

# ***Opportunities & Attitudes: Influences on Research Participation in Black Americans***

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# 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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