OPTN/UNOS TRANSPLANT ADMINISTRATORS COMMITTEE (TAC) INTERIM REPORT

October 14-15, 2010 Gene Ridolfi, BA, RN

The following is a summary of the TAC OPTN deliberations that occurred in Chicago on October 14-15, 2010.

- The Committee had a general discussion regarding living donor issues, SRTR data elements removal process, and payment for all aspects of KPD by CMS. The Committee will continue to have crossover Work Group representatives on the Living Donor, KPD, KPD Financial Subcommittee, and Operations and Safety Vessel Policy Work Groups to provide the full committee with updates on the TAC monthly conference calls.
- The TAC HRSA, MMRF, and Arbor Research Collaborative for Health representatives discussed the SRTR transition with the full committee.
- The Pancreas for Technical Reasons Work Group minutes were reported to the Committee. The Committee will continue to have a crossover Work Group representative on this Work Group to provide the full committee with updates on the TAC monthly conference calls.
- The TAC DonorNet[®] Work Group partnered with the OPO Committee to develop a list of standardized abbreviations that would be acceptable to use in DonorNet[®] due to the miscommunication between OPOs and transplant centers when the OPOs enter information into DonorNet[®] and use abbreviations that may not be standardized. The use of non-standardized abbreviations could pose a significant patient safety risk if the transplant center misinterprets the information being conveyed. The Operations and Safety, Transplant Coordinators, and OPO Committees' recommendations were reviewed by the Work Group. The Work Group will respond to each of these committees regarding the Work Group's concerns and approval of their recommendations. The list of standardized abbreviations will need to be reviewed for plain language and approved by the UNOS Department of Evaluation and Quality and UNOS Director of Policy prior to dissemination to the transplant community. A plan to disseminate the standardized abbreviations to the transplant community through the DonorNet[®] help document, professional listservs, AOPO portal, NATCO and with any other DonorNet[®] educational/informational materials that are distributed to the transplant community from UNOS was also discussed. The Work Group will also consider developing other DonorNet[®] educational resources.
- The four established Work Groups within the TAC (Payer Relations, Staffing Resource, DonorNet, and Listserv) met and reported on their progress.