

## **OPTN Pediatric Transplantation Committee**

### **Meeting Summary**

**June 17, 2020**

**Conference Call**

**George Mazariegos, MD, Chair**

**Evelyn Hsu, MD, Vice Chair**

### **Introduction**

The OPTN Pediatric Transplantation Committee (the Committee) met via Citrix GoToTraining teleconference on 06/17/2020 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. OPTN Board of Directors Meeting Re- cap
2. Pediatric Bylaws- Emergency Membership Exception Transition Plan
3. Project Updates

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

#### **1. OPTN Board of Directors Meeting Re- cap**

The Committee reviewed results of the Board of Directors (BOD) meeting on June 8, 2020

##### Summary of discussion:

A member shared that the "National Heart Review Board (NHRB) for Pediatrics" proposal passed unanimously. The Thoracic Committee will form a workgroup to start to operationalize the review board. Another member mentioned that the "Addressing Medically Urgent Candidates in New Kidney Allocation Policy" passed with an amendment that specifies that programs must give consideration to the clinical differences in adult and pediatric candidates when indicating contraindications to the methods of dialysis outlined in the policy.

#### **2. Pediatric Bylaws- Emergency Membership Exception Transition Plan**

The Committee discussed the emergency membership exception transition plan for the pediatric bylaws. Additional pediatric data collection will be implemented on Status 1A liver and heart justification forms to allow these pediatric candidates to meet emergency membership criteria. This data collection cannot be applied to candidates that were as listed at 1A prior to implementation. The Committee considered two options to address this issue:

- Option 1: No grace/transition period- Downgrade any candidates considered eligible for the emergency exception and then immediately submit a new Status 1A form with the emergency exception data
- Option 2: Grace period until extension- Keep candidates who are considered eligible for the emergency exception listed as Status 1A until their extension for the 1A justification form is due

##### Summary of discussion:

Members preferred option 2 because they felt it was the least disruptive. They also thought allowing a grace period until the 1A justification forms are due would minimize the chance a pediatric candidate would miss an organ offer.

Next steps:

UNOS staff will use the Committee's input to shape the pediatric bylaws emergency membership exception transition plan.

**3. Project Updates**

Members heard updates on current projects with pediatric committee involvement.

Summary of discussion:

Pediatric NHRB: Guidance Addressing the Use of Pediatric Heart Exception

- A member asked how many kids are currently transplanted by exception. Another member answered that they believe it to be 10%, but UNOS staff will follow up about these specifics.

PELD/Status 1B Workgroup:

- A member explained that the workgroup will focus on rethinking the current Pediatric End-Stage Liver Disease (PELD) score in order to allow the sickest children to be transplanted first.

Change to Pediatric Guidance for NLRB:

- Committee members are working with the NLRB Subcommittee, which is a subcommittee of the OPTN Liver and Intestinal Organ Transplantation Committee, to draft potential changes to the guidance for the pediatric specialty board of the National Liver Review Board (NLRB)

Kidney: Increasing Pediatric Priority in Sequence C:

- The project is awaiting workgroup approval and the first meetings are expected to take place in the coming weeks.

**Upcoming Meeting**

- July 15, 2020