



Advancing Innovation, Value, and Sustainability in Liver Transplantation

The ILTS Business Practices Committee continues to distinguish itself as one of the Society's most innovative and forward-thinking groups, bringing together global experts to address the financial, operational, and strategic challenges facing liver transplantation programs worldwide. Under the leadership of Dieter Broering (Chair), Daniel Maluf (Co-Chair) and Markus Selzner (Past Chair), the committee has built significant momentum through collaborative research, educational initiatives, and practical projects that aim to improve value and sustainability across transplant systems.

Driving Research with Real-World Impact

A major focus of the committee has been the development of worldwide collaborations and research initiatives that evaluate the intersection of clinical outcomes, quality, and transplantation cost. One of the committee's flagship projects is the creation of a Value-Based Surgical Outcome Score, which seeks to combine patient outcomes, quality of life, patient satisfaction, and healthcare costs into a comprehensive framework for measuring value in liver transplantation. The project aims to collect prospective data from transplant centers around the world and could ultimately provide a new benchmark for assessing program financial performance and optimizing resource utilization. The committee is also leading an international survey examining liver transplant business practices, identifying best practices and areas for improvement across diverse healthcare systems. Findings from this work have already contributed to scholarly publications and are helping to establish a stronger evidence base for transplant program management.

Exploring the Role of Artificial Intelligence

Recognizing the increasing role of technology in healthcare decision-making, the committee has launched several initiatives focused on artificial intelligence (AI). Members are exploring how AI can be leveraged to predict transplantation costs, improve operational efficiency, and support data-driven decision-making. Most recently, the committee discussed collaborating on an AI-powered platform designed to track machine perfusion utilization and associated costs, providing transplant programs with real-time insights into resource allocation and value.

To further advance this work, a dedicated AI subgroup has been established to foster collaboration among interested members and identify future research opportunities.

Addressing Global Policy and Access Challenges



Beyond economics and technology, the committee is tackling important policy questions affecting patient access to transplantation. A current project is examining international hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) exception policies, with the goal of understanding regional differences in listing practices, priority systems, and access to transplantation. By comparing approaches from across the world, the committee hopes to identify opportunities for greater consistency, transparency, and equity.

Committee members are also evaluating strategies for expanding the donor pool and improving access to transplantation through innovative approaches and evidence-based decision-making.

Education and Knowledge Sharing

Education remains a cornerstone of the committee's activities. Earlier this year, the committee hosted a successful webinar titled "Bridging Science, Surgery, and Economics: Optimizing the Financial Sustainability of Liver Transplant Programs," bringing together experts to discuss the realities of sustaining transplant programs in an increasingly complex healthcare environment. In recent years, the committee also provided funding (awards) for transplant projects of interest related to financial performance, patient length of stay, and patient education.

Looking ahead, the committee is planning additional webinars focused on machine perfusion, reimbursement models, and global variations in transplant financing. A forthcoming program will explore current topics of interest including, Living Donor Liver Transplantation in the era of Machine Perfusion, the disparities in machine perfusion adoption between Eastern and Western healthcare systems, highlighting how funding and reimbursement mechanisms influence innovation and access around the world.

ILTS Business Practices Committee: Dieter Broering, Daniel Maluf, Markus Selzner, Zeeshan Akhtar, Albert Chan, Bobby VM Dasari, Ryan Helmick, Abed Khalaileh, Goutham Kumar, Ashish Malik, Amit Mathur, Shawn Pelletier, Anjana Pillai, Aghnia J. Putri, Rahul Saxena, Jason Vanatta, Xiao Xu, Ali Zarrinpar