OPTN Network Operations Oversight Committee
Meeting Summary
December 4, 2020
Conference Call

Kimberly A. Rallis, BS, MHA, Chair

Introduction

The Network Operations Oversight Committee met via Cisco WebEx on 12/4/20 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. NOOC Metrics
2. Organ Allocation Assurance
3. Offer Filters
4. API Pipeline with Integrators
5. Infrastructure and Security Advancements
6. Software Engineering Progress Report to NOOC Chair
7. Meeting Recap

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

1. **NOOC Metrics**

   The metrics report was distributed to the committee prior to today's meeting. There was no further discussion.

2. **Organ Allocation Assurance**

   Marty Wilson (Director, IT Software Engineering), Henri Haskell (Sr. Director, Organizational Excellence), and Beth Edwards (Performance Improvement Specialist) provided information and background on the OPTN Organ Allocation Assurance which UNOS has implemented. It includes automated validation tools for organ allocation which run 24x7x365 as well as the Failure Modes and Effects Analysis (FMEA) program. The FMEA is a method for evaluating a process to identify potential failures. It is a tool used in Performance Improvement to identify potential problems and impact. UNOS committed to conduct one organ allocation process FMEA annually.

   In 2016, the Kidney FMEA reinforced the need for robust documentation and implementing additional critical process controls. There was an issue in 2016 when a fault in the KDPI table process was identified. UNOS implemented a test harness and partnered with the Research department, who developed their own automation and compared results. These items were a result of the FMEA process.

   Heart FMEA (2017) spotlighted the importance of providing members with the tools needed to be successful in the new allocation system.

   Kidney-Pancreas (2018) - Implementation of the revised DSA allocation project will release to production on 12/15/20. The FMEA provided us improvement opportunities for the rollout.

   The Lung FMEA (2020) is in process.

   There are over 300 allocation rules that are validated nightly. Responsible on-call personnel are notified to investigate any potential discrepancies when they are identified.
3. **Offer Filters**
This topic will be discussed in a follow-up meeting next month.

4. **API Pipeline with Integrators**
Dean Wilson provided a review of the current state of vendors and the integration with UNETSM APIs. Integrators are considered anything from an EHR system to a transplant hospital's own technology.

UNOS will be incorporating this information in the quarterly report starting in Q1 of next year.

OPO integrators sector is managed by only a handful of integrators.

A conversation ensued on how the committee can help to push this effort forward. If the OPTN Board recognizes the need for members to be engaged in a different way, the Board can take a position and share it with CMS to start a conversation. HRSA can partner with sister agencies to help resolve. The NOOC will consider making recommendations to the OPTN Board of Directors in the formal report in June.

5. **Infrastructure and Security Advancements**
This topic will be discussed in a follow-up meeting next month.

6. **Software Engineering Progress Report to NOOC Chair**
This topic will be discussed in a follow-up meeting next month.

7. **Meeting Recap**
Kim Rallis and Alex Tulchinsky thanked attendees for joining. UNOS will schedule a follow up to today's meeting to finish going through the agenda topics.

**Upcoming Meeting(s)**
- February, 2021
- April, 2021
Attendance

- **Committee Members**
  - James Pittman
  - Joseph Hillenburg
  - Kelly Ranum
  - Kim Rallis
  - Michael Mittelman

- **HRSA Representatives**
  - Cheryl Dammons
  - Christopher McLaughlin
  - Vanessa Arriola
  - Frank Holloman
  - Arjun Naik

- **UNOS Staff**
  - Alex Tulchinsky
  - Amy Hamner
  - Amy Putnam
  - Beth Edwards
  - Bill Wooten
  - Chelsea Haynes
  - Dean Wilson
  - Henri Haskell
  - Marty Wilson
  - Rob McTier
  - Susie Sprinson
  - Terri Helfrich
  - Tiwan Nicholson