OPTN Histocompatibility Committee
Meeting Summary
March 10, 2020
Conference Call

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Introduction

The Histocompatibility Committee met via Citrix GoToTraining teleconference on 03/10/2020 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. HLA Updates Proposal Update
2. IT Implementation Update
3. Appendix C Project Update
4. Demo: New CPRA Calculator
5. April Meeting Preview: Agenda and Preparation

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

1. HLA Updates Proposal Update

UNOS staff presented on the status of the HLA equivalency tables update proposal out for public comment.

Data summary:

See attached slides.

Summary of discussion:

The only question from the Committee was whether or not professional societies such as ASHI or CAP had given feedback yet. UNOS staff explained that while we have reached out to them, they have not provided their feedback yet.

2. IT Implementation Update

UNOS staff presented on the status of the Addressing HLA Typing Errors project implementation.

Data summary:

The project was implemented on February 27, 2020. There has been no feedback from the community thus far.

Summary of discussion:

No concerns were raised.

Next steps:

Committee members will reach out to UNOS staff if they become aware of any concerns about the project. UNOS staff will bring any feedback that may arise to the Committee.

3. Appendix C Project Update

UNOS Member Quality (MQ) staff presented on the status of the Appendix C update project.

Data summary:

See attached slides.

Summary of discussion:

The Membership and Professional Standards Committee (MPSC) requested feedback on OPTN Bylaws Appendix C Section C.6: Histocompatibility Laboratory Policies and Procedures. UNOS MQ staff mentioned that no other OPTN membership categories have a list of items they are reviewed for. Committee members questioned what would cause inactivation of a histocompatibility lab, and MQ explained that other than loss of accreditation, it would only be a request for voluntary inactivation unless there is a patient safety issue.

In addition, the committee was concerned about who determines HLA typing discrepancies, and that subject matter expertise was needed to do so. The committee would like to remove the Appendix C Section C.6 bylaw, but wanted to make sure that the Histocompatibility Committee would still be reviewing typing discrepancies, and that it was clearly outlined elsewhere in policy or bylaws. The section was redundant, since the laboratories are already required to comply with ASHI/CAP standards.

Next steps:

UNOS staff to check on the review of HLA typing discrepancies elsewhere in the bylaws.

4. Demo: New CPRA Calculator

UNOS staff demonstrated historic CPRA calculator use and the new CPRA calculator functionality and design.

Summary of discussion:

A Committee member asked if it would be possible to add a function to the new calculator entry to add multiple unacceptable antigens at once, instead of having to open the drop down for each entry.

Next steps:

UNOS research staff looking into feasibility of this change.

5. April Meeting Preview: Agenda and Preparation

Histocompatibility Committee Chair and UNOS Policy liaison discussed in-person meeting plan and logistics.

Summary of discussion:

April meeting may need to be held virtually, due to member center-specific travel restrictions and out of an abundance of caution. There is currently no information on potential travel bans for April, but members will be informed as soon as the OPTN is aware of any potential obstacles for an in-person meeting, and will have the option of virtual attendance or a fully virtual meeting as a back-up.

Next steps:

Committee members to inform UNOS staff if they will be unable to attend the in-person meeting as soon as they are aware. UNOS staff to keep the Committee informed as to any potential logistical changes.

Upcoming Meetings

- April 17, 2020, Richmond VA
- May 12, 2020, Teleconference
- June 9, 2020, Teleconference