

The Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (OPTN) has reached the tenth-month point since the <u>implementation of OPTN Policy 3.7.D Waiting Time Modifications for Kidney Candidates affected by Race-Inclusive eGFR Calculations</u>. As a reminder, all kidney programs, including pediatric programs, are required to complete all policy requirements by Jan. 3, 2024. While pediatric candidates are typically assessed with different protocols, the OPTN does not know that there are zero pediatric candidates affected by race-inclusive eGFR calculations. The sponsoring OPTN committees leaned on the concept of transparency; therefore, the requirements of the policy apply to all kidney candidates regardless of age.

Attestations can be submitted prior to Jan. 3, 2024, if you have completed the review of your waitlist. You must continue to fulfill all policy requirements, including notifications, for any patients added to the waiting list until Jan. 3, 2024, regardless of when attestation documentation is submitted, but you would not be required to re-attest. For reference, sample attestation language is included at the end of this email. If your review is complete, you can complete the information and email to <a href="https://documentation.org/linearing-number-10">OCOperations.coordinator@unos.org</a> or fax 804-697-4372. Additionally, you will find a brief outline of the steps you must take to complete this process, including requirements for after Jan. 3, 2024.

## Additional resources include:

- FAQ's about eGFR waiting time modifications for transplant professionals
- For patients: FAQs about eGFR waiting time modifications
- A <u>National webinar recording</u> from March 2023 for kidney transplant professionals provides education on OPTN policy action on eGFR waiting time modifications
- A <u>second national webinar recording</u> from July 2023 highlighting 5 key programs with extensive experience in this process and their effective practices
- Professional education available is in the OPTN Learning Management system known as
   <u>UNOS Connect</u> titled Waiting Time Modifications for Kidney Candidates Affected by Race Inclusive eGFR Calculations. This education contains step-by-step details on this process, as
   well as sample patient notification and attestation information.
- To help programs identify those candidates registered as Black or African American, a custom reporting tool accessible in the Data Services Portal
- Any questions related to this policy, or any policy, can be directed to member.questions@unos.org.
- OPTN staff are available to meet with programs one-on-one to answer questions regarding this process.

As additional resources are identified, you can find them in a one-stop-shop eGFR toolkit on the <a href="OPTN">OPTN</a> Website.

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## Sample Attestation Documentation

In compliance with OPTN Policy 3.7.D.iv: Reporting Requirements for Kidney Transplant Programs, (Program name) attests on (insert date of attestation submission) to the completion of all of the following:

- Notification to all candidates registered at the transplant program of the responsibilities of the program pursuant to Policy 3.7.D: Waiting Time Modifications for Kidney Candidates Affected by Race-Inclusive eGFR Calculations.
- Notification to all candidates registered at the transplant program of their eligibility for awaiting time modification according to this policy
- Submission of eGFR waiting time modifications for all eligible candidates registered at the transplant program.

(Program name) understands that *OPTN Policy 3.7.D.iv: Reporting Requirements for Kidney Transplant Programs* requires that all patient notifications, applicable waiting time modifications, and attestation documentation must be submitted to the OPTN by Jan. 3, 2024.

Transplant Program Director Signature (or designee)

Brief outline of the steps you must take to complete waiting time modifications for candidates affected by race-inclusive eGFR calculations

**Notify ALL registered candidates**, including pediatric and candidates that are not listed as Black or African American of the policy requirements

**Assess waiting list** for eligible candidates: Black or African American candidates who previously had their eGFR calculated with a race-inclusive eGFR, see FAQs or policy for details

Submit waiting time modification forms with required supporting documentation including a race inclusive eGFR value >20 with corresponding race neutral value ≤ 20; submit them at regular intervals as they are completed. Secure email: OCOperations.Coordinator@unos.org

Send second notification to all registered candidates and inform them of their eligibility status

**Submit attestation** to the OPTN by Jan. 3, 2024, but it can be submitted as soon as you complete the above requirements for your current waiting list

After attestation is submitted and after Jan. 3, 2024, **continue to notify new candidates** of the requirement of the policy and submit a waiting time modification for any new candidate that qualifies for a modification due to the use of a race based eGFR calculation.

