

OPTN Membership and Professional Standards Committee

Meeting Summary

March 28, 2025

Conference Call

Cliff Miles, M.D., Chair

Scott Lindberg, M.D., Vice Chair

Introduction

Membership and Professional Standards Committee (MPSC) met virtually via Webex in both closed and open session on March 28, 2025, to discuss the following agenda items:

1. MPSC AOOS Critical Comment Response
2. OPO Performance Monitoring Enhancement Update
3. Consent Agenda for Cases
4. Membership Issues
5. Compliance Issues

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

1. MPSC AOOS Critical Comment Response

The Committee received an informational overview of the MPSC related portions of the OPTN plan developed in response to the HRSA Allocation Out of Sequence Directive. The MPSC Allocations Review Subcommittee provided input into the plan that was approved by MPSC leadership.

Summary of discussion:

The Committee made no decisions.

The Committee had no questions or discussion.

Next steps:

Once HRSA approves a work plan, the Committee will begin work on the plan tasks.

2. OPO Performance Monitoring Enhancement Update

Contractor staff provided a summary of the discussion and recommendations of the OPO Performance Monitoring Enhancement Workgroup at its February 6, 2025, meeting. The Workgroup received a presentation from the SRTR on its work on risk-adjusted OPO donation rates, transplant rates and recovery rates. Following questions and discussion, the Workgroup concluded that one or more of these metrics could provide an interim solution for MPSC OPO performance evaluation until additional data is available following implementation of the HRSA Data Directive. The Workgroup recommended that the MPSC request data from the SRTR on potential flagging thresholds for these metrics.

The SRTR presented information to the Committee on the three metrics, OPO donation rate, transplant rate, and recovery rate, including an explanation of the risk-adjustment that is incorporated into these metrics.

Summary of discussion:

Decision: The MPSC approved the Workgroup recommendation to request that the SRTR provide data on potential flagging thresholds for the OPO metrics by a vote of 19 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

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The Workgroup Chair asked about SRTR efforts to build predictive models that could help with the two-year lag in the currently available data. SRTR staff responded that there had been some work done on a predictive model that could be useful for OPO's internal performance improvement efforts but that the SRTR would not recommend that such a model be used for performance evaluation at this time.

In response to a question about incorporating geographic differences, SRTR staff responded that the models consider the geographic variability for characteristics that are included in the currently available datasets, such as age, sex, and race. There have been some non-SRTR studies that are exploring census variables that might improve what is currently available and the SRTR can explore that further if the MPSC requests. SRTR staff confirmed that deaths such as homicide, suicide, firearm injuries, drug overdoses, and motor vehicle accidents are included in the models through the International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision (ICD-10) codes for standard external causes of death. The Committee also discussed whether it was possible to incorporate factors related to transportation logistics to which the SRTR staff responded it was something they could explore.

Next steps:

- OPTN contractor will submit a data request to HRSA and the SRTR for data on potential flagging thresholds.

3. Consent Agenda for Cases

Decision #1: The Committee approved the consent agenda in closed session.

The Committee met in closed session and approved the consent agenda for the following types of cases by a vote of 23 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions:

Membership

The Committee considered the applications and other actions listed below and will ask the Board of Directors to approve the following recommendations during the June 2025:

- Approve 2 programs changing from conditional to full approval
- Conditionally approve 1 program

The Committee also reviewed and approved the following program related actions and personnel changes1 component inactivation extension

- 31 changes in key personnel in transplant programs or components
- 3 changes in key personnel in histocompatibility laboratories

Performance

- 1 Offer Acceptance case

Compliance

- Focused Desk Review: Focused Desk Review of policy 15.3.B
- Allocation Analysis: 8 OPOs, all recommended to close with no action
- Case Investigations:
 - 7 Packaging and labeling errors: 2 close with no action, 5 Notice of Noncompliance
 - 5 Donor evaluation or management issues: 1 close with no action, 4 Notice of Noncompliance
 - 4 Reporting of potential disease transmissions: 4 Notice of Noncompliance
 - 3 HLA errors: 1 close with no action, 2 Notice of Noncompliance
 - 1 ABO subtype determination error: close for self-reporting
- Living Donor Events:
 - 1 aborted nephrectomy after a small bowel injury due to dense adhesions. Reported appropriately, close with no action.
 - 1 aborted hepatectomy after an inter-op biopsy showed 20% macrosteatosis. Reported appropriately, close with no action.

4. Membership Issues

The Committee received notice of the following inactivations and withdrawals:

- 2 program/component inactivations
- 5 programs/components withdrawn
- 1 transplant hospital withdrawn

The Committee also discussed a key personnel change application for a primary kidney surgeon and living donor kidney surgeon.

5. Compliance Issues

The Committee discussed six cases and made the following decisions:

- A program may reactivate once key personnel change applications are approved.
- Requested one informal discussion
- Closed four issues

Upcoming Meeting

- April 25, 2025, 11am-2pm, ET
- May 22, 2025, 11am-1pm, ET
- June 27, 2025, 11am-2pm, ET

Attendance

- **Committee Members**
 - Kamyar Afshar
 - Mitzi Barker
 - Megan Bell
 - Kristine Browning
 - Chadrick Denlinger
 - Nahel Elias
 - Chad Ezzell
 - Roshan George
 - Darla Granger
 - Dipankar Gupta
 - Richard Hasz
 - Nicole Hayde
 - Kyle Herber
 - Christy Keahey
 - Glen Kelley
 - Lindsay King
 - Varvara Kirchner
 - Kevin Korenblat
 - Peter Lalli
 - Scott Lindberg
 - Maricar Malinis
 - Deborah Maurer
 - Luis Mayen
 - Deborah McRann
 - Clifford Miles
 - Lloyd Ratner
 - Deirdre Sawinski
 - Malay Shah
 - Nirmal Sharma
 - Carrie Thiessen
 - Mark Wakefield
 - James Yun
- **HRSA Representatives**
 - James Bowman
 - Marilyn Levi
 - Joni Mills
 - Arjun Naik
- **SRTR Staff**
 - Jonathan Miller
 - Bryn Thompson
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Anne Ailor
 - Robert Albertson
 - Sally Aungier
 - Jadia Bruckner

- Elinor Carmona
- Robyn DiSalvo
- Nadine Drumn
- Jon Dyer
- Katie Favaro
- Liz Friddell
- Caroline Hales
- Asia Harden
- Houlder Hudgins
- Krissy Laurie
- Jon McCue
- Heather Neil
- Delaney Nilles
- Liz Robbins Callahan
- Laura Schmitt
- Erin Schnellinger
- Sharon Shepherd
- Courtney Skeen
- Sarah Stevenson
- Stephon Thelwell
- Melissa Tisdale
- Betsy Warnick
- Emily Womble
- Hobie Wood
- Karen Wooten
- Amanda Zamora
- **Other Attendees**
 - None