

**OPTN/UNOS Executive Committee  
Meeting Summary  
March 19, 2018  
Conference Call**

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**Introduction**

The Executive Committee met via Citrix GoToTraining teleconference on 03/19/2018 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Retroactive Approval to Rescind Heart-Lung Guidance Document
2. Request from the Minority Affairs and Patient Affairs Committees: Endorsement of a response to HRSA Information Collection Request (ICR) OMB No. 0915-0290
3. Planning for April 20 In-Person Meeting

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

**1. Retroactive Approval to Rescind Heart-Lung Guidance Document**

The document, "Guidance to Organ Procurement Organizations for Allocation of Heart-Lung Blocks" existed on the OPTN website as a reference to clarify heart-lung allocation policy. However, the November 24, 2017 Executive Committee's approval of emergency changes to lung allocation policy removed DSA as a unit of allocation for lungs, resulting in this guidance being inconsistent with current policy. The guidance was removed from the OPTN website and the Executive Committee was asked to retroactively approve its removal.

Summary of discussion:

Committee members agreed that the current guidance is inconsistent with current policy. However, there are significant concerns with having no guidance for the community regarding heart-lung blocks. The portion of the guidance which advises what an OPO should do when allocating a block using heart policy remains unchanged; the guidance is no longer applicable to how an OPO should offer a block using the lung match. The committee thought it prudent for the Thoracic Committee to review more in-depth and to either schedule an alternative call of the Executive Committee or take the topic up at their April in-person meeting to discuss the Thoracic Committee's recommendations.

**2. Request from the Minority Affairs and Patient Affairs Committees: Endorsement of a response to HRSA Information Collection Request (ICR) (National Survey of Organ Donation Attitudes and Practices, OMB No. 0915-0290—Reinstatement With Change)**

The Policy Analyst for the Minority Affairs Committee presented a response to the HRSA ICR, drafted jointly by the Minority Affairs and Patient Affairs Committees. HRSA explicitly requested feedback from the two committees on the draft survey instrument, including a proposed new question on beliefs related to minorities receiving a transplant. The committees support changes made to questions that made the language less biased or leading as well as the narrower scope of the survey to focus on organ donation. Recommendations included definition of Hispanic or Latino based on OMB guidelines and the addition of "Unsure," "N/A" or "Decline to Answer" to provide for differences in experience and knowledge between respondents. Additional common language revisions were suggested. The committees recommended the addition of a question focused on the comfort or confidence of parents/guardians in honoring a minor child's driver's license designation as an organ donor.

### Summary of discussion:

The Executive Committee provided minor language revisions prior to the call.

After a motion was made and seconded, the Executive Committee approved the edited response to be submitted on behalf of the OPTN/UNOS by a vote of 12 for; 0 against; 0 abstentions.

### **3. Planning for April 20 In-Person Meeting**

The Committee will meet in-person on April 20 at the Chicago O'Hare Hilton, and the agenda largely focuses on the draft OPTN/UNOS Strategic Plan. Staff are working to refine the metrics in the proposed Strategic Plan based on internal review and public comment feedback, focusing on measurability. The plan also states explicitly a focus on interacting with the community through collaboration and coaching. Members of the Committee requested updates by the Ad Hoc Geography Committee and another on work to improve system performance. There will be an update on the committee governance workgroup's concept paper, out for public comment.

### **Upcoming Meetings**

- April 16, 2018 1:00-2:00 PM EST
- April 20, 2018 8:00 AM-12:00 PM CST
- May 14, 2018 1:00-2:00 PM EST
- June 11, 2018 Time TBD