

OPTN Pancreas Transplantation Committee

Meeting Summary

June 16, 2023

Conference Call

Rachel Forbes, MD, Chair
Dolamu Olaitan, MD, Vice Chair

Introduction

The OPTN Pancreas Transplantation Committee (the Committee) met via Citrix GoToMeeting teleconference on 06/16/2023 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Public Comment Continuous Distribution (CD) Overview of Themes/Feedback
2. Preview: Summer 2023 Public Comment kidney-pancreas (KP) CD Committee Update and Request for Feedback (RFF)
3. Recognition of Member Service

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

1. Public Comment Continuous Distribution (CD) Overview of Themes/Feedback

The Committee heard a CD overview of themes and feedback received from the January 2023 public comment cycle. The themes and feedback are as follows:

- General support for CD
 - Several OPTN Committees, OPOs, regions, and individuals support CD overall.
 - Some comments recognized the challenges of balancing waitlist mortality with long-term outcomes and the difficulty of reaching decisions on prioritization
 - Region 1 in particular, in support of building an initial framework to mimic the current system
- Review Boards
 - Several comments supportive of the creation of review boards
 - Appreciate consideration for more complex situations that may warrant an exception
- Pediatric Priority
 - American Society of Transplantation (AST)- Concerns that CD efforts are not considering pediatric candidates. Increasing availability to more KP recipients risks causing further inequity among pediatric patients
- Prior Living Donor Priority
 - Significant number of comments from patients, living donors, and stakeholder organizations expressing concern for potential de-prioritization of living donors; concerns of disincentivizing living donation and violating public trust in the system
- Calculated Panel Reactive Antibody (CPRA)
 - Several Comments support priority for highly sensitized candidates, especially CPRA 99.99%+
 - American Society of Transplant Surgeons (ASTS) suggested that high CPRA candidates are currently over-prioritized; equals access for CPRA groups
- Disparities

- Concerns for a potential decrease in transplant rate for Black candidates as shown in some organ allocation simulator (OASIM) results
 - AST- Committee should avoid scenarios that exacerbate socioeconomic disparities; increased weight on proximity efficiency could contribute to increased geographic disparities
 - Consider additional metrics for population and program density
 - Region 6- concern for increased travel distance and how that will impact their region, which has low population density and unique considerations for travel and logistics
- Efficiency
 - Significant number of comments related to efficiency; one commenter stated that this should be the first priority
 - Concerns for increased distance in OASIM
 - ASTS- program should be required to adjust distance acceptable to their program
 - Distance is an important factor for cold ischemic time (CIT)
 - Consider cost of travel and organ acquisition
 - Need for a national transport system
- Increase Utilization of Pancreata
 - Suggestion that more local priority may improve pancreas-alone utilization
- Facilitated Pancreas
 - Several commenters noted concern with allocating pancreata more broadly
 - ASTS- suggested facilitated pancreas should encompass some standard offer attempt
- Modeling and Data
 - Concerns about the results of the first OASIM report
 - More data and modeling are needed
 - Suggestion- CD should only move forward if data supports the new framework would be better than the current system
 - Support for mathematical optimization
 - Considerations for future modeling and data review
 - Individual program reports with CAS scores
 - Test match runs
 - Objective and measurable criteria
 - Model any HLA matching prioritization for unintended disparities
- Communication and Education
 - Recommend more transparency and clear messaging on Committee's work and project progress
 - Consider enhanced communications and education on allocation system for both patients and professionals

Summary of discussion:

The Vice-Chair asked when the second OASIM report will be available. Staff replied that the results will be available in July 2023.

2. Preview: Summer 2023 Public Comment KP CD Committee Update and Request for Feedback (RFF)

Staff informed the Committee that there would be a committee update and request for feedback that will go out for the July 2023-August 2023 public comment cycle. The purpose of the committee update and request for feedback is to:

- Update the community on the project progress to include the Committee's considerations and discussions leading into the second OASIM request.
- Provide an overview of discussions/decisions on efficiency topics from the Utilization Considerations Workgroup and across the OPTN.
- Ask specific questions to inform the Committee's decisions leading into the eventual proposal.

Summary of discussion:

There were no further discussions.

Next steps:

The Committee's update and request for feedback project will go out for the July 2023 public comment cycle.

3. Recognition of Member Service

Staff recognized and thanked the outgoing Committee members.

Summary of discussion:

There were no further discussions. The meeting was adjourned.

Upcoming Meeting(s)

- July 10, 2023 (teleconference)
- July 17, 2023 (teleconference)

Attendance

- **Committee Members**
 - Dolamu Olaitan
 - Ty Dunn
 - Colleen Jay
 - Dean Kim
 - Mallory Boomsma
 - Muhammad Yaqub
 - Raja Kandaswamy
 - William Asch
- **HRSA Representatives**
 - Marilyn Levi
- **SRTR Staff**
 - Bryn Thompson
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Joann White
 - Tamika Watkins
 - Carol Covington
 - Lauren Motley
 - Sarah Booker