

OPTN Pancreas Transplantation Committee

Meeting Summary

December 16, 2020

Conference Call

Silke Niederhaus, MD, Chair
Rachel Forbes, MD, Vice Chair

Introduction

The Pancreas Transplantation Committee (the Committee) met via Citrix GoToMeeting teleconference on 12/16/2020 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Update: Kidney and Pancreas Allocation Policies
2. Update: Islet Wait Time Transfer Request
3. Project Update & Discussion: Continuous Distribution Workgroup, Medical Urgency Workgroup

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

1. Update: Kidney and Pancreas Allocation Policies

The Kidney and Pancreas allocation policies were scheduled for implementation on 12/15/20. The Committee was informed that, on 12/14/20, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) directed the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (OPTN) to postpone implementation of kidney and pancreas allocation policies until 2/13/21.

United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS) staff explained that current kidney and pancreas policies will remain in effect until further notice and OPOs and transplant centers should continue to follow the match run.

UNOS staff stated that more information regarding implementation will be given closer to 2/13/21.

Summary of discussion:

There were no comments or questions.

2. Update: Islet Wait Time Transfer Request

The Committee reviewed the process of islet wait time transfer requests and was made aware that, in addition to the approval or denial of the request being reported to the organ center, OPTN policy also requires this information is reported to the Board of Directors (BOD). A summary of the islet wait time transfer requests were provided to the BOD during the December Board meeting.

In follow up to previous questions among the Committee on how many islet candidates are also listed for a pancreas, the Committee reviewed current data that shows, from 2015-2020, 16 out of 67 (23.88%) of islet candidates are also listed for a pancreas.

Summary of discussion:

The Committee Chair stated that the Committee has approved three wait time transfer requests recently and, if more requests come in, then the current review process may not be the most effective use of Committee time and should lead to policy change.

There was no further discussion.

3. Project Update & Discussion: Continuous Distribution Workgroup, Medical Urgency Workgroup

The Committee reviewed the progress of the Pancreas Continuous Distribution Workgroup and the Pancreas Medical Urgency Workgroup.

Summary of discussion:

The following is a summary of the Committee's discussion:

Continuous Distribution Workgroup

The Committee reviewed the goal of continuous distribution, which is to change allocation from a classification-based system to a points-based system, and the current project timeline. The following are the next steps of the continuous distribution project in chronological order:

- Compose concept paper and share during public comment
- Prioritize attributes amongst each other and convert attributes into points
- Build framework and Scientific Registry of Transplant Recipients (SRTR) modeling
- Public comment on policy proposal
- Board for approval

The Committee reviewed the attributes related to kidney, pancreas and kidney-pancreas that had been discussed by the Kidney and Pancreas Continuous Distribution Workgroups.

There were no comments or questions.

Medical Urgency Workgroup

The Committee reviewed the goal of this workgroup, which is to evaluate and discuss criteria that should be considered medically urgent as it pertains to pancreas candidates.

The following topics have been discussed by the Medical Urgency Workgroup:

- Hypoglycemic Unawareness
- Type I vs. Type II diabetics
- Pancreas Donor Risk Index (PDRI)
- Cardiac Autonomic Neuropathy
- Total duration of diabetes
- Pediatrics
- Accessibility to technology

It was also noted that an endocrinologist will be joining the Medical Urgency Workgroup's next call on 12/18/20.

There were no comments or questions. The meeting was adjourned.

Upcoming Meetings

- January 20, 2021 (teleconference)

Attendance

- **Committee Members**
 - Silke Niederhaus
 - Jeffery Steers
 - Ken Bodziak
 - Maria Helena Friday
 - Parul Patel
 - Pradeep Vaitla
 - Raja Kandaswamy
 - Todd Pesavento
 - Tracy McRacken
- **HRSA Representatives**
 - Marilyn Levi
- **SRTR Staff**
 - Bryn Thompson
 - Jon Miller
 - Nick Salkowski
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Joann White
 - Ross Walton
 - Amber Wilk
 - Kerrie Masten
 - Lindsay Larkin
 - Nang Thu Thu Kyaw