OPTN ORGAN PROCUREMENT AND TRANSPLANTATION NETWORK

OPTN Data Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary
October 16, 2023
Conference Call

Sumit Mohan, MD, MPH, Chair
Jesse Schold, PhD, M.Stat, M.Ed, Vice Chair

Introduction

The Data Advisory Committee (the Committee) met via WebEx teleconference on 10/16/2023 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Data Details and Help Text Updates
2. Opportunity to Share Feedback Regarding Annual Data Review Report
3. Overview of Select Items From the Annual Data Quality Report
4. OPTN Project Check-in: DTAC, *Standardize the Patient Safety Contact and Duplicate Reporting*
5. Overview of Committee Vice Chair Selection Process
6. Committee Member Feedback Regarding Service on OPTN Workgroups

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

1. Data Details and Help Text Updates

OPTN Contractor staff presented ten help text updates for the Committee's endorsement. The first update is to blood-borne disease transmission criteria, and it provides guidance on completing the risk assessment. A Committee member reviewed the update prior to the meeting. Six updates concerned thoracic-related data details and three concerned shared data elements. The Heart Committee and the Holistic Workgroup reviewed these updates prior to the meeting.

Summary of discussion:

> Decision #1: The Committee agreed to allow additional time for members to provide feedback on the updates and, that in the absence of feedback, the Committee's endorsement would be assumed.

Several Committee members needed additional time to review the proposed updates. The Committee agreed to allow two additional business days for members to provide feedback. The Committee further agreed that if members did not provide feedback within two business days, the Committee's endorsement would be assumed.

Next steps:

Committee members may provide feedback on the updates within two business days.

2. Opportunity to Share Feedback Regarding Annual Data Review Report

OPTN Contractor staff provided an overview of the Committee's annual deliverables to the OPTN Board of Directors. The deliverables are 1) a data review report, which summarizes the Committee's activities and accomplishments during the current year and changes to data collection planned for next year; and 2) a data quality report, which focuses on targeted data quality themes (see agenda item 3). The reports are due to be submitted to the OPTN Board of Directors on November 29 and the Chair will present an

overview of the reports at the board meeting. OPTN Contractor staff invited Committee members to provide feedback on the data review report and key messages to include in the Chair's presentation to the OPTN Board of Directors.

Summary of discussion:

> Committee members agreed to provide any feedback on the data review report via email to OPTN Contractor staff.

Next steps:

Committee members may provide feedback on the data review report via email to OPTN Contractor staff by October 20, 2023.

3. Overview of Select Items From the Annual Data Quality Report

OPTN Contractor staff provided an overview of the data quality report, which includes sections on timely data submission, potential discrepancies in reported data values, review of 'data lock' activity since implementation, and analysis of cadence of data changes for forms pre-/post-lock. In response to prior feedback on the length of the report, this year's report focuses on four targeted themes and includes figures rather than tables. OPTN Contractor staff invited feedback on the report and key messages to include in the Chair's presentation to the OPTN Board of Directors.

Summary of discussion:

> The Committee discussed potential follow-up on transplant programs with large numbers of unlocking events, but it did not decide upon a course of action.
>
> The Committee provided feedback on the structure of the report and agreed to provide any further feedback via email to OPTN Contractor staff.

Committee members and OPTN Contractor staff discussed data on unlocking events presented in the data quality report. Committee members noted that some transplant programs are outliers with large numbers of unlocking events. They expressed particular concern about transplant programs with unlock rates of 20 – 40 per 100 locked forms. A Committee member noted that existing data points on drivers of unlocking events are not very instructive. Committee members discussed potential follow-up steps, such as audits or inquiries to transplant programs, to better understand the drivers of unlocking events and potential opportunities for improvement. Several Committee members supported reaching out to transplant programs to gather more information on the drivers of unlocking events.

A Committee member suggested reordering the report sections to improve its flow. Specifically, it was suggested that moving the section on potential discrepancies in reported data values to the beginning of the report, followed by the sections on timely data submission, 'data lock' activity, and cadence of data changes for forms pre-/post-lock. Committee members agreed to provide any further questions or feedback to OPTN Contractor staff via email.

Next steps:

Committee members may provide further feedback on the data quality report via email to OPTN Contractor staff by October 20, 2023.

4. OPTN Project Check-in: DTAC, *Standardize the Patient Safety Contact and Duplicate Reporting*

The Chair of the Ad Hoc Disease Transmission Advisory Committee (DTAC) provided an update on the project *Standardize the Patient Safety Contact and Duplicate Reporting* for the Committee's endorsement. Currently, the Patient Safety Contact (PSC) is not actively monitored, and Organ Procurement Organizations (OPOs) report issues including invalidly formatted contact information and third parties listed as PSCs. The project seeks to ensure that primary and secondary PSC information is up to date and that collection of PSC information is actively monitored. The project aligns with OPTN data collection principles because 1) it seeks to increase member policy requirements to ensure that PSC information is up to date and accurate; and 2) it seeks to improve patient safety by facilitating communication of important infectious disease test results.

The proposed data solution is to use post cross-clamp test result enhancement for OPO result reporting to transplant programs. Secondary PSC information will be required, and self-audit fields will ensure that contact information is kept up to date. The OPTN Contractor will monitor audit participation and outcomes and report this information to DTAC. The proposal will go out for public comment and DTAC will report back to the Committee if changes are made in response to public comments.

Summary of discussion:

> The Committee endorsed the update on the project *Standardize the Patient Safety Contact and Duplicate Reporting*.

A Committee member suggested a reporting mechanism for OPOs that are unable to reach PSCs or do not receive responses from PSCs in a specified period. OPTN Contractor staff noted that the cross-clamp enhancement will allow OPOs to communicate results through the OPTN Computer System for donor test-results. Email notifications are sent to PSCs when new results are uploaded, and transplant centers can acknowledge receipt through the OPTN Computer System. The Committee member also suggested a tiered system requiring notification of the primary PSC first and then contacting the secondary PSC if the primary is not contactable. OPTN Contractor staff noted that the workgroup is considering a tiered notification structure. DTAC is also establishing a workgroup to determine what information should be reported to the OPTN and what information should be reported from transplant programs to OPOs.

5. Overview of Committee Vice Chair Selection Process

The Committee has started the Vice Chair selection process in order to fill the position in January 2024. OPTN Contractor staff reviewed the nomination and selection process for the Vice Chair position. It was noted that this is a new process, with goals of increasing transparency, promoting inclusiveness, and thoroughly reviewing and vetting candidates.

Candidates must meet qualifications in the Vice Chair job description and be willing to make a five-year commitment to the OPTN, including serving as Vice Chair, Chair, and Ex-Officio. A call for interest will go out to current committee members and alumni from the past five years. Interested candidates should submit a personal statement and update their OPTN Volunteer Interest Form. If there are more than four applicants, the Committee will select the top four candidates, who will be interviewed by the current Chair and/or Vice Chair. Two finalists will be recommended to the OPTN President-Elect for final appointment.

Summary of discussion:

> The Committee did not discuss this agenda item or make any decisions.

6. Committee Member Feedback Regarding Service on OPTN Workgroups

OPTN Contractor staff called for Committee members serving on Workgroups to provide their feedback.

Summary of discussion:

The Committee did not discuss this agenda item or make any decisions.

Upcoming Meetings

- November 13, 2023
- December 11, 2023
- January 8, 2024
- February 12, 2024
- March 11, 2024

Attendance

- **Committee Members**
  - Sumit Mohan
  - Jesse Schold
  - Rebecca Baranoff
  - Jamie Bucio
  - Kate Giles
  - Dustin Goad
  - Michael Ison
  - Paul MacLennan
  - Michael Marvin
  - Christine Maxmeister
  - Meghan Muldoon
  - Hellen Oduor
  - Jennifer Peattie
  - Julie Prigoff
  - Al Wagner
- **HRSA Representatives**
  - Adriana Martinez
- **SRTR Staff**
  - Ajay Israni
- **UNOS Staff**
  - Brooke Chenault
  - Jonathan Chiep
  - Michael Hollister
  - Sevgin Hunt
  - Sara Langham
  - Krissy Laurie
  - Taylor Livelli
  - Eric Messick
  - Lauren Mooney
  - Laura Schmitt
  - Kim Uccellini
  - Sara Rose Wells
  - Divya Yalgoori
  - Anne Zehner
- **Other Attendees**
  - Lara Danziger-Isakov