OPTN Data Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary
July 13, 2020 3:00 PM EST
Conference Call

Rachel Patzer, Ph.D., Chair
Sumit Mohan, M.D., M.P.H., Vice Chair

Introduction
The Data Advisory Committee (DAC) met via Citrix GoToMeeting teleconference on 07/13/2020 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Refusal Code/Late Turndown Project Introduction
2. Membership and Professional Standards Committee (MPSC) Check-in
3. Wrap-up & Next Steps

The following is a summary of the DAC’s discussions.

1. Refusal Code/Late Turndown Project Introduction

DAC members began discussion on their sponsorship of the Refusal Code/Late Turndown Project.

Summary of discussion:
UNOS staff briefed the DAC on the background work that has been completed to date.

- Systems Performance Committee (SPC) presented to the board a recommendation in 2019 to review and update the refusal codes in UNet.
- UNOS Labs research completed test study with potential new refusal codes. Study was completed with members of the community in SimuNet. Data was collected and analyzed by UNOS Research and will be shared with Refusal Codes and Late Turndowns Working Group.
- Refusal codes where refined furtherly by UNOS Staff internally. This internal group consisted of staff in Membership, Research, IT, Data Governance, Organ Center, and Policy & Community Relations departments. The number of refusal codes expanded from 21 to 31 and language around those refusal codes were made more explicit to more effectively determine cause of refusal.
- Once UNOS Staff refined the refusal codes, they were presented to the community – Transplant Administrators Committee (TAC), Transplant Coordinators Committee (TCC), Organ Procurement Organization (OPO) Committee, Membership & Professional Standards Committee (MPSC), ITCC, DonorNet Mobile Workgroup, Data Advisory Committee (DAC).
- Feedback from the community has since been compiled and collected.

There were no questions or comments from members.

Next steps:
A working group, made up of members from various committees, will be created.

2. Membership and Professional Standards Committee (MPSC) Check-in

The DAC reviewed MPSC’s new project regarding performance monitoring enhancements.
Summary of discussion:

MPSC’s proposal aims to evaluate new ways to monitor and provide performance improvement assistance to members. This proposal will potentially impact data collection by adding new fields in order to capture overall transplant program and organ procurement organization (OPO) performance through all phases of transplantation. MPSC is evaluating the need for additional data fields and, if needed, they expect any additional data collection would occur through existing systems in UNet. This proposal aligns with the OPTN Data Collection Principle of determining member-specific performance.

A member asked if there were any examples of proposed data collection. Staff responded that MPSC is examining results from a survey which aimed to analyze areas where there are insufficient data. Another member asked about MPSC’s engagement efforts for this project. Staff responded that American Society of Transplantation (AST), American Society of Transplant Surgeons (ASTS), and other groups have been engaged and expect to continue collaboration as the project develops. A member asked if SRTR is involved in this project. Staff responded that SRTR is involved in all of MPSC’s activities.

Without objection, does the OPTN Data Advisory Committee endorse this proposed data collection effort?

There was no objection from the nine present members.

Next steps:

MPSC will determine project timeline and continue collaboration with DAC.

3. Wrap-up & Next Steps

A Refusal Code/Late Turndown Workgroup will be created and an initial meeting will be scheduled.

Upcoming Meetings

- August 10, 2020 (teleconference)
- September 14, 2020 (teleconference)