

OPTN Minority Affairs Committee (MAC)

Meeting Summary

July 6, 2022

Conference Call

Paulo Martins, MD, PhD, Chair

Alejandro Diez, MD, Vice Chair

Introduction

The OPTN Minority Affairs Committee (the Committee) met via Citrix GoTo teleconference on 7/6/2022 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. eGFR Workgroup Update
2. Review Policy Language and Vote
3. Transition, Monitoring, Education/Communication, and Member Compliance Plans

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

1. eGFR Workgroup Update

The Committee heard an overview of the *Modify Waiting Time for Candidates Affected by Race-Inclusive Estimated Glomerular Filtration Rate (eGFR) Calculations* proposal. This overview included the project's proposed purpose, scope, required documentation, and timeframe.

Summary of discussion:

The Chair noted a previous discussion regarding the amount of time programs should have to submit an eGFR modification request and reported that some members suggested an open and ongoing window of time. The Chair continued, that although it may be more ideal to leave the timeframe open for transplant programs, they believe the proposal would not receive as much support. The Committee agreed that a 365 day timeframe should be proposed to allow transplant programs enough time to assess their waiting lists for qualifying candidates, collect required data, and submit the eGFR modification requests.

A member asked if there will be any capacity limitations when responding to eGFR modification requests from transplant programs. The Committee lead responded that the Organ Center will process the requests.

Next steps:

The *Modify Waiting Time for Candidates Affected by Race-Inclusive eGFR Calculations* proposal will go out for public comment in August 2022.

2. Review Policy Language and Vote

The Committee reviewed the proposed policy language titled, *Applications for Modifications of Kidney Waiting Time for Candidates Affected by Race- Inclusive eGFR Calculations*.

Summary of discussion:

A member about the logistics for submitting an application for a waiting time eGFR modification. The Committee lead informed that the application form is being developed to include all information transplant programs will be required to submit.

The Committee voted and approved the policy language:

Support- 15, Oppose- 0, Abstain- 0

Next steps:

The *Modify Waiting Time for Candidates Affected by Race-Inclusive eGFR Calculations* proposal will go out for public comment on August 3, 2022.

3. Transition, Monitoring, Education/Communication, and Member Compliance Plan

Summary of discussion:

Transition Plan

The Chair commented that this proposal does not advantage any population. Instead, the proposal aims to remove the disadvantage from the Black population without transferring the disadvantaged to any other population.

Monitoring Plan

A member asked how many registrations were received from the Black population whose eGFR is less than 20 and not currently on dialysis at the time of registration. The research representative explained that the team looked at the distribution of the Black population on the waiting list to see who qualified using their eGFR compared to the Black population who qualified using dialysis. The presenter stated as of February 28, 2022, there were 131 registrations indicating a black race ethnicity with an eGFR 20 or lower as their qualifying source and 20, 800 on maintenance dialysis.

Education/Communication Plan:

The Committee reviewed plans for the implementation of *Establish OPTN Requirement for Race- Neutral eGFR Calculations* and discussed future plans for *Modify Waiting Time for Candidates Affected by Race-Inclusive eGFR Calculations*.

Member Complains Plan:

The Committee reviewed the following member compliance components.

- Transplant programs are not required to submit eGFR modifications to the OPTN – No compliance component.
- Site Survey will continue to monitor GFR values entered into the OPTN computer system and provide additional individual member instruction and validation of transition to race-neutral eGFR calculation post board approval.

Next steps:

Modify Waiting Time for Candidates Affected by Race-Inclusive eGFR Calculations:

- July: OPTN & HRSA review process
- August: Summer 2022 Public Comment

Upcoming Meeting

- July 18, 2022

- August 22, 2022

Attendance

- **Committee Members**
 - Alejandro Diez
 - Paulo Martins
 - Adrian Lawrence
 - Amaka Eneanya
 - Anthony Panos
 - April Stempien-Otero
 - Ayana Andrews-Joseph
 - Christiana Gjelaj
 - Christine Hwang
 - Jason Narverud
 - Manuel Rodriguez
 - Niviann Blondet
 - Reynold Lopez-Soler
 - Steven Averhart
 - Wayne Tsuang
- **HRSA Representatives**
 - Jim Bowman
 - Shelley Grant
 - Vanessa Arriola
- **SRTR Staff**
 - Bryn Thompson
- **UNOS Staff**
 - Tamika Watkins
 - Kelley Poff
 - Carol Covington
 - Darby Harris
 - Alex Carmack
 - Jesse Howell
 - Kim Uccellini
 - Krissy Laurie
 - Lauren Mauk
 - Lauren Motely
 - Anne Paschke
 - Stryker-Ann Vosteen
- **Other Attendees**
 - Okechukwu Ojogho