

OPTN Pancreas Transplantation Committee
Meeting Summary
September 11, 2023
Conference Call

Dolamu Olaitan, MD, Chair
Ty Dunn, MD, MS, FACS, Vice Chair

Introduction

The OPTN Pancreas Transplantation Committee (the Committee) met via Citrix Webex teleconference on 09/11/2023 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Review: Whole Organ Attribute
2. Overview: Review Boards

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

1. Review: Whole Organ Attribute

The Committee reviewed the organ registration attribute. The goal is for the Committee to decide on a weight assignment for the attribute.

Straw poll: Do you agree with the modeled weight (10%) for organ registration?

Data summary:

- 40% of islet candidates have scores that overlap with whole pancreas scores; 60% of islet candidates' scores are below all whole pancreas scores.
- 25% of whole pancreas have scores that overlap pancreas islet scores; 75% of whole pancreas scores are below all pancreas islet scores.

Summary of discussion:

Decision: No final decision was made on the organ registration attribute weight. The attribute will be remodeled at a 20% and 30% weight.

The Chair noted that it's essential to justify how the Committee decided on a 10% weight placeholder for the organ registration attribute. He explained that it will be an important part of future discussions if the Committee moves forward with the 10% weight. The Vice-Chair asked how the scoring would be impacted if more weight was given to whole pancreas. She expressed concerns about the significant overlap between whole organ and islet candidates. She explained that there should be less overlap for the who are ≤ 45 years old and have a body mass index (BMI) of ≥ 30 . Another member agreed and stated that 40% is too much overlap for islet candidates. With the 40% overlap, islet candidates are being prioritized sooner than intended.

Staff replied that if there are concerns about the 40% overlap, a higher weight can be placed on organ registration, proportionally decreasing the weight for the other attributes. This would increase the separation between the whole organ and islet candidates. The Committee requested additional modeling at a 20% and 30% weight to further assess the impact on whole organs and islets.

Next steps:

The organ registration attribute will be modeled at 20% and 30% weights.

2. Overview: Review Board

Decision: There were no decisions made by the Committee

The Committee heard an overview of the OPTN review board. The purpose of the review board is to review specific, urgent patient registrations for candidates on the respective waiting list. These registrations are generally patients for whom the medical urgency algorithm and the system does not appropriately represent and for whom additional priority is appropriate. The review board members review and submit individual votes to collectively determine whether these listings are appropriate based on clinical information provided and OPTN policies and guidance. The review board will be established if the medical urgent attribute is included in the continuous distribution framework.

Summary of discussion:

The Chair asked whether the number of days the review board is assigned to review an exception request refers to business days or includes weekends. The presenter replied with calendar days. The Vice-Chair asked if the heart and lung review boards have the same number of reviewers as the pancreas review board. The presenter replied that the number of reviewers is similar, but their volume of exceptions is higher for heart and lung.

Upcoming Meeting

- September 18, 2023 (Teleconference)

Attendance

- **Committee Members**
 - Neeraj Singh
 - Dolamu Olaitan
 - Asif Sharfuddin
 - William Asch
 - Shehzad Rehman
 - Dean Kim
 - Rachel Allen
 - Muhammad Yaqub
 - Ty Dunn
 - Nikole Neidlinger
- **HRSA Representatives**
 - Marilyn Levi
 - Jim Bowman
- **SRTR Staff**
 - Bryn Thompson
 - Jon Miller
 - Raja Kandaswamy
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Sarah Booker
 - Joann White
 - Laura Schmitt
 - Lauren Mauk
 - Lindsay Larkin
 - Carlos Marinez
 - Lauren Motely
 - Tamika Watkins
- **Other Attendees**