

**OPTN Minority Affairs Committee (MAC) and Kidney Transplantation Committee
Reassess Race in eGFR Calculation Workgroup
Meeting Summary
August 19, 2021
Conference Call**

**Paulo Martins, MD, PhD, Chair
Martha Pavlakis, MD, Vice Chair**

Introduction

The OPTN Reassess Race in eGFR Calculation Workgroup (the Workgroup) met via Citrix GoToMeeting teleconference on 08/19/2021 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. *Reassess Race in eGFR Calculation* Feedback to Date
2. Emerging Themes

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

1. Reassess Race in eGFR Calculation Feedback to Date

The Workgroup reviewed feedback on the *Reassess Race in eGFR Calculation* Request for Feedback (RFF) from regions four, nine, two, and five in addition to input submitted on the OPTN public comment website.

Summary of discussion:

The Workgroup agreed that feedback from regions four and nine in addition to input received on the OPTN public comment website was generally supportive. While also generally supportive, feedback from regions two and five posed more questions. Workgroup members agreed that many of these questions could be considerations for the future, but are out of current project scope. A member referenced a comment that asked if the removal of the Black race coefficient from the eGFR Calculation could reduce the number of qualified Black living donors. This member continued that the use of creatinine based eGFR formulas alone are not recommended or supported for the evaluation of donors.

A member asked the Workgroup how to address questions or statements that suggest that African Americans have more muscle mass and therefore higher creatinine levels. Another member suggested that a response to this question should include the statement that there is not definitive literature to demonstrate that there are racial differences by muscle. Members also discussed feedback that asked if the Workgroup has considered a provision to backdate existing candidate wait time. A member suggested that a provision such as this would only assist those patients who are well connected to care and could disadvantage the population for which this project aims to increase equity.

Next steps:

As the public comment period progresses, the Workgroup will review additional feedback on the *Reassess Race in eGFR Calculation* RFF.

2. Emerging Themes

The Workgroup discussed public comment themes for the RFF.

Summary of discussion:

The Workgroup agreed that one emerging theme has to do with current OPTN policy. Members seem to be unaware that an eGFR Calculations that use the Black race coefficient are not required. Some members also do not know that programs are permitted to remove the Black race coefficient from use at a program policy level. Other themes include general community readiness to remove the Black race coefficient and discussion on future considerations.

Next steps:

The Workgroup will continue to monitor and discuss emerging themes throughout the public comment period.

Upcoming Meetings

- TBD

Attendance

- **Workgroup Members**
 - Denise Alveranga
 - Beatrice Concepcion
 - Amaka Eneanya
 - Paulo Martins
 - Oyedolamu Olaitan
 - Martha Pavlakis
 - Precious McCowan
 - Peter Reese
- **HRSA Representatives**
 - Jim Bowman
 - Marilyn Levi
 - Vanessa Arriola
- **SRTR Staff**
 - Katie Audette
 - Jon Miller
 - Nick Salkowski
 - Bryn Thompson
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Kelsi Lindblad
 - Kelley Poff
 - Sara Moriarty
 - Ross Walton