Introduction

David Mulligan, MD, FACS, FAASLD, FAST, OPTN President, called the meeting to order at 11:00am ET on June 14th, 2021. A quorum was present and acting throughout the entire meeting. Dr. Mulligan welcomed the Board and provided an overview of the agenda. The Board briefly convened in a closed session for the purpose of confidential routine membership and administrative business.

OPTN Board of Directors Meeting

Christopher McLaughlin, Chief of the Organ Transplantation Branch, and Shannon Taitt, Lead Public Health Analyst, addressed the Board with a presentation on the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network. The presentation focused on the OPTN statutory and regulatory framework, as well as details of the OPTN contract.

Following the report from HRSA, Dr. Mulligan presented the Executive Committee report to the Board. The Board approved 7 resolutions on the consent agenda. The subject of the individual resolutions were as follows:

- The minutes of the December 7, 2020 Board of Directors meeting
- The appointment of OPTN committee Chairs
- The “Update to Refusal Codes” proposal from the Data Advisory Committee
- The “Modify the Deceased Donor Registration Form” proposal from the OPO Committee
- The “Require Notification of HLA Typing Changes” proposal from the Histocompatibility Committee
- A technical clarification from the Vascularized Composite Allograft Committee
- The “Modify Living Donation Policy to include Living VCA Donors” proposal from the Living Donor Committee

Alexandra Glazier, Chair of the Policy Oversight Committee (POC), presented the bi-annual POC report to the Board.

Laura Cartwright (UNOS Research Science) and Andrew Placona (UNOS Data Science) presented an update on the OPTN Social Determinants of Health Feasibility Study.

The Board approved the 2021-2024 OPTN Strategic plan, sponsored by the Executive Committee. While the overall goals are similar to those in previous plans, the supporting objectives, tasks and priorities have been extensively restructured with input from the donation and transplant community and the general public. In this iteration of the plan, the initiatives focused on increasing efficiency in the system were realigned from a standalone goal to fall underneath the first goal, “increase the number of transplants.” The plan now contains a total of four strategic goals:
• Increase the number of transplants
• Provide equity in access to transplants
• Improve waitlisted patient, living donor, and transplant recipient outcomes
• Promote living donor and transplant recipient safety

Dr. Richard Formica, Chair of the Membership and Professional Standards Committee Performance Monitoring Subcommittee, presented an update on the Transplant Center Performance Monitoring Enhancements project.

The Board approved the “Update National Liver Review Board Guidance Documents and Policy Clarification” and “Calculate Median MELD at Transplant around the Donor Hospital and Update Sorting within Liver Allocation” proposals from the Liver and Intestinal Organ Transplantation Committee.

The Board approved the “Clarify Multi-Organ Allocation Policy” proposal from the Organ Procurement Organization Committee.

The Board approved the “Revise General Considerations in Assessment for Transplant Candidacy White Paper” from the Ethics Committee.

Ms. Kimberly Rallis, Chair of the Network Operations Oversight Committee (NOOC), presented the NOOC report to the Board.

Mr. Robert Goodman, Treasurer, presented the OPTN Finance Committee report to the Board.

Dr. Vincent Casingal, Chair of the OPTN Kidney Transplantation Committee, presented an update and early data analysis relating to the revised kidney and pancreas allocation system implemented in March 2021.

Dr. Matthew Weiss, Managing Director for Healthcare at EY Parthenon, presented an update of the regional review study report.

Dr. Matthew Cooper, Chair of the Nominating Committee, presented the Nominating Committee report to the Board, highlighting the 2021 call for nominations and an update on efforts to improve the recruitment and nominations process.

Dr. Mulligan closed the meeting by delivering a Presidents Address, and thanked the Board for their service. The OPTN Board of Directors meeting adjourned at 6:10pm on June 14th, 2021.