

**OPTN Living Donor Committee
Meeting Minutes
February 12, 2020
Conference Call**

**Randy Schaffer, Chair, MD
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Introduction

The OPTN Living Donor Committee (the Committee) met by teleconference on February 12, 2020 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Updates
2. Remote Donation Requests
3. Living Donor Committee VCA Project
4. Public Comment Review Process

1. Updates

Federal Register Notice:

As a follow-up from the January 8 meeting, the Committee was informed the draft response to the Federal Register Notice on Removing Living Donor Disincentives was approved by the Executive Committee and will be submitted to HRSA on behalf of the OPTN.

Social Media Guidance Document:

As a follow-up from the February 3 meeting, the Committee was updated on the status of the Social Media Guidance Document. UNOS staff is working with HRSA to revise the document based on HRSA's feedback and will be submitted back to HRSA for further feedback in the coming weeks. The goal is to release a revised document for fall 2020 public comment.

2. Remote Donation Requests

The committee received a presentation regarding a remote donation issue and request.

Summary of Data:

There have been some reports from the transplant community regarding issues with direct remote donation. There have been a few instances within the KPD program where a direct donor lives in another state from their directed candidate and is unable to travel to the candidate's state, requiring the donation to be facilitated by a remote transplant program. Transplant hospitals are unclear on how to facilitate remote donations and the request is for the Living Donor Committee to develop a resource to help centers interested in direct remote donation.

Summary of Discussion:

Some committee members commented they have experienced remote donation cases at their programs. The Chair commented there is no policy barrier to prohibit remote donation and the largest

barrier may be financial rather than the logistics. Other committee members commented in their experience the logistics of remote donation are difficult for both travel of the organ and billing.

Next Steps:

The Committee will further discuss this issue at the in-person meeting in April. Committee members were encouraged to check with their programs to see if they have experienced any challenges related to direct remote donation.

3. Living Donor Committee VCA Project

The committee reviewed an overview of the project form for the Living Donor Committee's project to update *OPTN Policy 14: Living Donation* to include living VCA donors, the proposed workgroup members, and the proposed timeline and milestones for the project.

Summary of Data:

Problem Statement:

- Currently, Living VCA donors are not covered by *OPTN Policy 14: Living Donation*
- Living uterus donation is becoming more prominent, creating a gap in policy
- The update of *OPTN Policy 14: Living Donation* would promote the safety of living donors and recipients by requiring regulation and reporting of living VCA donation compliant with OPTN policy

Proposed Solution:

- Update *OPTN Policy 14: Living Donation* to include all living VCA donors and add uterus specific elements
- The Workgroup will be made up of Living Donor, VCA, and Ethics Committee members as well as a living uterus donor
- The Workgroup will:
 - Look at Policy 14 section by section and consider how each policy would apply to VCA living donors and make recommendations to add or delete language as needed
 - Assess what living uterine donation-specific requirements need to be incorporated into relevant sections of Policy 14 (ex. informed consent, psychosocial evaluation, etc.)
- The project is being developed in tandem with the VCA Committee's project to update the LDR and LDF forms to include living VCA donors

Next Steps:

The project form will go to the Policy Oversight Committee and Executive Committee for approval in February. Once approved the Workgroup will begin meeting to develop a proposal for fall 2020 public comment. Committee members were encouraged to identify key questions and discussion points for the Workgroup to consider as well as gather literature and resources for Workgroup review.

4. Public Comment Review Process

The Committee was informed of the new public comment review process for committees. The Living Donor Committee was selected to provide feedback on the following proposals:

- Measuring Transplant Outcomes by Collecting Data on Children Born to Uterus Recipients, VCA Committee
- Modify Blood Type Determination and Reporting Policies, Operations and Safety Committee
- Guidance on Blood Type Determination, Operations and Safety Committee

Next Steps:

The Committee will receive a presentation on the VCA Committee's *Measuring Transplant Outcomes by Collecting Data on Children Born to Uterus Recipients* proposal during their March call. Committee volunteers will also review the two proposals from the Operations and Safety Committee and provide a summary of feedback to the rest of the Committee during the March call.

Upcoming Meeting

- March 11, 2020 – Teleconference