OPTN Transplant Coordinators Committee
Meeting Summary
November 20, 2019
Conference Call

Sharon Klarman, RN-BC, B.S.N., CCTC, Chair
Stacy McKean, RN, B.S.N., CPTC, Vice Chair

Introduction

The OPTN Transplant Coordinators Committee met via teleconference on November 20, 2019 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Project Update: TCC Learning Series Update
2. Future Project Discussion: Collaboration with OPTN Disease Transmission Advisory Committee (DTAC)
3. Revisions to OPTN PTR Codes
4. Project Update: Living Donor Committee Social Media Guidance

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

1. Project Update: TCC Learning Series Update

Three Committee members have been actively engaged with UNOS Professional Education staff to develop the first of four new Learning Series modules that will be added to UNOS Connect (e-learning website we maintain). The first module will cover Transplant Program Site Survey Preparedness and is targeted for release on December 13, 2019. Working group members expressed their gratitude for the collaborative and efficient manner which the project has been managed.

Others on the call were eager to see the final product, noting it would be a valuable resource for the field. New learning series modules will be communicated to the transplant community in several manners to attract users to this and other content. The next module to be developed will address OPO Site Survey Preparedness and targeted for released in early 2020.

Next steps:

UNOS staff will provide updates to the deployment plans for the new e-learning modules.

2. Future Project Discussion: Collaboration with OPTN Disease Transmission Advisory Committee (DTAC)

The Chair and Vice Chair shared that representatives from the Committee have volunteered to participate on a working group with the OPTN Disease Transmission Advisory Committee (DTAC). This working group will be charged with OPTN policy and guidance changes as a result of new U.S. Public Health Service Increased Risk criteria.

Members on the call shared the unintended downstream impact of the last revisions on living organ donors and the challenges transplant teams faces regarding the allowing levels of disclosure. Several on the call supported updates to OPTN guidance on informed consent discussion and allowable levels of donor risk factor disclosure.
The new criteria are not expected until Q1/Q2 2020 and the working group would begin work about the same time.

3. Revisions to OPTN PTR Codes

UNOS IT staff shared a new initiative to revise the Potential Transplant Recipient (PTR) refusal codes used by OPO and transplant program staff when responding to organ offers in DonorNet®. Committee members expressed their appreciation these codes were up for revision and supported the approach UNOS IT staff are taking at this stage. They also shared how transplant programs use these data during periodic reviews of organ offers at their respective transplant programs. UNOS IT staff asked the Committee to help with testing and troubleshooting in 2020 with implementation targeted for 2021.

Next steps:
Committee members interested in volunteering with this initiative are asked to contact UNOS staff for more information.

4. Project Update: Living Donor Committee Social Media Guidance

The Committee has one member assigned to work with the OPTN Living Donor Committee on their guidance on Use of Social Media in Identifying Potential Living Organ Donors. An online survey was used to gain insight from living donor programs in the U.S. on their experience with social media recruitment. This survey was very informative and helped develop content for the guidance. The group was finalizing the guidance with no expected issues with targets for public comment (January 2020) or Board consideration (June 2020).

Next steps:
The Committee will have an opportunity to review this proposal during the Winger 2020 public comment period.

Upcoming Meetings

- Third Wednesday of each month from 3-4 PM (Eastern)
- In-person meeting – February 26, 2020 (Chicago, IL)