

**OPTN Minority Affairs Committee
Meeting Summary
September 18, 2023
Conference Call**

**Alejandro Diez, MD, Chair
Oscar Serrano, MD, Vice Chair**

Introduction

The OPTN Minority Affairs Committee (the Committee) met via Webex teleconference on 09/18/2023 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Project Recap
2. Data Request Presentation: Removing Black Race and HCV Coefficients from Calculation of the Kidney Donor Risk Index
3. Discussion and Vote

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

1. Project Recap

The Committee heard an overview of the project's purpose and scope. The project aims to better reflect the quality and post-transplant survival of kidneys from deceased donors who identify as African American and deceased donors who are hepatitis-C virus (HCV) positive. The scope includes refitting kidney donor profile index (KDPI) without race and HCV.

Summary of discussion:

There were no decisions made by the Committee.

There were no further discussions.

2. Data Request Presentation: Removing Black Race and HCV Coefficients from Calculation of the Kidney Donor Risk Index

The Committee reviewed the data request results from the Scientific Registry of Transplant Recipients (SRTR).

Data summary:

Coefficients from an updated KDRI model re-fit on transplants from 2018 through 2021 and removing the donor HCV positive status and donor Black race variables resulted in more racially equitable KDPI distribution and relatively little predicted difference in kidney non-use.

Summary of discussion:

There were no decisions made by the Committee.

The Chair highlighted that African Americans are disproportionately represented in having a high KDPI. This disproportionate representation of African Americans is attenuated when removing the race coefficient. He explained that African Americans were over-represented in high KDPI kidneys because of their race. However, when removing the race coefficient, their representation in the group of individuals that have a high KDPI approximates their normal distribution within the donor pool.

3. Discussion and Vote

The Committee reviewed proposed policy changes to the OPTN Policy [8.4.B: Deceased Donor Classifications](#) and voted on sending the project to the January 2024 public comment cycle.

Does the OPTN Minority Affairs Committee support sending Refit KDPI without Race and HCV to January 2024 public comment?

Support: 14 Oppose:0 Abstain: 0

Summary of discussion:

Decision #1: The Committee approved the policy language and supported sending Refit KDPI without Race and HCV to the January 2024 public comment.

Next steps:

The project will go to the OPTN Policy Oversight Committee for approval for January 2024 public comment.

Upcoming Meeting

- October 16, 2023 (Teleconference)

Attendance

- **Committee Members**
 - Alejandro Diez
 - Steve Averhart
 - Adrian Lawrence
 - Amaka Eneanya
 - Tony Panos
 - April Stempien-Otero
 - Catherine Vascik
 - Christiana Gjelij
 - Jason Narverud
 - John Bayton
 - Niviann Blondet
 - Obi Ekwenna
 - Sandy Edwards
 - Marcus Urey
- **HRSA Representatives**
- **SRTR Staff**
 - Jonathon Miller
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Kelley Poff
 - Tamika Watkins
 - Jesse Howell