

Ethics Committee: A Report to the OPTN/UNOS Board

*Ms. Alexandra Glazier, JD, MPH, Chair
Dr. Peter Reese, MD, Vice Chair*

*June 24-25, 2013
Richmond, VA*

Committee Projects

October 2012- Ethical Considerations in the Proposed Kidney Allocation System

- Endorsed the proposal as a significant improvement over the current allocation system and previous proposals.
- Expressed the opinion that the proposal would benefit from an explicit discussion of how the multiple components in the proposed allocation system relate to the two primary ethical principles of allocation: justice and utility. Provided an analysis for the Kidney Committee to do so.

Committee projects

Citizenship Data from Policy 6 revision:

- Committee reviewed the available data collected to date, and its ethical implications.
- Initial recommendation will be that any related reports should be available in “more than a general transplant publication, should have broader availability to the public, and should also contain appropriate context so the data is not misinterpreted.”
- The Committee will continue to evaluate this with AHIRC.

Committee Projects

March 2013- Statement on DCD in the Neurologically Aware

- To fulfill the need for ethical guidance on this issue and support the coordination of DCD in the neurologically aware population in appropriate cases

Committee Projects

June 2013 - Statement to Executive Committee

- Provided a guidance on assessing the fairness of an organ allocation policy according to ethical principles.
- Addressed concerns regarding court interference with allocation policies based on an individual candidate's experience.

Ongoing Committee Projects

Ethics Committee review and input:

- Pedi: Review of the ethical implications of high turn down rate of pedi lung offers.
- AHIRC: Data Reports on citizenship
- Ethics, AHIRC, OPO, and TAC: Define “exhausting the match run”
- OPO: Uncontrolled DCD
- POC: Multi-organ allocation: considering specifically how to incorporate the Ethics Committee’s comments provided August 2012
- POC: Geographic Disparities

Thank you!

Ms. Alexandra Glazier, JD MPH
Chair, Ethics Committee
New England Organ Bank
VP and General Counsel
Alexandra_Glazier@neob.org

Ms. Leigh A. Kades
UNOS
Policy Editor, Ethics Committee Liaison
Leigh.Kades@unos.org