABO Workgroup meeting, a member noticed language in Policy 2.6.A: Deceased Donor Blood Type Determination, which was unnecessary and suggested its removal. The language “(4) have results indicating the same blood type” will be removed from policy 2.6.A. In order to remain consistent throughout all OPTN policy, the language was also removed from OPTN Policies 3.3: Candidate Blood Type Determination and Reporting before Waiting List Registration and 14.5: Living Donor Blood Type Determination and Reporting. The Committee will notify leadership of the Transplant Coordinators Committee (TCC) and Living donor Committee (LDC) of these changes to get their feedback.

The Committee voted for the ABO the guidance document and proposed policy language to be considered for public comment submission.

VOTE:

- ABO Guidance Document:
  - 100% Support – 11 members
- ABO Proposed Policy Language
  - 100% Support- 10 members

Next Steps:
2. Fiscal Impact

The Committee reviewed and discussed the potential fiscal impact of the Committee’s ABO guidance document and policy proposal.

Summary of discussion:

A representative from the Fiscal Impact Advisory Group facilitated discussion on how the Committee’s guidance document and proposed policy language could potentially impact Organ Procurement Organizations (OPO) and transplant centers financially.

The presenter asked the Committee if other technology, such as alternative blood typing methods to resolve indeterminate results, could drive costs up for OPOs and transplant centers. A committee member reported that this could drive up costs if the tests were more expensive and common, but that they are not so this is not a fiscally impactful factor. A member asked if the fiscal implications of a proposal could ever impact its timeline to go to the Board of Directors (BoD). UNOS staff explained that fiscal information is provided with each document going to the BoD in order to uphold organizational transparency.

Next steps:

The Fiscal Impact Advisory Group representative welcomed any additional questions the Committee may think of after the meeting.

3. IT Customer Advocacy Update

The Committee was updated on the current development of the DonorNet Mobile project.

Summary of discussion:

The Committee Chair stated that there were challenges working with DonorNet Mobile from an iPad. It was suggested that Safari should become an approved browser. UNOS staff explained that these applications are being built out and it is expected that this change will be made.

A member asked if the DonorNet application could be used on a variety of phones and platforms. UNOS staff confirmed this and explained that the mobile website will be wrapped into an application in the future.

Next steps:

DonorNet Mobile’s projected implementation timeline is in early 2020.

4. Data Collection Feedback Update

The Committee was updated on the status and next steps of the Data Collection project.

Summary of discussion:

The Committee was informed that the request for input will be included within the report to the BoD. This input will help to refine potential data collection elements.

Next steps:

The Committee will continue work on this project and develop a timeline for steps moving forward.