

Opportunities & Attitudes: Influences on Research Participation in Black Americans

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Colloquium Series • April 18, 2014



**CANCER PREVENTION
& CONTROL PROGRAM**
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Background & Significance

- The inclusion of diverse populations in cancer research is vital to understanding and addressing cancer disparities
- Black Americans continue to be underrepresented in cancer prevention and treatment trials
- Black Americans' attitudes toward cancer clinical trials have been explored extensively
- Less attention has been paid to the contributions of structural factors to clinical trial participation in this population



Purpose

- To determine the extent to which structural factors influence attitudes towards research and research participation in a Southern Black population



Methods

- Surveys were collected from 727 members of the Black faith community from 2012-2013
- Demographic information, attitudes toward clinical research and rates of research participation were collected
- Regression models were to examine the extent to which structural factors predicted beliefs about and participation in clinical trials



Results – Descriptive Characteristics

Table 1. Selected Sample Characteristics

Category	Percentage
Male	39.5
Age (40-65)	54.3
Education (At least HS)	91.0
Health Literacy (High)	84.1
Rural	44.7
Invited to Participate in a Cancer Clinical Trial	6.0
Ever Participated in a Cancer Clinical Trial	3.7



Results - Attitudes

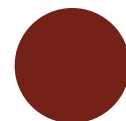
Table 2. Attitudes towards Clinical Research

Statement	SA	A	N	D	SD
Participation in clinical research benefits society.	24.5%	42.9%	26.8%	3.2%	2.6%
Participation in clinical research is risky.	6.7%	23.8%	45.1%	20.2%	4.2%



Results – Significant Predictors

- OLS model predicting agreement with the benefits of clinical research was significant
 - Health insurance coverage and rural local were significant predictors
- Fisher's exact test was used to examine differences between participants and non-participants
 - Differences in age, health literacy, agreement with the benefits of, receiving an invitation to participate in, and the intention to participate in clinical trials were significant



Discussion

- Rates of research invitation were low in the sample but the majority of those invited enrolled (26/40 =65%)
- Majority of respondents endorsed the benefits of clinical research (67.4%) and structural factors were significant predictors of this belief
- There were differences in structural factors and attitudes between participants and non-participants
- Structural factors play a role in research participation but the direction of the effect is unclear



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Acknowledgments:

The project described was supported by Grant Numbers U01CA114601 (2005-2010; PI: Hebert), U54CA153461 (2010-2015; PI: Hebert), and 3U54CA153461-04S2 (2013-2015; PI: Hebert/PD: Farr) from the Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities of the National Cancer Institute. The content is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of the National Institutes of Health.

