

## **OPTN Ad Hoc International Relations Committee**

### **Meeting Summary**

**October 22, 2020**

**Conference Call**

**Barry Friedman, RN, BSN, MBA, CPTC, Chair**

**Pramod Bonde, MD, Vice Chair**

### **Introduction**

The Ad Hoc International Relations Committee (the Committee) met via Citrix GoToMeeting teleconference on 10/22/2020 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Next Steps: AHIRC Information Request
2. Kidney Committee's Response: Kidney Paired Exchange Program with Canada

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

#### **1. Next Steps: AHIRC Information Request**

After reviewing the Information Request during the Committee's last call, members discussed creating a guidance document with the following educational components:

- Resources in non-citizen/non-resident (NCNR) recipient's home country
- Commitment from NCNR recipient's home country – follow-up that is required
- "Primary Residency" definition – when reporting a candidate as NCNR

#### Summary of discussion:

A member mentioned that their center, historically, hadn't accepted non-U.S. residents; however, since this has changed the member agreed that this guidance document would be very helpful for the transplant community.

A member inquired if this guidance document would have any impact on organ and tissue donation for U.S. citizens, from the organ procurement organization (OPO) perspective. Members agreed that the guidance document regarding NCNR transplants wouldn't have an impact on organ and tissue donation.

A member noted that the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (OPTN) is mandated to provide transparent data on NCNR transplants; however, historically, the Committee had felt that their annual report failed to fulfill the transparency requirements and was difficult to find on the OPTN website. A member emphasized that, while the total number of NCNR transplants is small, this data is also used to assess the local, regional and national impact of NCNR transplants.

Members agreed that the following were the Committee's goals for creating this guidance document:

- Adherence to data collection & accurate data collection
  - How can the Committee ensure that the data being collected is accurate?
  - A member noted it was also important to collect data regarding NCNR re-transplants and follow-up on NCNR living donors
- Awareness – important to be transparent to the transplant community
- Best practices – being good stewards of the organs that are offered to NCNR candidates

### Next Steps:

The Committee will finalize what data needs to be presented to the Policy Oversight Committee (POC) and the Executive Committee during the project approval process.

### **2. Kidney Committee's Response: Kidney Paired Exchange Program with Canada**

The Committee was updated on the Kidney Committee's response to the Kidney Paired Exchange Program with Canada project idea. It was explained that the Kidney Committee supported this project idea and suggested forming a subcommittee to explore the pros and cons.

### Summary of discussion:

A member suggested including a representative from the Kidney Committee on this subcommittee and that this reflects the OPTN's goal of increasing the number of organs available.

There were no additional comments.

### Next steps:

United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS) staff will reach out to the Committee and to the Kidney Committee to assess member's interest in participating in the subcommittee.

### **Upcoming Meeting**

- November 19, 2020 (teleconference)

## Attendance

- **Committee Members**
  - Barry Friedman
  - Kishore Iyer
  - Howard Nathan
  - Min Zhou
  - Prakash Rao
  - Sylvia Gonzalez
- **HRSA Representatives**
  - Vanessa Arriola
- **SRTR Staff**
  - Bryn Thompson
- **UNOS Staff**
  - Amber Wilk
  - Pete Sokol
  - Rebecca Brookman
  - Robert Hunter
  - Susan Tlusty
  - Victor Melendez