

**MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (MDHHS)  
HEART, LUNG, AND LIVER (HLL) TRANSPLANTATION SERVICES  
STANDARD ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAC) MEETING**

Thursday, February 5, 2026

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

**Approved Meeting Minutes**

**I. Call to Order**

Chairperson Dr. Christopher Sonnenday called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.

A. Members present:

Dr. Christopher Sonnenday – Chairperson  
Dr. Heather Stamat  
Dr. Brian Fedoronko  
Dr. Hugh Lindsey  
Dr. Ahmed Nassar  
Dr. Deepak Venkat  
Dr. John Serini  
Dr. Srinivas Janardan  
Jenna Beckman  
Kelly Summers  
Makenzie Buchert

B. Member Absent:

Dr. Damanpreet Bedi – Vice-Chairperson  
Dr. Joel Stracke  
Dr. Ammar Hassan  
Jeff Muller

C. Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Staff Present:

Tiffani Stanton  
Marcus Connolly  
Tulika Bhattacharya  
Cliffaney Wilkinson  
Katherine Tucker  
Justin Easter

**II. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest**

No conflicts of interest were declared to prevent anyone from participating in the meeting.

### **III. Review of Agenda**

Motion by Dr. Stamat, seconded by Dr. Janardan to approve the final agenda as presented. All in favor.

Motion carried.

### **IV. Review of Minutes of January 8, 2026**

Motion Dr. Serini, seconded by Mr. Muller to approve the meeting minutes of January 8, 2026. All in favor.

Motion carried.

### **V. Review and Discussion of Comparative Review Section**

Dr. Sonnenday asked the SAC members to discuss cost data that would be beneficial to review at a future meeting.

The SAC followed the discussion by reviewing Section 7, the comparative review section of the standards. SAC members agreed to remove the language in 7(1)(a).

The SAC members discussed updating 7(1)(b) to consider awarding points based on distance in mileage from the existing transplant programs.

The SAC members discussed updating section 7(1)(c) and consider updating outdated comparison volumes to award points with Medicaid patient days.

The SAC members discussed updating section 7(1)(d) to consider some of the recommendations from the public hearing being awarded points. Also considered including comparative review points awarded for items such as MELD scores or Kidney transplant volumes. SAC members agreed it should only be related to organ transplants, excluding BMT transplant analysis.

### **VI. Next Steps**

The Chair, Dr. Sonnenday, would like to work on editing the comparative review section. Obtain patient premium based information from the consumer, purchaser, payer, representatives.

Intend to have program cost presentations from U of M and hopefully other institutions.

Consider obtaining data for patient related metrics.

Update draft language for the standards.

**VII. Public Comment**

None.

**VIII. Future Meeting Dates**

March 5, 2026; April 2, 2026; May 7, 2026

**IX. Adjournment**

Motion by Dr. Fedoronko, seconded by Makenzie Buchert to adjourn the meeting at 11:29 AM. All in favor.

Motion carried.