

OPTN Transplant Coordinators Committee

Meeting Summary

August 18, 2021

Conference Call

Stacy McKean, RN, Chair

Natalie Santiago-Blackwell, RN, MSN, Vice Chair

Introduction

The Transplant Coordinators Committee met via Citrix GoToMeeting teleconference on 8/18/2021 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Welcome
2. OPTN Research Study Opportunity
3. OPTN Heart Transplantation Committee: Report Primary Graft Dysfunction in Heart Transplant Recipients
4. OPTN Heart Transplantation Committee: Amend Status Extension Requirements in Adult Heart Allocation

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

1. Welcome

The Committee Chair welcomed the members, provided an overview of the agenda, and highlighted the move of the September 22 meeting from in person, in Chicago, to virtual. UNOS staff will share more information about the virtual meeting closer to its date.

2. OPTN Research Study Opportunity

UNOS staff requested member participating in an OPTN research study to discover how data analytics might help improve DonorNet MobileSM. The purpose of this study is to improve kidney offer decision making. Participants are eligible if they evaluate deceased donor adult kidney organ offers.

Summary of discussion:

A member inquired if involvement in an OPTN Committee was a requirement to be able to participate in this research study. The presenter informed the group that it was not a requirement and that the Research Department has been utilizing a variety of recruitment techniques. The presenter encouraged the members to share this research opportunity with their colleagues who evaluate deceased donor adult kidney organ offers.

Next steps:

UNOS staff will share this slide, with registration information, to the Committee after the meeting so members can share with their networks. For any questions, please email laura.cartwright@unos.org.

3. OPTN Heart Transplantation Committee: Report Primary Graft Dysfunction in Heart Transplant Recipients

Rocky Daly, the OPTN Heart Transplantation Committee Vice Chair, presented the public comment proposal to the Committee and requested their feedback.

Summary of discussion:

A member voiced their support for the proposed data elements and believed the requirements at 24 and 72 hours after patient arrival were reasonable because the care team would likely conduct those tests anyway. The member did express concern about the dosages for the inotropes, which the presenter identified as an error; the slide should read 0.1 not 1.0.

A member expressed concern about the burden the forms would place on large transplant centers if taking 30 – 60 minutes to complete and suggested sending an automated email that reminds coordinators to check for those fields in real time throughout the day. The presenter noted that it time frame would be unlikely to reach 60 minutes but recognized that there would be a learning curve to compiling this data from various sources. A member expressed concern over potential additions to workload due to the impacts of COVID-19. The presenter let the Committee know that the proposal still has to go through public comment and receive approval from the OPTN Board of Directors before programming can begin so implementation will be at least a year away.

A member asked for clarification on the answer choices for pediatric candidates who are not on pressure monitoring. The presenter informed the group that there will be an option to explain why data is not available and the rollout will include an education module. The purpose of this data collection is to identify and clarify PGD in the community and is not a metric for a transplant center.

Next steps:

If members have any additional questions or comments on the proposal, please reach out to UNOS staff.

4. OPTN Heart Transplantation Committee: Amend Status Extension Requirements in Adult Heart Allocation Policy

Rocky Daly, the OPTN Heart Transplantation Committee Vice Chair, presented the public comment proposal to the Committee and requested their feedback.

Summary of discussion:

A member was not supportive of the reduction in days for Status 1 as it places an undue burden if a suitable donor does not become available and was in favor of patients with Life Threatening Ventricular Arrhythmias to remain at Status 1 until the time of transplant. The presenter responded that the Heart Committee made this decision to be consistent on reapplication within Status 1. UNOS staff shared that the median days to transplant for these patients was four days, so the move to consistent reapplication timeline was appropriate with the data provided to the subcommittee. The member suggested the potential to be consistent in the other direction by increasing the number of days to 14 instead. Lastly, the presenter clarified that the MCSD with Pump Thrombosis change clarifies the definition, connection to neurologic events, and timeline.

Next steps:

If members have any additional questions or comments on the proposal, please reach out to UNOS staff.

Upcoming Meetings

- September 22, 2021 – Virtual ‘In Person’ Meeting
- October 20, 2021
- November 17, 2021
- December 15, 2021
- January 19, 2022

Attendance

- **Committee Members**
 - Alexandria Dillard
 - Jaime Myers
 - Jill Campbell
 - JoAnn Morey
 - Kelsey McCauley
 - Lisa Gallagher
 - Maria Casarella
 - Melissa Walker
 - Natalie Blackwell
 - Rachel White
 - Sergio Manzano
 - Sharon Klarman
 - Stacy McKean
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Brooke Chenault
 - Eric Messick
 - Keighly Bradbrook
 - Laura Cartwright
 - Laura Schmitt
 - Ross Walton
 - Sarah Konigsburg
 - Sara Rose Wells
- **Other Attendees**
 - Rocky Daly