

**OPTN Minority Affairs Committee  
Meeting Summary  
December 21, 2020  
Conference Call**

**Irene Kim, MD, Chair  
Paulo Martins, MD, PhD, Vice Chair**

## **Introduction**

The OPTN Minority Affairs Committee (the Committee) met via Citrix GoToMeeting teleconference on 12/21/2020 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. COVID Data Presentation
2. Social Determinants of Health Update
3. Reconsidering Race in eGFR Equation

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

### **1. COVID Data Presentation**

The Committee heard a presentation from the Scientific Registry of Transplant Recipients (SRTR).

#### Summary of discussion:

A member voiced interest in COVID data on the Hispanic population. This member also asked if outcome data will be limited to the short amount of time the pandemic has impacted transplantation. The presenter responded that this model will include both short and long-term follow-up. A member asked if the Committee's data request on waitlist inactivations during COVID era would still be useful after the presentation of this data. UNOS staff responded that the Committee's recent data request will still be relevant, as factors outside of those presented by SRTR will be examined.

### **2. Social Determinants of Health Update**

The Committee heard an update on this project from UNOS research.

#### Summary of discussion:

A member asked about the validity of the vendors and methods being used to collect third party data. The presenter explained that these vendors have experience with and access to a large number of public records. A number of other studies have been successful in collecting and using third party data. UNOS aims to assess the feasibility of acquiring useful Social Determinants of Health (SDoH) data themselves.

### **3. Reconsidering Race in the eGFR Equation**

The Committee had an introductory discussion on an issue gaining traction within the transplant community.

#### Summary of discussion:

The Committee voiced interest in working on a project related to the use of race in the estimated Glomerular Filtration Rate (eGFR) equation. A member asked if it was possible to pull data on how long it takes specific racial groups to reach an eGFR of 20. UNOS staff reported that this is a possibility, but

would depend upon how often eGFR is collected from waitlisted candidates. Members asked how the eGFR equation was established and why African Americans' eGFRs would be different from all other races. The Committee determined that they would need some historical perspective as they look into this project.

Next steps:

The Committee will continue discussions on this potential project during their January meeting.

**Upcoming Meetings**

- January 11, 2020
- February 8, 2020

## Attendance

- **Committee Members**
  - Juan Del Rio
  - Lakeicha Gunter
  - Stephen Gray
  - Irene Kim
  - Reynold Lopez- Soler
  - Paulo Martin
  - Yesenia Mora- Coffey
  - Okechukwu Ojogho
  - Dolamu Olaitan
  - Tahaunty Pena
  - Oscar Serrano
- **HRSA Representatives**
  - Jim Bowman
- **SRTR Staff**
  - Bryn Thompson
  - Andrew Wey
- **UNOS Staff**
  - Laura Cartwright
  - Alex Garza
  - Elizabeth Miller
  - Lauren Motley
  - Andrew Placona
  - Kelley Poff
  - Ron Vample
  - Ross Walton
  - Anne Zehner
- **Other Attendees**
  - Amishi Desai (Board Member)
  - Pono Shim (Visiting Board Member)