

OPTN Transplant Coordinators Committee

Meeting Summary

January 19, 2023

Conference Call

Stacy McKean, RN, Chair

Natalie Santiago-Blackwell, RN, MSN, Vice Chair

Introduction

The OPTN Transplant Coordinators Committee (the Committee) met via Citrix GoToMeeting teleconference on 01/19/2023 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Welcome
2. Post Cross-Clamp Test Results Project
3. Volunteers – Updating Professional Education Offerings
4. Board of Directors Meeting Highlights
5. Additional OPTN Updates
6. Reminders

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

1. Welcome

Committee leadership and staff welcomed the Committee.

Summary of discussion:

The Committee had no questions or comments.

2. Post Cross-Clamp Test Results Project

Information Technology (IT) staff presented an overview of this enhancement project that will allow organ procurement organizations (OPOs) to electronically notify transplant programs about culture results received following cross clamp or transplant.

Presentation summary:

IT staff explained that the current culture reporting process is inefficient and redundant that is repeated manually for each organ transplant. Additionally, OPO processes are not standardized.

The goal of the project is to provide a notification system that OPOs can initiate when results are obtained post cross-clamp that may affect recipient:

- Allow OPOs to notify transplant hospitals of test result(s): culture, pathology, and/or infectious disease
- Transplant hospitals to acknowledge that they have received notification and reviewed updated test result
- An audit log allowing OPOs to see when notifications are sent as well as when/if they have been acknowledged by transplant hospitals

IT staff noted this effort supports the requirements in *OPTN Policy 15.4: Host OPO Requirements for Reporting Post Procurement Test Results and Discovery of Potential Disease Transmissions*.

IT staff highlighted the steps OPOs use to send electronic notifications. OPOs can add comments and select which center to notify. The notification will be sent via email and text message to the transplant programs that received the organs from the donor.

Summary of discussion:

A member expressed support for this effort and noted that information currently being shared is done so in an inconsistent manner.

A member asked if the audit log was only available for OPOs. IT staff noted that one of the enhancements recommended by the pilot workgroup was to provide a transplant hospital equivalent of an audit log.

IT staff noted that the pilot workgroup will be reformed and would be interested in new volunteers.

An OPO member expressed excitement for this effort and noted that standardization is important for this process.

There was no further discussion.

Next Steps

Staff will take this feedback back to the relevant committees and subcommittees.

3. Volunteers – Updating Professional Education Offerings

Staff noted that the Professional Education Department is seeking volunteers to help update two offerings in the transplant coordinator series.

- QLT 110 – The Role of the Coordinator
- QLT 116 – Coordinator Retention

Summary of discussion:

The visiting Board of Directors member asked why the UNOS Connect offerings were not publicly available. She noted that these offerings could serve as a great resource for her to train incoming Board members and individuals new to the transplant community.

There was no further discussion.

Next Steps:

Staff noted that they will find out about public access to the offerings and get back to her.

4. OPTN Board of Directors Meeting Highlights

Staff presented an overview of the December 5, 2022, Board of Directors meeting.

Presentation Summary

Staff noted that eleven policy proposals were approved by the Board. Staff also noted that there were several committee updates outlining various high priority work.

- Policy Oversight Committee
- Operations and Safety Committee
- Living Donor Committee
- Membership and Professional Standards Committee
- Data Advisory Committee
- Finance Committee

- Nominating Committee

Staff also noted that organ transportation was discussed, and the Board created breakout groups to discuss strategies. These groups reported back to the full Board following the breakout discussions.

Summary of Discussion

The visiting Board member noted that UNOS leadership has submitted a letter regarding organ transportation to the Federal Aviation Administration as well as the Secretary of Transportation.

The visiting Board member also commented about her concerns with the patient letters being provided as part of the eGFR proposal implementation, and whether TCC members had any concerns to add.

A member commented that a patient letter that is three pages long is not appropriate. She further added that she is at a pediatric center and her patient list is not long but expressed concern for the adult transplant programs that must deal with these changes.

Another member expressed concern about the level of post public comment changes that were made prior to Board approval. For example, the additional requirement for two notifications added additional burden for transplant programs without the opportunity to provide comment. She further added that the provided letters are difficult to locate on the OPTN website.

5. Additional OPTN Updates

Staff provided an update on new information located on the OPTN website, including the following:

- Three-month monitoring report for heart policy following a device recall now available
<https://optn.transplant.hrsa.gov/news/three-month-monitoring-report-for-heart-policy-following-a-device-recall-now-available/>
- Two-year monitoring report available for the elimination of the use of DSAs in heart allocation
<https://optn.transplant.hrsa.gov/news/two-year-monitoring-report-available-for-the-elimination-of-the-use-of-dsas-in-heart-allocation/>
- Simulated modeling results now available for continuous distribution of kidney and pancreas
<https://optn.transplant.hrsa.gov/news/simulated-modeling-results-now-available-for-continuous-distribution-of-kidney-and-pancreas/>
- OPTN using a collaborative improvement model to increase DCD lung transplantation
<https://optn.transplant.hrsa.gov/news/optn-using-a-collaborative-improvement-model-to-increase-dcd-lung-transplantation/>
- Monkeypox educational document available for transplant candidates
<https://optn.transplant.hrsa.gov/news/monkeypox-educational-document-available-for-transplant-candidates/>

6. Reminders

Staff provided a reminder about the upcoming regional meeting schedule and where to register for the meetings. Staff also reminded members that the public comment period has started and noted that the committee will provide input on most of the proposals during upcoming meetings.

Upcoming Meeting

- February 10, 2023 (Chicago, IL)

Attendance

- **Committee Members**
 - Stacy McKean
 - Angele Lacks
 - Ashley Hamby
 - Ashley Cardenas
 - Donna Campbell
 - Karl E. Neumann
 - Heather Bastardi
 - Heather Miller-Webb
 - Jamie Myers
 - Kelsey McCauley
 - Maria Litchfield
 - Melissa Walker
 - Stacy Sexton
 - Rachel White
 - Valinda Jones – Visiting Board Member
- **HRSA Representatives**
 - Arjun Naik
 - Megan Hayden
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Robert Hunter
 - Ross Walton
 - Lauren Mauk
 - Kevin Daub
 - Roger Vacovsky
 - Mel Farley