

Socioeconomic Disparities in Health Outcomes

The Case of Lupus Kidney Disease

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Kidney Failure

- Dialysis or kidney transplant
- 470,000 Americans in 2004
- 100,000 new patients per year
- 30% are African-American
- 5% of Americans have kidney damage

Diabetes

High Blood Pressure

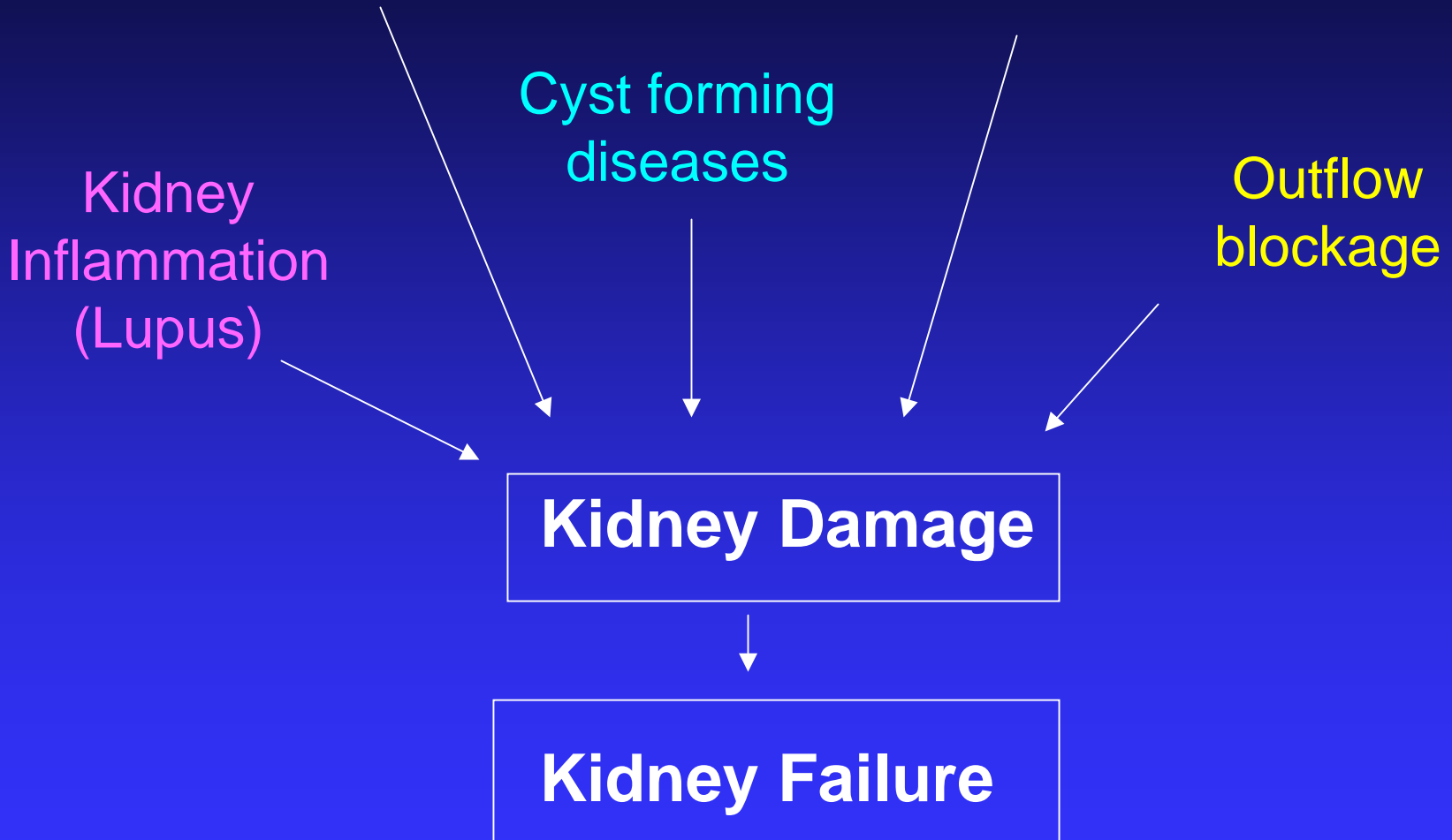
Cyst forming
diseases

Kidney
Inflammation
(Lupus)

Outflow
blockage

Kidney Damage

Kidney Failure



Systemic Lupus Erythematosus

- Autoimmune disease affecting 1/1000 adult women
- Inflammation in:
 - ◆ Skin and joints
 - ◆ Lining of lungs and heart
 - ◆ Kidney
 - ◆ Brain
- Permanent damage can result

Kidney Failure is more common in Lower Socioeconomic groups

<u>SES group</u>	<u>Rate (per million)</u>	
Low	389	} 1.9
Low-middle	309	
High-middle	261	
High	201	

Is this association stronger for some causes of Kidney Failure than others?

- Diabetes: treatment can prevent kidney failure
- Lupus: treatment does not always prevent kidney failure
- Cyst-forming disease: no treatment

Lowest to Highest
SES Group

All diagnoses

1.9

Diabetes

2.8

Lupus

1.6

Cyst-forming disease

1.1

Summary

- Availability of effective treatment is the pre-condition for socioeconomic disparities
- Access to treatment is critical to reducing socioeconomic disparities in risk of kidney failure

Ethnic Disparities in Health Outcomes

Knee and Hip Replacement Surgery

Knee and Hip Replacement

- Indicated as treatment of severe pain or mobility limitations due to arthritis
- 86% with excellent outcomes
- Cost-effective
- 478,000 knee replacements in 2004
- 220,000 hip replacements in 2004

Disparities in Knee Replacement

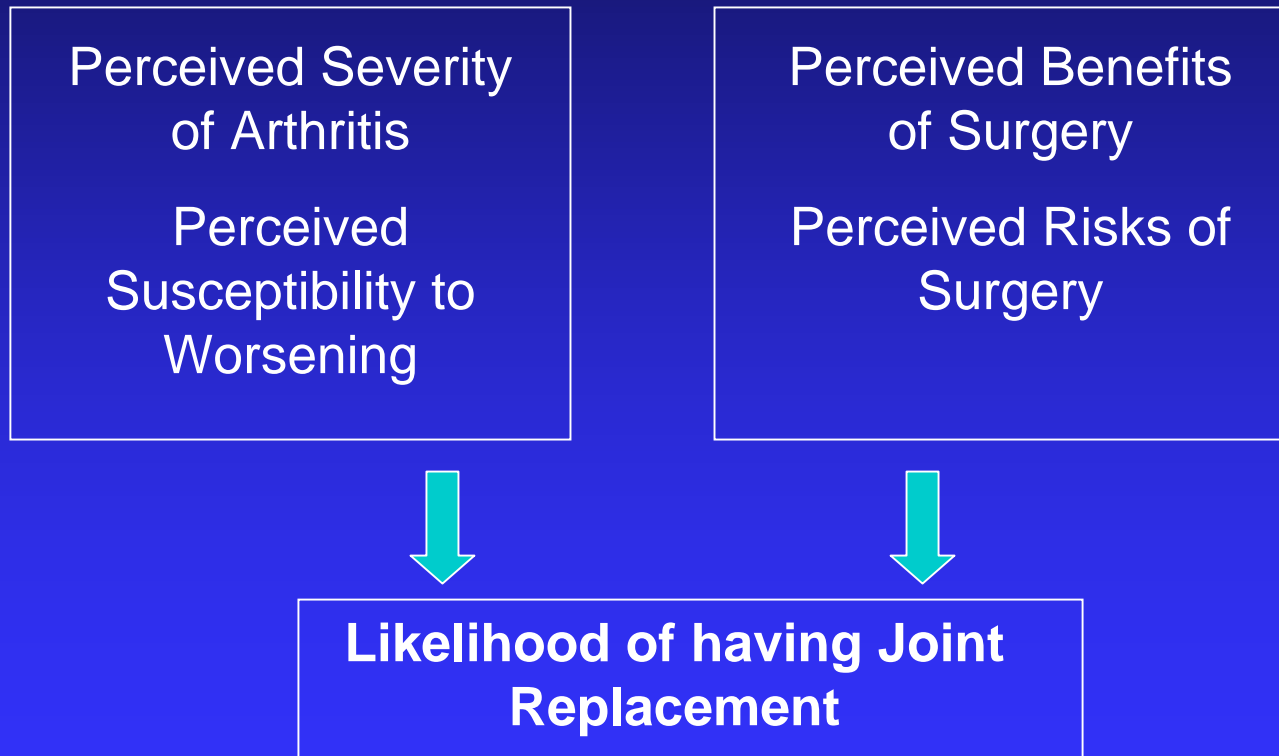
	<u>Number per 1000</u>	
	<i>Women</i>	<i>Men</i>
White	6.0	4.8
Hispanic	5.4	3.5
Black	4.8	1.8

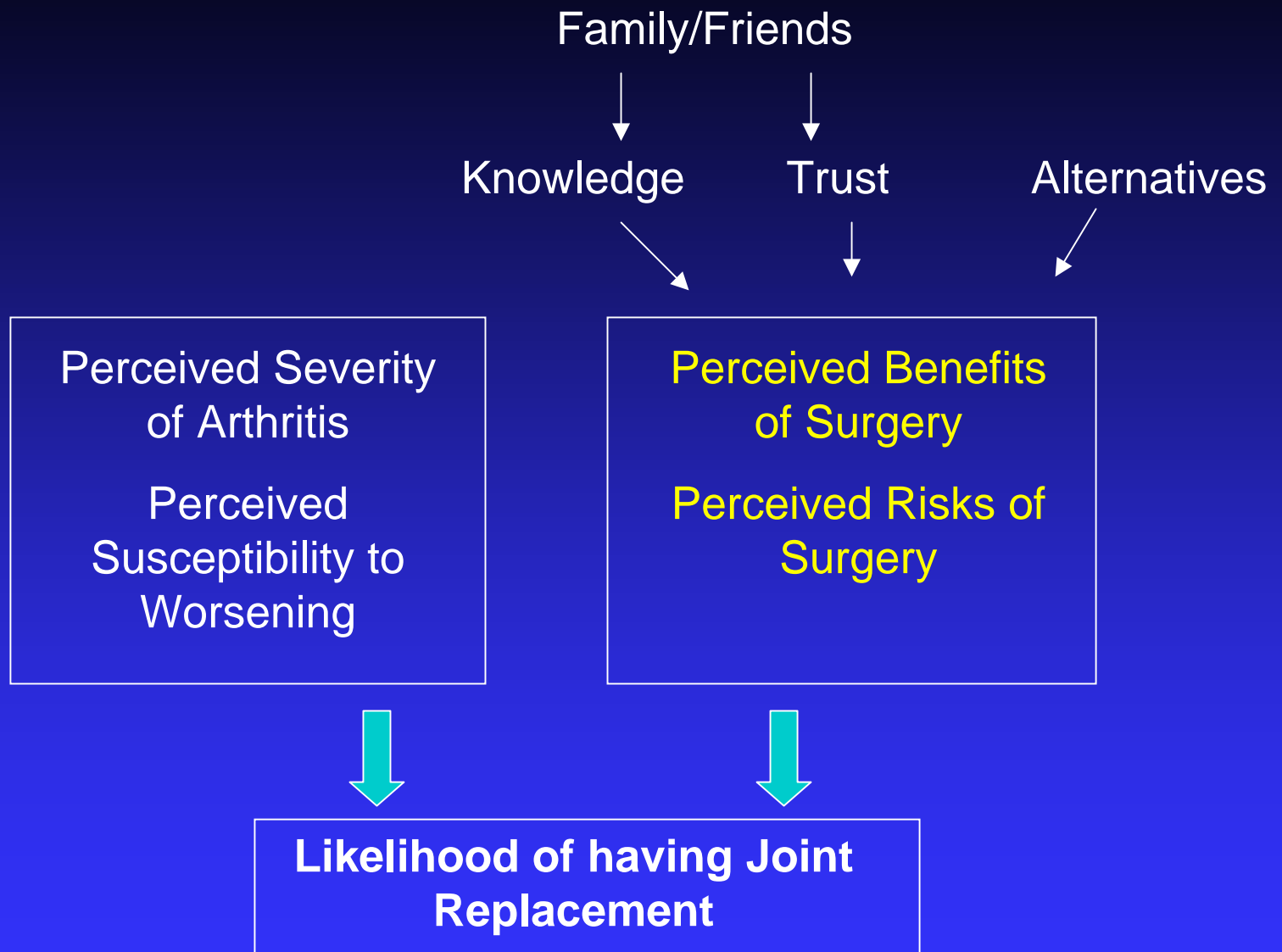
Skinner, N Engl J Med 2003

The Road to Joint Replacement

- Symptoms are severe enough
- Has access to medical care
- Physician recognizes need for joint replacement
- Refers to surgeon
- Surgeon recognizes need
- Patient agrees

Influences on Patient Decision-Making





Summary

- Ethnic disparities outweigh socioeconomic disparities in use of joint replacements
- Major differences in perceptions of risk and benefits of surgery between blacks and whites
- Amenable to intervention

Evidence for narrowing the gap

- Proportion of blacks receiving knee replacement was 60% higher in 1998-2000 than in 1990-1993
- In 1998-2004, rates of knee/hip surgeries among patients younger than 65 were similar between blacks and whites (in contrast to those 65 and older).