

OPTN Liver and Intestinal Organ Transplantation Committee

Meeting Summary

April 21, 2023

Conference Call

James Pomposelli, MD, PhD, Chair

Scott Biggins, MD, Vice Chair

Introduction

The OPTN Liver and Intestinal Organ Transplantation Committee (the Committee) met via Citrix GoToMeeting teleconference on 04/21/2023 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Hepatocellular Carcinoma (HCC) Guidance Clarification
2. Continuous Distribution: Next Steps and Optimization Analysis

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

1. Hepatocellular Carcinoma (HCC) Guidance

Per the National Liver Review Board (NLRB) Subcommittee's review and recommendation, the Committee discussed revisions to HCC guidance.¹

Summary of discussion:

The Chair agreed with the recommended clarification to HCC guidance. The Chair explained that the inconsistent language was likely an oversight and a straightforward clarification is needed.

There were no objections.

The Committee unanimously supported sending the clarification to the *Guidance to Liver Transplant Programs and the NLRB for Adult MELD Exceptions for HCC* as presented to the OPTN Executive Committee for consideration.

Next steps:

The OPTN Executive Committee will consider the guidance clarification during their April 28, 2023 meeting.

2. Continuous Distribution: Next Steps and Optimization Analysis

The Committee reviewed the upcoming project plan for the continuous distribution of livers and intestines. During upcoming meetings, the Committee will review the results of the values prioritization exercise and the revealed preference analysis to begin work on defining the primary priorities, secondary priorities, and constraints.

For each attribute, the Committee will define the purpose, the metric for success, and how it could be incorporated into a points based framework. The Committee can then utilize the optimization analysis

¹ OPTN Liver & Intestinal Organ Transplantation Committee, National Liver Review Board Subcommittee, *Meeting Summary*, April 13, 2023. Available at https://optn.transplant.hrsa.gov/media/453nvk4f/20230413_liver_nlrbsummary_final.pdf.

to understand how different attributes work together or against each other in order to achieve the stated goals and determine optimized policy scenarios.

Summary of discussion:

The Chair stated that determining the weights of each attribute will be important. The Chair added that medical acuity is likely to remain a large portion of the composite allocation score.

Next steps:

The Committee will continue to develop the continuous distribution of livers and intestines.

Upcoming Meeting

- April 3, 2023 @ 9:00 PM CT (Houston, TX & teleconference)
- A, 2023 @ 3:00 PM ET (teleconference)

Attendance

- **Committee Members**
 - Alan Gunderson
 - Allison Kwong
 - Christopher Sonnenday
 - Colleen Reed
 - Erin Maynard
 - James Trotter
 - Joseph DiNorcia
 - Neil Shah
 - Pete Abt
 - Peter Matthews
 - Scott Biggins
 - Sumeet Asrani
- **HRSA Representatives**
 - Jim Bowman
 - Marilyn Levi
- **SRTR Staff**
 - Jack Lake
 - Katie Audette
 - Nick Wood
 - Ryo Hirose
 - Tim Weaver
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Austin Chapple
 - Betsy Gans
 - Erin Schnellinger
 - James Alcorn
 - Joel Newman
 - Katrina Gauntt
 - Laura Schmitt
 - Matt Cafarella
 - Meghan McDermott
 - Niyati Upadhyay
 - Susan Tlusty