

**OPTN Executive Committee
Meeting Summary
January 20, 2022
Video Conference**

**Matthew Cooper, MD, Chair
Jerry McCauley, MD, Vice Chair**

Introduction

The Executive Committee met via video conference to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Updated SARS-CoV-2 Summary of Evidence
2. OPTN Charter Revision
3. OPTN Response to CMS RFI: Health and Safety Requirements for Transplant Programs, Organ Procurement Organizations and End-Stage Renal Disease Facilities
4. Regional Review Concept Paper
5. Winter 2022 Public Comment Proposals

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

1. Updated SARS-CoV-2 Summary of Evidence

Chair of the Ad Hoc Disease Transmission Advisory Committee was up first to give an updated summary of evidence on SARS-COV-2. In September 2021 DTAC approved a summary of evidence. They are committed to reviewing the document quarterly to minimize the transmission of COVID-19 to donors. The Summary of Evidence needs updating due to the Omicron variant and 6 month data report post-implementation of lower respiratory test for all lung donors. The DTAC unanimously approved the new document. Numerous members of the committee thanked them for the clarity in which the document was written. They noted that many patients are looking for the most up to date information and that patients should be directed to this website for accurate information.

There was a motion and a second to vote on the updated Summary of Evidence on SARS-CoV-2. The vote was unanimously yes; 0 no; 0 abstained.

2. OPTN Charter Revision

Liz Callahan presented the OPTN Charter Revision, OPTN Contract Task 3.2.2 which requires the charter to be OPTN focused and separate from any contractor non OPTN activities. The intent is to minimize duplication and ensure a consistency between NOTA, Final Rule, Charter and bylaws. The committee questioned the need for the new charter to go out for public comment. In the original plan submitted to HRSA they included the step of going to public comment for transparency. The revised Charter will be on the consent agenda at all regional meetings and out for public comment.

3. OPTN Response to CMS RFI: Health and Safety Requirements for Transplant Programs, Organ Procurement Organizations and End-Stage Renal Disease Facilities

The Chair of the Executive Committee presented the OPTN's response to the CMS Request for information. The RFI asked for feedback on health and safety requirements including transplant programs, OPOs and ESRD facilities. In the draft letter the importance of patient centric approach encourages CMS to utilize the OPTN. The committee members provided feedback that the letter was delicate and could do more to highlight more accomplishments. The members were asked to provide additional feedback that can be added to the letter to highlight the many accomplishments of the OPTN.

4. Regional Review Concept Paper

The regional review maps were then present by the Chair to the committee. The regions are a component of governance, communication and they are a community. There is a concept paper to gather feedback on map options. We have agreed that we need to preserve continuous regions, follow state boundaries and balance the regions. The paper compares a variety of different combinations based on population, donors, members, recipients and transplants. The committee brought up questions surrounding some of the options that would make California and Texas their own regions. There was concern that the larger region models could do a deservice to patients. Another member suggested that we need to be clear on the goal and purpose of redesigning regions. That the hope was that outside experts would be able to provide a clear reason for redesign but that has not been made clear. The maps are going out to regional meetings and out for public comment.

5. Winter 2022 Public Comment Proposals

The winter public comment items were presented by Nicole Turgeon, chair of the Policy Oversight Committee. Nicole went on to review where the projects fall within the Strategic Plan Goals. She showed the technical implementation hours needed for the projects.

The winter public comment distribution was moved and seconded. The vote was unanimously yes; 0 no; 0 abstained.

Matt Cooper adjourned the meeting at 4:34pm ET.

Upcoming Meeting

- February 18, 2022

Attendance

- **Committee Members**
 - Matthew Cooper
 - Jerry McCauley
 - Mindy Dison
 - Lisa Stocks
 - William Hildebrand
 - Stacey Lerret
 - Patrick Healey
 - Richard Formica
 - Valinda Jones
- **HRSA Representatives**
 - Christopher McLaughlin
 - Shannon Taitt
- **SRTR Staff**
 - Jon Snyder
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Kristina Hogan
 - Maureen McBride
 - Betsy Gans
 - Susie Sprinson
 - Chelsea Haynes
 - Jason Livingston
 - Carrie Caumont
 - Kelley Poff
 - Krissy Laurie
 - Liz Robbins
 - Isaac Hager
 - Anne McPherson
 - Courtney Jett
 - Jacqui O'Keefe
 - Lindsay Larkin
 - Brian Shepard
 - Cole Fox
 - Kaitlin Swanner
 - Roger Brown
 - Tina Rhoades
 - Alex Tulchinsky
 - Elizabeth Miller
 - Ross Walton
 - James Alcorn
 - Matt Cafarella
 - Rebecca Brookman
 - Steve Harms
 - Ryan Ehrensberger
 - Kayla Temple
 - Tamika Qualls

- Sarah Payamps
- Joann White
- Meghan McDermott
- Susan Tlusty
- **Other Attendees**
 - Ricardo La Hoz
 - Nicole Turgeon