

OPTN Minority Affairs and Kidney Transplantation Committees
Reassess Race in Estimated Glomerular Filtration Rate (eGFR) Calculation Workgroup
Meeting Summary
May 26, 2022
Conference Call

Martha Pavlakis, MD, Co-Chair
Paulo Martins, MD, Co-Chair

Introduction

The Reassess Race in eGFR Calculation Workgroup (the Workgroup) met via Citrix GoToMeeting teleconference on 05/26/2022 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Review Scope
2. Documentation
3. Timeframe

The following is a summary of the Workgroup's discussions.

1. Review Scope

The Workgroup reviewed the scope of candidates who may qualify for an eGFR waiting time modifications.

Summary of discussion:

The Workgroup discussed the scope of black kidney transplant candidates who could be eligible for wait-time modification. They identified four different groups, Group 1 consists of black candidates who are registered but not accruing waiting time due to a race-inclusive eGFR that is too high (over 20). Group 2 consists of black candidates who are registered and accruing wait-time with a race-inclusive eGFR and could potentially receive time back. Group 3 is made up of black candidates who had a qualifying eGFR at an earlier date but were not registered until a later date, and Group 4 are black candidates who qualified with the dialysis criteria but would have an earlier wait-time qualifying date when a race-neutral eGFR calculation is used.

The Workgroup discussed the number of candidates potentially eligible for wait-time modifications. Members discussed that Group 1 would constitute a very small cohort of candidates, however, Group 4 could be thousands. The Workgroup also discussed the nuances present when regarding Group 3 and the candidates' eligibility for listing. At present, the Workgroup still has questions whether it was a race-inclusive eGFR that prevented Group 3 candidates from being referred or other circumstances. A question was raised regarding whether an algorithm will be developed to help determine how much time Group 3 candidates will get back. The Workgroup discussed the possibility of non- black candidates applying for this modification for different reasons, such as having a low socioeconomic status.

The Workgroup discussed that since the reasons for timing of referral can be unclear or unspecified, upon implementation this policy should not include speculation regarding a candidate's time of registration. Only those black candidates with a race-inclusive eGFR should be eligible to receive an eGFR wait-time modification, since that can be clearly indicated as a cause of delay in referral. This

policy and the opportunity for wait-time modification will ultimately benefit everyone, as disadvantages to specific groups are being rectified.

2. Documentation

The Workgroup discussed the documentation that should be required for an eGFR waiting time modification. Members recommended that these requirements should include a lab report showing the race-inclusive eGFR value and a recalculation with the race-neutral value. Some larger, national labs such as LabCorp and Quest Diagnostics both provide calculations that show the non-Black coefficient and Black coefficient eGFR values.

The Workgroup discussed if in-house labs or smaller labs would be permitted to use any eGFR equation, as long as it is race-neutral, as to align with the *Establish OPTN Requirement for Race-Neutral eGFR Calculations* proposal. However, it was recommended that these labs should use the CKD-EPI 2021 (refit w/o race) equation in their requests for wait-time modification to promote consistency and standardization in submissions for eGFR waiting time modifications.

3. Timeframe

The Workgroup discussed a one-year timeframe for submission of wait-time modifications. Members agreed that a candidate who qualifies for an eGFR wait-time modification could gain any amount of time back. The Workgroup determined that there is no justification to limit the amount of time a candidate can gain back because if a candidate is disadvantaged and could have gained years of time back, but the amount of time they may receive is capped, then there has not been real progress or equity established.

The Workgroup discussed that there might be patients who feel disadvantaged because this proposal is only affecting black kidney patients. Members agreed that the proposal would need to clearly define the purpose and requirements for eGFR waiting time modification.

Next Steps:

Workgroup will continue discussions during their next meeting.

Upcoming Meetings

- June 1, 2022 @ 1:30PM ET
- June 16, 2022 @ 2PM ET

Attendance

- **Workgroup Members**
 - Amaka Eneanya
 - Denise Alveranga
 - Jim Kim
 - Martha Pavlakis
 - Oscar Serrano
 - Paulo Martins
 - Dolamu Olaitan
- **HRSA Representatives**
 - Jim Bowman
 - Marilyn Levi
- **SRTR Staff**
 - Jonathan Miller
 - Bryn Thompson
 - Grace Lyden
 - Monica Colvin
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Carole Covington
 - David Klassen
 - Jesse Howell
 - Kelley Poff
 - Kayla Temple
 - Lauren Motley
 - Lindsey Larkin
 - Liz Robbins
 - Ross Walton
 - Sara Moriarty
 - Stryker-Ann Vosteen
 - Susan Tlusty
 - Taylor Livelli