

OPTN Minority Affairs Committee (MAC)

Meeting Summary

February 8, 2021

Conference Call

Irene Kim, MD, Committee Chair

Paulo Martins, MD Committee Vice Chair

Introduction

The Minority Affairs Committee (MAC) met via Citrix GoToMeeting teleconference on 2/8/2021 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Reassess Race and eGFR Workgroup Update
2. OPTN Governance: Committee Service Training
3. Data Request Results: Analysis of waitlist removals in the COVID era

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

1. Reassess Race and eGFR Workgroup Update

The Committee were provided an update on the Reassess Race and estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR) workgroup.

Summary of discussion:

The Reassess race and eGFR Workgroup roster has been approved and includes representation from both the Kidney Transplantation Committee (Kidney Committee) and the MAC in addition to subject matter experts. The Workgroup is diverse in member expertise which include nephrologists, clinicians, and patient representatives.

The Vice Chair stated that programs make the decision on what eGFR calculation to use. Members were encouraged to advocate to make changes in eliminating race from the eGFR at their respective programs. The Chair shared that the literature could be found on the Committee's SharePoint site for further reference. The Kidney Committee Chair agreed with advocating to transplant programs in reassessing and modifying the calculations. Additionally, the Kidney Committee Chair requested access to the literature for Kidney Committee members to also review in preparation for these upcoming discussions.

2. OPTN Governance: Committee Service Training

The Committee reviewed the OPTN Governance structure as it pertains to project development work.

Summary of discussion:

There were no comments or questions.

3. Data Request Results: Analysis of waitlist removals in the COVID-19 era

The Committee reviewed the results of their analysis of waitlist removals in the COVID-19 era data request.

Summary of discussion:

The Committee Chair stated that overall, there was instability found in March and April that began to progressively improve as time passed. It did not seem to disproportionately affect minority groups. The Chair added that it would be curious to see specifically the Hispanic/Latino populations and how COVID-19 has affected them. In Region 5, there seemed to be a decrease in transplants performed for this population during COVID-19. The Committee Chair continued that overall, this information is useful and demonstrates how COVID-19 has affected everyone, with the understanding that it impacts certain minority groups disproportionately. They added that the data results that did not show a sustained disparity were reassuring.

The Vice Chair noted that this information could be presented to one of the transplant conferences or be published. They asked if this information was presented to other OPTN Committees. Staff responded that this information was not shared to other Committees. Typically, when a data request is completed and presented, it is done so to the Committee that has put in the request and shared internally. If there is interest voiced, this could be shared to those respective Committees.

A member asked if whether certain ethnic groups were looked at. Staff stated that there are other potential variables that could be looked into.

There were no additional comments or questions. The meeting was adjourned.

Upcoming Meetings

- March 15, 2021 (Teleconference)

Attendance

- **Committee Members**
 - Stephen Gray
 - Nicole Hayde
 - Christine Hwang
 - Irene Kim
 - Adrian Lawrence
 - Paulo Martins
 - Okechukwu Ojogho
 - Dolamu Olaitan
 - Tahaunty Pena
 - Manuel Rodriguez
 - Wayne Tsuang
- **HRSA Representatives**
 - Jim Bowman
 - Lauren Darensbourg
- **SRTR Staff**
 - Monica Colvin
 - Bryn Thompson
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Lindsay Larkin
 - Lauren Motley
 - Rebecca Murdock
 - Kelley Poff
 - Matthew Prentice
 - Ron Vample
 - Ross Walton
 - Joann White
 - Anne Zehner
- **Other**
 - Alejandro Diez (Incoming MAC Vice Chair, July 2021)
 - Martha Pavlakis (Kidney Vice Chair)
 - Pono Shim (Visiting Board Member)