

**OPTN Pediatric Transplantation Committee
Meeting Summary
March 25, 2020
Virtual Meeting**

**George Mazariegos, MD, Chair
Evelyn Hsu, MD, Vice Chair**

Introduction

The OPTN Pediatric Transplantation Committee (the Committee) met via Citrix GoToTraining teleconference on 03/25/2020 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. COVID-19 Update and Discussion
2. Continuous Distribution Presentation
3. Work Group and Project Updates

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

1. COVID- 19 Update and Discussion

The Committee heard a presentation on the OPTN and UNOS response to the developing COVID- 19 situation.

Summary of discussion:

Committee members shared protocol adjustments at their institutions due to COVID-19. Multiple members reported that their institutions are testing all recipients going into the operating room, regardless of symptoms. Members also stated that most donors are being tested as well as some recipients post- transplant. Elective surgeries have been discontinued until further notice.

Members also reported that parents of pediatric patients have expressed concern about the impacts of COVID-19. Institutions are taking measures to answer parents' questions. Members suggested releasing Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on a regular basis to keep these parents informed.

Next steps:

The Committee was invited to submit any other information or feedback they would like to share.

2. Continuous Distribution Update and Discussion

The Committee heard a presentation on Continuous Distribution and the pairwise comparison exercise.

Summary of discussion:

The Committee discussed pediatric prioritization within the continuous distribution system. Members reported concern that the importance of pediatric prioritization may be drowned out, as the pediatric transplant community is rather small when compared to the adult transplant community. Another member appreciated continuous distribution as a multi- variable approach to assessing patients.

Next steps:

Committee members will receive an email from Decision Lens inviting them to participate in a prioritization exercise. This will help the OPTN to begin developing the continuous distribution system.

3. Work Group and Project Updates

The Committee discussed the status of current projects.

Summary of discussion:

Liver: Acuity Circles and PELD/Status 1B

- The Committee will be presented with Median MELD at Transplant (MMaT) data on a monthly basis. A member mentioned that it would be interesting to look at the average organ offer acceptance rate.

Kidney: Improving Access to Pediatric Donors

- The Kidney Committee plans to shift their focus towards expanding pediatric priority in sequence C. Interested Pediatric Committee members are welcome to be involved on this project.

Thoracic Committee: National Heart Review Board for Pediatrics

- The Workgroup plans to discuss criteria for pediatric candidates with exceptions. This guidance document is projected to go out for public comment in August 2020.

Ethic Collaboration: Gap Analysis

- Committee members agreed to pursue a manuscript outside of the OPTN and collaborate with members of the OPTN Ethics Committee as appropriate.

Multi- Organ Workgroup Data Request

- Members agreed that this data request will help the Committee understand if there is a problem related to multi- organ transplants receiving priority access to kidneys over single organ pediatric transplant candidates seeking kidney alone.

Next steps:

The Committee will receive additional updates on these projects as they progress.

Upcoming Meetings

- April 15, 2020
- May 20, 2020