

**OPTN Minority Affairs Committee
Meeting Summary
May 16, 2022
Conference Call**

**Paulo Martins, MD, PhD, Chair
Alejandro Diez, MD, Vice Chair**

Introduction

The OPTN Minority Affairs Committee (the Committee) met via Citrix GoToMeeting teleconference on 05/16/2022 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Overview
2. Workgroup Update
3. Discussion

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

1. Overview

The Committee heard an overview of the *Modify Candidate Waiting Time Dates Affected by Race-Based eGFR Calculations* project

Summary of discussion:

A member confirmed that *OPTN Policy 8.4.A: Waiting Time for Candidates Registered at Age 18 Years or Older* does not allow programs to backdate candidate eGFR qualifying dates before the date of registration and that the *Modify Candidate Waiting Time Dates Affected by Race-Based eGFR Calculations* would allow transplant programs to request this action for their potentially impacted candidates.

2. Workgroup Update

The Committee heard an update on the progress of the *Reassess the Inclusion of Race in eGFR Calculation* Workgroup.

Summary of discussion:

A member confirmed that in order to request an eGFR waiting time modification, transplant programs would be responsible for identifying potentially eligible candidates by assessing their kidney waiting lists. This member also recommended that the OPTN communicate to its members about this opportunity and provide education for transplant programs.

The Committee discussed that the inclusion of candidates who are registered, but do not qualify to accrue waiting time and those candidates who are already registered with an eGFR of 20 or less would have a relatively small impact on the overall population of registered Black candidates. The Committee recommended considering the inclusion of candidates who had a qualifying eGFR value prior to registration.

Next steps:

The Committee will continue to consider this project's scope.

3. Discussion

The Committee discussed the eGFR documentation used at their institutions

Summary of discussion:

A member reported that when staff evaluate a kidney patient for transplant at their institution, they use labs from the patient's clinic visit, but this may not reflect their lowest eGFR value. This member voiced support for the proposed eGFR waiting time modification process. A member expressed that transplant programs could have difficulty assessing their kidney waiting lists, as there is some reliance on the referral center for documentation of an eGFR of 20 or less at an earlier date. A member noted that the OPTN should consider how to handle a situation in which a candidate who is not Black has evidence of an earlier eGFR qualifying date and applies for the modification. Another member recommended that the monitoring for this policy should include gathering information on the location of the transplant programs who submit modifications to observe any geographical trends.

Next steps:

The Committee will continue discussion on this project during their next meeting.

Upcoming Meeting

- Thursday, June 23, 2022 @ 2pm ET

Attendance

- **Committee Members**
 - Ayana Andrews- Joseph
 - Christine Hwang
 - Irene Kim
 - Jason Narverud
 - Juan del Rio Martin
 - Reynold I. Lopez-Soler
 - Manuel Rodriguez Davalos
 - OK Ojogho
 - Wayne Tsuang
- **HRSA Representatives**
 - Jim Bowman
 - Vanessa Arriola
- **SRTR Staff**
 - Katherine Audette
 - Monica Colvin
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Carol Covington
 - Kelley Poff
 - Darby Harris
 - Eric Messick
 - Jesse Howell
 - Sara Moriarty
 - Susan Tlusty