



UnityPoint Health

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To: All UnityPoint Health Central Illinois Region Laboratory Clients and Providers

From: On behalf of the Laboratory/Pathology Clinical Service Group

Re: Removal of African American Reference values for eGFR

The Laboratory/Pathology Clinical Service Group recently reviewed the use of race in the creatinine-based glomerular filtration rate estimation formula (eGFR). Based upon this internal review and active discussions in health care and medical education about racial disparities affecting healthcare outcomes, our CSG has recommended that we remove race from our formula.

This recommendation is based on weighing the marginal benefit to precision of GFR calculation with the use of the CKD-Epi equation, versus the potential harm of under-estimating kidney damage, especially given the often-arbitrary assignment of race to an individual.

With this change, the display name in Epic will change from “EGFR NON-AFR/AMER” to “Creatinine Base eGFR”.

These changes will go into effect system wide on 02/09/2021. Please contact Carol Collingsworth at carol.collingsworth@unitypoint.org / 319-329-1494 or Lori Racsa, D.O. at lori.racsa@unitypoint.org / 309-671-2181 if you have questions. Thank you!