

**OPTN Histocompatibility Committee
Meeting Summary
December 10, 2019
Conference Call**

**Cathi Murphey, Ph D, Chair
Pete Lalli, Ph D, Vice Chair**

Introduction

The Histocompatibility Committee met via teleconference on 12/10/2019 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. OPTN Board of Directors' Meeting Update
2. HLA Equivalency Table Review Project
3. CPRA Calculation Update
4. Addressing HLA Typing Errors Demo
5. OPTN Bylaw Review: Appendix C
6. Committee Liaisons Report Out

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

1. OPTN Board of Directors' Meeting Update

The Committee received an update on the OPTN Board of Directors meeting held in Dallas, Texas in December 2019. Noteworthy elements included:

- Transition of the "acting director" of the Division of Transplantation to "director"
- Approval of the
 - Consent agenda (this included two proposals from the Histocompatibility Committee)
 - Slate for Board Elections to take place in January 2020
 - Respective updates to OPTN Committee charges including the Histocompatibility Committee's revisions
 - Discussion agenda
- Targets for the transition to continuous distribution
 - Kidney & Pancreas 12/2019
 - Liver & Intestine 12/2020
 - Heart & VCA 12/2022

Next steps:

The next OPTN Board of Directors meeting will be held in June 2020 in Richmond, Virginia. Committee leadership will continue to attend these important meetings, and provide a debrief following.

2. HLA Equivalency Table Review Project

The Subcommittee Chair provided a project update and an overview of the approaching project milestones.

Summary of discussion:

The HLA Equivalency Table Subcommittee has been diligently working on revisions to the reference tables appearing in OPTN Policy 4.10 *Reference Tables of HLA Antigen Values and Split Equivalences*. This includes the more routine administrative updates to some of the tables, and more substantive changes including:

- Addition of language that future table updates will be handled by way of the OPTN's Expedited Actions pathway (OPTN Bylaws, Article 11.8).
- Linkage with the IMGT/HLA database.
- Addition of DPB1 epitopes as optional unacceptable antigen selection.

The Committee discussed several elements across the tables being revised and members provided feedback. At the conclusion of the discussion a project development timeline was reviewed. The Vice Chair asked members to carefully review the proposed changes to the tables and share off-line feedback with leadership and UNOS staff.

Next steps:

UNOS staff will schedule a brief conference call next week for member to consider whether to recommend a final version of the proposal for public comment in January 2020.

3. CPRA Calculation Update

The CPRA Calculation Subcommittee met by conference call last week to initiate more focused work on this project. Among the key deliverables for this project is the creation of a Request for Proposals (RFP). This is a new project requirement in order to recruit a contractor to assist with the formulaic approach to the CPRA calculation. Members expressed their understanding for this new project element. The target for public comment continues to be August 2020.

Next steps:

Subcommittee calls will be occurring monthly and future updates will be provided.

4. Addressing HLA Typing Errors Demo

UNOS staff provided an overview of the “look and feel” of the approaching IT changes from the Board’s approval of the proposal to reduce discrepancies of HLA typing entered in UNetSM. Several members shared questions and these were all answered. The targeted implementation date for these changes continues to be February 2020.

Next steps:

UNOS IT staff will provide additional project updates during future conference calls or meetings.

5. OPTN Bylaw Review; Appendix C

The OPTN Membership and Professional Standards Committee (MPSC) has undertaken a comprehensive review of the membership requirements in the OPTN Bylaws, including Appendix C *Membership Requirements for Histocompatibility Laboratories*.

Summary of discussion:

The Committee was previously approached in order to be included in the project discussions with the MPSC. Members expressed their appreciation to provide counsel on this project. Specifically mentioned were two areas of concern:

- The sequence of review by the MPSC and that their reviews the applicants for laboratory directors occurs *after* these individuals have been approved by the American Society for Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics (ASHI).
- The need for good alignment with ASHI and College of American Pathologists (CAP) requirements, and the need to avoid conflicting language with these groups as well as the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) regulations.

The project timeline was reviewed at the conclusion of the discussion.

Next steps:

Committee members participating on the working group with the MPSC will provide future project updates.

6. OPTN Committee Liaisons Report Out

MPSC – A review of applications for laboratory directors are taking place on a rolling basis.

No other updates were made.

With no further business to discuss, the conference call was adjourned.

Upcoming Meeting(s)

- Third Wednesday of each month from 12-1 PM (Eastern)
- In-person meeting April 17, 2020 8 AM-3 PM (UNOS Headquarters, Richmond, VA)