

## **OPTN Organ Procurement Organization (OPO) Committee**

### **Meeting Summary**

**December 16, 2020**

**Conference Call**

**Diane Brockmeier, RN, BSN, MHA, Committee Chair**

**Kurt Shutterly, RN, CPTC, Vice-Chair**

### **Introduction**

The Organ Procurement Organization (OPO) Committee (the Committee) met via Citrix GoToMeeting teleconference on 12/16/2020 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Multi-Organ Policy Language
2. Multi-Organ Transplant (MOT) Transition Discussion
3. Imaging Project Update
4. Open Discussion

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

#### **1. Multi-Organ Policy Language**

The Committee reviewed the revised MOT policy, *Policy 5.10.C*.

The recent changes included the following:

- Consolidate various MOT policies into a central location.
  - *5.10.C* and *5.10.D* have been added to reference kidney-pancreas and liver-intestine policies and the current *5.10.C* will become *5.10.E*.
- Policy 9.9: Liver-Kidney Allocation
  - Policy language addressing how to allocate a kidney when procured with other organs has been moved to kidney policy. The language addressing the allocation of liver-kidney combinations will remain in *Policy 9.9*.

#### Summary of discussion:

A member inquired whether OPOs couldn't offer the second organ to other potential transplant recipients (PTR) until all of the multi-organ transplant (MOT) PTRs that meet the criteria had been exhausted. UNOS staff stated that the match run should still be followed. For example, if there were single-organ PTRs that show up before MOT PTRs on the match run then the second organ could be offered; however, if MOT PTRs show up on the list before single-organ PTRs, then the OPO must offer the second organ to the MOT PTRs that meet the criteria before they offer the second organ to a single organ candidate.

UNOS staff explained that OPOs must always follow the match. If a PTR comes up on the match and doesn't meet the criteria, then they may be offered the organ, even if there is a PTR later down the match that meets the criteria. This policy does not mean that OPOs should jump over a "permissible" offer to get to a "required" offer.

Members voted to send the revised MOT policy language out for Public Comment – 16 Support, 0 Neutral/Abstain, 0 Oppose.

## **2. MOT Transition Discussion**

The Committee discussed the need for a transition plan when the revised MOT policy is implemented.

### Summary of discussion:

Members agreed that no patient populations would be treated less fairly once this policy was implemented and there wouldn't be a need for a transition plan.

## **3. Imaging Project Update**

The Committee reviewed the UNet<sup>sm</sup> Image Sharing project and the goal of the project, which is to provide consistent, secure and reliable access to high-quality medical image studies during the organ allocation process.

In 2019, UNOS conducted the UNet Image Sharing pilot as the first step to achieve this goal. This pilot allowed UNOS to see if a vendor's image sharing service could be fully integrated into DonorNet<sup>®</sup> and receive community feedback.

Currently, 30 OPOs are actively using UNet Image Sharing and UNOS is releasing 10 rollouts per month. Image sharing will be available for all OPOs to use by the end of March 2021. During this time, UNOS has done the following:

- Strengthened the implementation and support processes in order to increase its reliability and availability so that OPOs can rely on image sharing without having their own separate solution.
- Improved education by refining training materials and offering them to OPOs within UNOS Connect.
- Developed functionality that will allow OPOs and transplant centers to share these studies by sending a secure link to non-UNet users for the purpose of getting an interpretation or consultation on the image.
- Created an image study log, which allows OPOs to see any actions that were taken regarding the study, such as when or by whom it was uploaded and who it was shared with.

UNOS is still at various stages of future enhancements to UNet Image Sharing, which include the following:

- Integration with Image Interpretation Services
- Mobile access to imaging studies
- Image archive and restoration
- Volumetric Assessment
- Receive image studies directly from donor hospitals
- Biopsy imaging – sharing and interpretation
- Streaming video of organ recovery procedures

### Summary of discussion:

A member mentioned that they do not use this system yet and inquired whether this system was just for images or can one see more than just the individual images. UNOS staff mentioned that it's a series of multiple images, so it's more of a file system and there can be hundreds of images; however, all the images are static. UNOS staff stated that this system should be thought of as a flipbook.

A member praised UNOS for this evolution and mentioned that this project has been proven to be very helpful and eliminates the need for other sharing platforms.

A member inquired whether UNOS staff knows what some of the feedback is from the OPOs using this system – is there high satisfaction? UNOS staff explained that there was high satisfaction and it could have been attributed to UNOS trying to keep the feedback loop as accessible as possible.

There was no further discussion.

#### **4. Open Discussion**

Members were encouraged to discuss any relevant topics during this time.

##### Summary of discussion:

There was no discussion.

#### **Upcoming Meeting**

- January 20, 2021 (teleconference)
- Regional meeting prep calls in January - TBD

## Attendance

- **Committee Members**
  - Diane Brockmeier
  - Bruce Nicely
  - Catherine Kling
  - Chad Trahan
  - David Marshman
  - Debra Cooper
  - Jeffrey Trageser
  - Jennifer Muriett
  - Jill Grandas
  - Jillian Wojtowicz
  - John Stallbaum
  - Larry Suplee
  - Malay Shah
  - Meg Rogers
  - Michael Kenney
  - Sue McClung
- **HRSA Representatives**
  - Adrian Martinez
  - Jim Bowman
  - Vanessa Arriola
- **SRTR Representatives**
  - Andrew Wey
  - Katie Audette
- **UNOS Staff**
  - Robert Hunter
  - Pete Sokol
  - Rebecca Brookman
  - Alice Toll
  - Darby Harris
  - Rebecca Murdock
  - Nicole Benjamin