

## **OPTN Minority Affairs Committee (MAC)**

### **Meeting Summary**

**August 16, 2021**

**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 08/16/2021 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. OPTN Regional Meetings
2. Review Regional Presentation Slides
3. *Reassess Race in eGFR Calculation* Feedback to Date

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

#### **1. OPTN Regional Meetings**

The Committee heard a presentation on attending and presenting the *Reassess Race in eGFR Calculation* Request for Feedback (RFF) at the Summer 2021 OPTN Regional Meetings.

##### Summary of discussion:

A member asked how long regional representatives would have to present. UNOS staff informed the Committee that the *Reassess Race in eGFR Calculation* RFF has a total of fifteen minutes on the agenda. Ten minutes should be used to present and five should be used for questions and discussion.

##### Next steps:

Committee members will use this information when attending or presenting at OPTN regional meetings.

#### **2. Review Regional Presentation Slides**

The Committee reviewed and discussed the *Reassess Race in eGFR Calculation* material being presented by regional representatives during OPTN regional meetings.

##### Summary of discussion:

During review of the presentation, a member highlighted the importance of informing regional meeting attendees that because OPTN policy is not prescriptive as to which eGFR calculation must be used, transplant programs have the authority to remove the Black race coefficient from the eGFR calculations at their respective programs.

Another member informed the Committee that the American Society of Nephrology (ASN) and National Kidney Foundation(NKF) will be releasing the Reassess the Inclusion of Race in Diagnosing Kidney Diseases Task Force recommendations in the near future.

A member asked how feedback on the RFF will be collected. UNOS staff explained that feedback will be collected during regional meetings through live discussion and PollEverywhere software. Feedback can also be submitted on the OPTN public comment website.

### **3. Reassess Race in eGFR Calculation Feedback to Date**

The Committee reviewed feedback on the *Reassess Race in eGFR Calculation* RFF from regions four and nine in addition to input submitted to the OPTN public comment website.

#### Summary of discussion:

Members commented that because there is currently no official recommendation on what coefficients should or should not be included in the eGFR, formulas used throughout the United States can vary greatly. A member clarified that the PollEverywhere software is only available to the members representing their institutions for the sentiment survey.

The Committee discussed how to address the criticism that removal of the Black race coefficient from the eGFR Calculation will not impact inequity or access. A member recommended addressing this criticism by acknowledging that there is a lot of work to be done with the issue, but that that the removal of the Black race coefficient is a good place to start. This member continued that while a small change, is it an opportunity to increase access for the African American population and suggested referencing findings from relevant literature.

#### Next steps:

The Committee will reconvene next month to review additional feedback on the *Reassess Race in eGFR Calculation* RFF and determine the best path forward

#### **Upcoming Meetings**

- September 27, 2021

## Attendance

- **Committee Members**
  - Juan del Rio Martin
  - Amaka Eneanya
  - Stephen Gray
  - Irene Kim
  - Reynold Lopez- Soler
  - Paulo Martins
  - Jason Narverud
  - Okechukwu Ojogho
  - Tahaunty Pena
  - Wayne Tsuang
- **SRTR Staff**
  - Christian Folken
  - Ajay Israni
- **UNOS Staff**
  - Chelsea Haynes
  - Kelsi Lindblad
  - Anne McPherson
  - Sara Moriarty
  - Anne Paschke
  - Kelley Poff
  - Matthew Prentice