PARTNERING WITH HCPS TO ELIMINATE DISPARITIES IN CARDIOVASCULAR CARE

Winston H. Gandy, Jr., M.D.
The Piedmont Heart Institute
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Agenda

• What Are Health Care Disparities?
• What Is the Evidence for Cardiac Care?
• Why Do They Exist?
• How Can Close the Gap Help?
DEFINING HEALTH CARE DISPARITIES
What Are Health Care Disparities?

The unequal burden in disease morbidity and mortality rates experienced by ethnic/racial groups as compared to the dominant group.
Health Care Disparities in U.S.

Underscored existence of health care disparities in U.S.

Of 81 studies, 68 had racial/ethnic differences in care

October 2002
Disparities Are Real
Even When Adjusted For

- Age
- Gender
- Insurance status
- Co-morbidities

CVD severity

And Will Increase
Boston Scientific’s health equity initiative aims to eliminate cardiovascular care disparities, helping to ensure all patients receive optimal cardiac care.
UNDERSTANDING DISPARITIES IN CARDIAC CARE
Racial Disparities in Therapies

Do Black Americans receive life-saving cardio-protective therapies less often than White Americans because of lower socioeconomic status?

Researchers examined the Veterans Affairs Healthcare System’s database of nearly 475,000 patients for prescription rates of aspirin, beta blockers, statins, and angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors.

Cardio-protective drugs were prescribed significantly less often to black patients when compared to white patients and might be a partial basis for the high rates of cardiac morbidity among black patients.

Are extensively documented racial disparities in coronary revascularization also consistent among patients with similar health insurance coverage?

State inpatient data identified over 744,000 white, black, and Hispanic patients hospitalized with AMI; patients were grouped into: Medicare, private insurance, and Medicaid/uninsured.

Patients' ability to pay for costly procedures is unlikely to explain racial disparities.
# Race/Sex on Cardiac Catheterization

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<thead>
<tr>
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**Impact**

Race and sex of a patient independently influence how physicians manage chest pain.

**Issue**

Do race and sex affect physicians’ recommendations for cardiac catheterization?

**Intervention**

720 physicians viewed recorded scripted interviews by actors and were given other data about each hypothetical patient. He or she then made recommendations about that patient's care.

**Impact**

Race and sex of a patient independently influence how physicians manage chest pain.

Women and older patients were less likely to be referred for cardiac catheterization than men and younger patients.

Black women were significantly less likely to be referred for catheterization than white men.
When Access Is Limited…

Disproportionate Cardiac Care Is Delivered

4x less-
BiV

30% less likely-
ICD

only 33% PCI’s

less likely-
Peripheral
Inv

WHY DO CARDIAC CARE DISPARITIES EXIST?
Reasons Are Complex

Support Health Care Professionals

Health System
Insurance
Time
Geography
Language

Provider
Culture
Stereotypes
Bias
Uncertainty

Patient
Refusal
Need
Behavior
Preference

33% agree racial/ethnic disparities are present in cardiac care

CLOSE THE GAP
Our Approach- “Triad”

- HCP Education
- Patient Awareness & Education
- Guideline Adherence Advocacy
Guideline
Adherence
Advocacy
Close the Gap with Us

HCP Education  
Patient Awareness & Education  
Guideline Adherence Advocacy

Optimal Cardiac Care for All Patients!
THANK YOU!
Sources

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- Kaiser Family Foundation, U.S. Census Bureau, 2008, Projected Population by Single Year of Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin for the United States: July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2050.

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Sources

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• Cohen, MG, et. al Racial and Ethnic Differences in the Treatment of Acute Myocardial Infarction Findings From the Get With The Guidelines–Coronary Artery Disease Program, Circulation. 2010; 121:2294-2301