OPTN Network Operations Oversight Committee
Meeting Summary
February 28, 2020
Conference Call

Mr. Walter Herczyk, MT, CHS, Chair

Introduction

The Network Operations Oversight Committee met via Citrix GoTo teleconference on 02/28/2020 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Welcome and Introduction
2. Project Roadmap Update
3. First Quarter FY20 Metrics Update
4. OPTN Contract Requirements Related to Data Collection
5. April In-Person Meeting Preview

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

1. Welcome and Introduction

Walt Herczyk and Alex Tulchinsky welcomed everyone to the meeting. Mr. Tulchinsky then introduced Terri Helfrich, the new Director of Information Security.

2. Project Roadmap Update

UNOS staff provided updates on the following projects:

- Liver and Intestine: Bonnie Felice, Business Architect, provided an overview of the allocation changes that were re-implemented on February 4. These changes eliminate DSA and region, replacing them with three larger distance-based circles around the donor hospital (at 150/250/500 nautical miles). On February 18, UNOS implemented a change in the match run that increased access to the most medically urgent candidates in Hawaii and Puerto Rico. Larger circles at 2400 nautical miles for Hawaii and 1100 nautical miles for Puerto Rico, were added to ensure access for candidates with status 1A and 1B and candidates with a MELD/PELD score of 37 or higher.
- Pancreas Islet Bylaw: Michael Ferguson, Software Engineering Manager, notified the Committee of the delay in implementation of the islet bylaw changes. The work requires changes to membership applications, which are OMB controlled forms. These forms are currently in the OMB approval process and approval is anticipated in the second quarter. Although IT changes are expected to be completed within the 12 month commitment to the Board, final implementation will likely extend past the 12 month commitment due to the complexities of changing membership requirements for transplant programs.
- Other Board Projects: Mr. Ferguson shared the current IT project portfolio. All projects are on schedule and UNOS will meet the current delivery commitments.

3. First Quarter FY20 Metrics Update

Rob McTier, Business Architect, presented the first quarter 2020 metrics for OPTN contract task 3.2.5.5 and the supporting performance standard.

Mr. McTier shared that the electronic organ offer metrics improved after UNOS switched vendors in September 2019. UNOS has also been able to improve metric reporting from a 2 minute delay to a more immediate notification, reflecting the actual delivery time more closely.

The median policy project implementation time for 2019 Board items increased from 9.5 months to 11.5 months since the last report. This was caused by the addition of the new Board items passed including expedited liver placement and removal of DSA from kidney and pancreas allocation, which are expected to take more than 12 months.

In November, UNOS implemented a new API to allow for submission of living donor registration and follow up forms. This increased the percentage of living donor data available via API to 95% and the overall waitlist and TIEDI data to 61%.

The UNet Usability survey was completed in December 2019 and will be reported annually in the metrics. Brian Sullivan suggested the results be inverted to show the "not satisfied" users on top as a better way to track satisfaction levels.

The UNet User Audit was conducted in October 2019. The audit requires UNet Site Administrators to review and confirm or deactivate all user accounts. Nine percent (9%) of the accounts were deactivated as a result of this audit. Joseph Hillenburg asked if there is a plan to decrease the audit window. Mr. Ferguson shared that UNOS plans to start auditing accounts twice per year; UNOS is looking at reducing the window to lock dormant accounts to 60 days. The new interface will allow the Site Administrators to be more proactive in identifying the dormant accounts.

Next steps:

UNOS will plan on doing a demo with blinded data at the April in-person meeting.

4. OPTN Contract Requirements Related to Data Collection

Kim Uccellini, Data Governance Program Manager, shared an overview of contract requirements related to data collection. Ms. Uccellini included a high-level description of the Data Advisory Committee, requests related to official OPTN data collection instruments approved by OMB, and potential collaboration between NOOC and Data Advisory Committee (DAC).

The NOOC has oversight of the OPTN operations and looks at data collection through application and quality data management functions, specifically timeframes for implementation and frequency of policy programming. The NOOC also reviews data reports that the DAC is tasked with. The efforts of both the NOOC and the DAC will support increased efficiency and improved data quality

Next steps:

The Committee will go into more detail about this and the OMB at the April meeting.

5. April In-Person Meeting Preview

Mr. Tulchinsky provided a look at the April in-person meeting agenda.

Next steps:

UNOS will prepare a demonstration of the UNet System Administration process.

Upcoming Meetings

- April 21, 2020
- June 7-8, 2020

Attendance

- **Committee Members**
    - Brian Sullivan
    - Eileen Brewer
    - James Pittman
    - Joseph Hillenburg
    - Michael Mittelman
    - Walt Herczyk
- **HRSA Representatives**
    - Christopher McLaughlin
- **UNOS Staff**
    - Alex Tulchinsky
    - Amy Hamner
    - Bonnie Felice
    - Brian Shepard
    - Catherine Monstello
    - Frances Rives
    - Kim Uccellini
    - Marty Wilson
    - Michael Ferguson
    - Rob McTier
    - Tiwan Nicholson
- **Other Attendees**
    - None