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Tobacco Use Prevention: Culturally-Specific Protective Processes in College Students with Asthma

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Tobacco use prevention: culturally-specific protective processes in college students with asthma

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Abstract

The African American and Latinx communities are disproportionately affected by health disparities such as cancer. This research is focusing on the African American and Latinx population affected by health disparities. In this study, researchers are studying how tobacco use can be prevented among 18-21 years old college students with asthma, by using culturally specific processes.

Investigators will recruit 200 students; 100 African Americans and 100 Latinx students – the responses of students to survey questions will be analyzed and from it, researchers will propose cultural measures that can prevent Latinx and African American college students.

Introduction

Recent cancer statistics shows death rates of African American men and women is higher at 33% and 16%, respectively, as compared to Caucasian men and women¹ and cancer is the leading cause of death in Latinx individuals, with late stage diagnosis and low preventive screening being possible contributors to cancer disparities.²

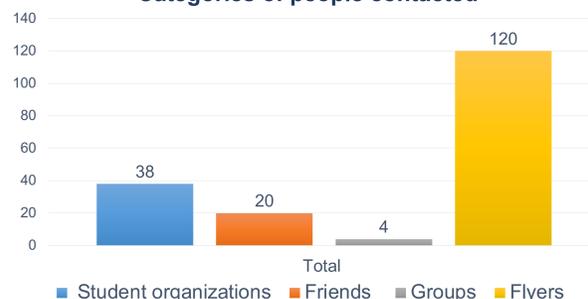
These minority college students with asthma are a particularly high-risk group for developing cancer later in life because of social, cultural, socioeconomic, and health factors. A recent survey of 898 college students found that 47% of students with asthma and 47% of students without asthma had tried electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS).³ College is when most students live on their own and engage in risky behavior such as smoking due to peer pressure or as a means to cope with stress.

The purpose of the study is to examine associations between cancer risk factors differences in cancer risks factors and tobacco use/frequency of use in African American and Latinx College students with asthma. Investigators will examine acculturation, ethnic identity, family relationships, religiosity, and medication beliefs as culturally specific protective factors in associations between cancer risk, tobacco use.

Methodology

- Research participant information sheet: research assistant explains the study and role of participant.
- Recruitment Script Survey: participants are invited via phone calls
- Study screening form: research assistant collects participants demographics to determine whether they qualify for the study
- Participants who complete the application receive a \$25 gift card via Redcap.

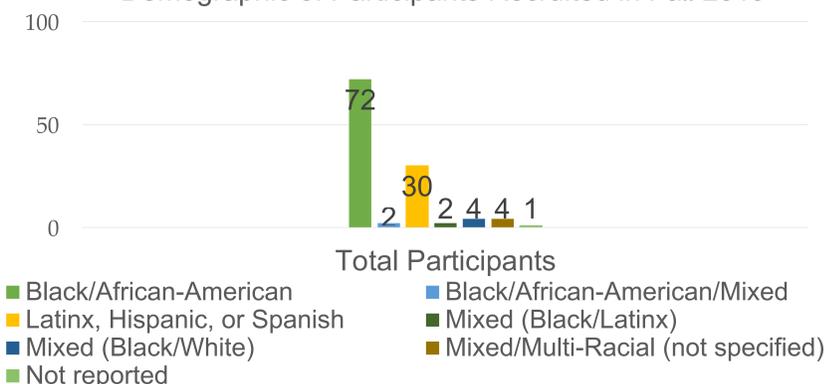
Categories of people contacted



Results/Discussion

- During summer 2019, I was participating in the study through HSURP. Recruitment during the summer was unproductive.
 - 4 participants completed the application.
- I took a research Psychology class which allowed me to continue to work on the study.
 - 115 participants completed the survey – the graph below shows the demographics.
- I volunteered in the study in spring 2020, the target 200 sample size was met.

Demographic of Participants Recruited in Fall 2019



Recruitment Tools

- Text messages
- Telegram announcement
- Ads
- Newsletters
- Email Invitations
- Flyers

Conclusion

Phase I of the study has been concluded. A total of 200 participants were recruited for the study; recruiters and research assistants met the 200sample size target in spring 2020. The demographic of the participants is yet to be broken down.

Phase II of the study which is to carryout two focus groups has been put on hold as a result of the COVID-19 crisis. The study will resume when things return to normal; the Redcap data will be analyzed. Overall, all recruitment tools used were effective.

Works Cited

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