

OPTN Kidney Transplantation Committee

Meeting Summary

June 15, 2020

Conference Call

Vincent Casingal, MD, Chair
Martha Pavlakis, MD, Vice Chair

Introduction

The Committee met via Citrix GoTo teleconference on 06/15/2020 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Committee Transition and Service Recognition
2. OPTN Board Meeting Review
3. Six Month En Bloc and Dual Kidney Report

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

1. Committee Transition and Service Recognition

The Committee recognized the members whose terms are ending this month.

Summary of discussion:

Members of UNOS staff and the Committee leadership shared words of gratitude for the service of member's whose terms are ending.

2. OPTN Board Meeting Review

UNOS staff provided an update on the Committee's proposals that were presented before the Board.

Data summary:

- Alaska allocation proposal passed unanimously: 40 – 0
- Medical Urgency policy also passed unanimously: 40 – 0
- Medical Urgency did receive a friendly amendment
 - The amendment makes it more clear that the policy applies to both adult and pediatric patients
 - The amendment still aligns with the Committee's original intent
- Medical urgency transition procedures as discussed by the Committee are moving forward
- Released Organs (previously referred to as import back-up) policy passed: 39-1

Summary of discussion:

The Committee leadership expressed satisfaction with the discussion at the Board meeting and the resulting approval of two Committee proposals.

3. Six Month En Bloc and Dual Kidney Report

A member of the UNOS Research department presented the six month en bloc and dual kidney report.

Data summary:

Background:

- Changes to dual and en bloc kidney allocation were implemented September 5, 2019
- Donors with KDPI 35-100% can be offered as single or dual kidneys
- Donors weighing <18 kg must be offered en bloc kidneys before being offered singly
- Centers have to opt in at the registration level to receive offers

Cohort:

- Pre-policy: March 5 – September 4, 2019
- Post-policy: September 5, 2019 – March 4, 2020

Metrics:

- Transplant trends
- Donor utilization
- Opt in trends
- Splits

Conclusion:

- Dual
 - No change in volume
 - Cold ischemic time decreased, likely due to being allocated off single offers
 - No change in utilization of KDPI 35-100% donors
 - Splits were rare
 - Many centers opted to receive offers, but few performed transplants
- En Bloc
 - Decrease in volume, likely due to introduction of weight threshold combined with decrease in donors
 - More transplants to young adult and low EPTS recipients, not to pediatrics
 - Discard rates increased and utilization rates decreased for donors <18 kg, though not significantly
 - Many centers opted to receive offers, few performed transplants

Summary of discussion:

One member asked if there was data regarding the EPTS data for the dual kidneys. The presenter explained that there was little change among the EPTS data and that it was not in the presentation but was in the full report.

One member asked for some clarification on how dual splits were allocated. The presenter explained that if a member accepted a pair of dual kidneys but only transplanted one of them into the recipient, it would qualify as a split. The member asked whether in those occasions one of the kidneys was discarded. The presenter explained that often the other kidney was still utilized and there was only one instance when it was discarded. The member asked for clarification as to how a member could accept a pair of dual kidneys but then choose to only use one. The presenter explained that in some situations a member accepted the dual kidneys but then other factors led them to do a single transplant instead.

One member asked about the donors 18-24 kg and if there were more transplants post implementation. The presenter shared that they had not examined that data but it may be included in a future report.

The Chair commented that it is a rare occurrence that a member would not accept a single kidney before accepting a pair of dual kidneys but then later decide to only transplant one alone and was not

concerned about this one incidence. A member asked if some of the data analysis was statistically significant and thus the committee should be considering the results in terms of potential policy modifications. The presenter explained that statistical testing was performed for the discard and utilization metrics but that current results did not seem to demonstrate a problem.

Next Steps:

The Committee will review another report in six months.

Upcoming Meeting

- July 20, 2020