



HCA Diversity Task Force Terms of Reference

Responsibilities

The EqWG will establish an *ad hoc* Diversity Task Force to examine issues related to the tracking and sampling of diversity in HCA data. The responsibilities of this Task Force will be to develop recommendations for:

1. appropriate metrics and resolutions for tracking genetic and geographical diversity in HCA;
2. HCA goals for genetic and geographical diversity, as well as a timeline for achieving the goals;
3. ethically- and scientifically-appropriate processes for engaging underrepresented populations in sampling and monitoring efforts; and
4. the use of diversity-related metadata across all HCA data platforms, including appropriate metadata fields, definitions, and/or ontologies.

It is important to note that genetics and geography are not the only two elements of human diversity in the context of HCA. However, the Task Force will focus on these two aspects of diversity since they have well established biomedical significance and are potentially amenable to standardization across the HCA, but at the same time raise substantial issues of ethics, equity and prioritization that must be addressed.

Chairs

The Task Force will be co-chaired by EqWG member Shyam Prabhakar, Kian Hong Kock and Sophia George. The Chairs will be responsible for reporting the group's recommendations to the EqWG and (after EqWG approval) other HCA groups including the OC, the Genetic Diversity Biological Network, and the new Data Ecosystem Oversight Group.

Membership

The Task Force members will be selected by the EqWG and will include people with expertise in relevant areas, including but not limited to single-cell genomics, human population genetics, community engagement and ethics of human subjects research and data sharing. The Task Force should include representatives from many geographic regions and at least one member of the Ethics Working Group. Members are required to attend meetings regularly (at least 70%) and be responsive to requests for input from the Task Force Chairs.