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Brian M. Shepard  
Executive Director & CEO

CONFIDENTIAL MEDICAL PEER REVIEW

July 18, 2018

**Via Electronic Mail**

James D. Eason, M.D., FACS  
Surgical Director, Liver Transplant Program  
Methodist University Hospital  
Suite 340  
1211 Union Avenue  
Memphis, TN 38104

Dear Dr. Eason:

The Performance Analysis and Improvement Subcommittee (PAIS) of the OPTN/UNOS Membership and Professional Standards Committee (MPSC) met on July 18, 2018, and continued its review of the adult liver transplant program at Methodist University Hospital.

Using a statistically driven method, the Scientific Registry of Transplant Recipients (SRTR) uses blinded data derived from UNet<sup>sm</sup> to identify programs in which actual one-year patient and/or graft survival falls below the expected rates given individual center donor and recipient characteristics. In brief, the SRTR, using a Bayesian approach to statistical modeling, provides the MPSC with a report detailing program expected survival rates, observed survival rates, the estimated hazard ratio and the probability that the hazard ratio is greater than an established threshold.

The MPSC will review a transplant program if it has a higher hazard ratio of mortality or graft failure than would be expected for that transplant program. A transplant program is identified for review by the MPSC if the program meets one of the following criteria for graft and/or patient survival:

- 1) The probability is greater than 75% that the hazard ratio is greater than 1.2, or
- 2) The probability is greater than 10% that the hazard ratio is greater than 2.5.

The MPSC previously identified this program as one with low one-year graft and patient survival rates relative to expected rates for transplants performed between July 1, 2014 and December 31, 2016. The data are summarized below and in the attached SRTR report:

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2.5 Year Cohort	Survival Outcome Below Expected	Graft survival within 1 year of transplant			Patient survival within 1 year of transplant		
		# of grafts	Observed	Expected	# of transplants	Observed	Expected
Fall 17 CSR (Jul 2014-Dec 2016)	Graft & Patient	281	84.6%	89.9%	270	87.0%	92.3%

Based on data entered into UNet<sup>sm</sup> as of 10/31/2017.

During the July 18, 2018 meeting, the PAIS reviewed the report submitted by Methodist University Hospital on May 8, 2018. As a result of its review, the Subcommittee is aware that the program is in a high-risk patient community with an aggressive organ acceptance rate, which has led to some of the poor outcomes. The PAIS acknowledges the center's commitment to the transplant program by making structural changes to address outcomes issues, including hiring new surgical leadership. The Subcommittee requests that the program provide the following:

- Updated CUSUM and provide suggestions for how to measure outcomes in ways the patients with high risks are not accounted for by the CUSUM models.
- An updated plan for quality improvement.
- Periodic activity reports and transplant logs: An activity report form and a transplant log reflecting current UNet<sup>sm</sup> data are enclosed. Please validate the information on this report, complete any fields that are blank, and return it to UNOS. If any element of the pre-printed data is incorrect, please make the appropriate changes in UNet<sup>sm</sup> by August 27, 2018, as well as record them on this form.
- Include a synopsis for any graft loss or death that occurred within one year of transplant since your last submission of synopses.

All of these reports are due on **August 27, 2018**, and will be reviewed by the PAIS during its October 2018 meeting.

Please be aware that this correspondence and all related documents and information are protected by applicable peer review statutes. Members are required to maintain the confidentiality of information provided in the confidential medical peer review processes and settings. Therefore, all inquiries, deliberations, recommendations, and actions of the MPSC and its subcommittees must be kept confidential by members during the review process and after the matter is closed. The Board of Directors may make public certain final adverse actions as delineated in the Bylaws as public actions.

If you have any questions, please contact Robyn Zernhelt, Sheila Foster, or Trung Le at (804) 782-4800.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa M. Stocks". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lisa" being the most prominent.

Lisa M. Stocks, RN, M.S.N., FNP  
Chair, Membership and Professional Standards Committee

LMS: rmz

cc: Satheesh P. Nair, M.D., Primary Physician  
Leigh Ann Burgess, RN, B.S.N., CCTC, Primary Transplant Administrator  
Susan Bourgeois, RN, M.S.N., CPHQ  
Program File