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## MEI Updates eGFR Calculator to Remove Race as a Variable for Estimating Kidney Function

Madison, Wisconsin — The non-profit [Medical Education Institute \(MEI\)](http://mei.org) has followed the recommendation of a National Kidney Foundation and American Society of Nephrology task force to remove race as a variable for estimating kidney function.

[Life Options](#), MEI's early-stage chronic kidney disease (CKD) patient education program, has extensive information about CKD causes, stages, symptoms, and risk factors. The site features [a calculator that estimates glomerular filtration rate \(eGFR\)](#), a standard measure of kidney function. Until recently, race was considered to be a valid factor when calculating eGFR. The decision to remove race as a variable is meant to improve equity in patient care.

MEI Executive Director Dori Schatell, MS, notes, *"Race is a social construct, not a biological one. We support the efforts of the renal community to correct this historical error and improve kidney care for people of color."*

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