

Organ and Tissue Donation and Transplantation Tissue Expert Committee

Conference Call Notes

Date: Thursday, October 1, 2009 at 1:00 EDT

Chair: Dr. Locksley McGann

Participants: Mr. Mike Bentley
Dr. Brian Berry
Mr. Scott Brubaker
Ms. Mary Gatien
Dr. Frank Hohn
Dr. David Howarth
Mr. Dermott Kelly
Ms. Janet MacLean
Mr. Sean Margueratt

Regrets: Dr. Michael Gross
Dr. Sarvesh Logsetty
Dr. Hassan Moghadam
Dr. Jutta Preiksaitis
Mr. Christopher Snow

Observers: Ms. Sophie de Villers, VP, Strategy Management, Canadian Blood Services
Ms. Kimberly Young, Executive Director, Organs and Tissues, Canadian Blood Services
Dr. Sam Shemie, Medical Consultant, Organ Donation, Canadian Blood Services
Ms. Lorna Tessier, Director, Public Relations, Canadian Blood Services
Ms. Sylvia Torrance, Director, Business Initiatives, Canadian Blood Services
Mr. Jim Mohr, Senior Program Advisor, Tissues, Canadian Blood Services

Welcome

- Locksley welcomed TEC members to the call. The purpose was to discuss the agenda for the upcoming meeting and to provide an update on OTDT activities occurring in the fall.
- Locksley also gave the committee members notice of a legal case involving Canadian Blood Services. Canadian Blood Services is a defendant in a Human Rights complaint regarding MSM (men who have had sex with men) deferrals. This case has attracted significant media attention and may raise questions related to OTDT donor deferrals.

Process Review

- The committee is entering into the second phase of the strategic plan, i.e. establishing strategic direction. To that end, at the upcoming meeting, the expert committee members will be discussing key topics and developing options for resolving major problems identified through the case for change document.
- The process will move systematically from the development of basic system principles, to process principles, governance principles, which then will lead to identification of roles and responsibilities within the system.

- Timelines for fall activities were then reviewed. Sophie provided a brief update on the International Speakers Series, the Public Dialogues, and the Tissue End User Dialogues. In response to questions on the Public Dialogues, it was noted that reports from the various consultations would come back to the committee. As well, a summary report will be prepared at the end of the sessions to identify common ideas. Canadian Blood Services will partner with local groups and advertise through local media. Committee members are welcome to attend one of the sessions. Expenses will be covered by Canadian Blood Services.

Draft Meeting Agenda

- The proposed meeting agenda for October was reviewed.
- At their meeting, the Steering Committee will be developing principles for a Canadian OTDT system. These will be presented to the TEC.
- There will be a presentation on tissue and blood supply chains, with discussion on similarities, differences and areas of potential synergies between the two.
- The Committee will then discuss topics related to tissue quality and safety, traceability, security of supply and inventory management. The group will also discuss whether there is enough data available to evaluate options, and where to obtain additional data. These discussions will be broad based and serve as a starting point for developing recommendations in these areas.
- It was suggested that one or two additional conference calls for the committee be held between the October and January meeting.

Background Documents

- Background documents for the meeting will be sent out by e-mail at least two weeks before the meeting.
- Documents will also be available on the Canadian Blood Services website (Organ&Tissue/Members Only section)

Meeting Adjourned

- Locksley thanked the Committee members for participating in the call.