

Understanding Socioeconomic and Environmental Factors Underlying Cancer Disparities Among African Americans: A Comparative Analysis of Baylor College of Medicine and University of Chicago Medicine Catchment Areas

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1. Background

- Four specific cancers of focus: breast, prostate, ovary, and liver
- Geographic scope: 14 counties - 9 from Baylor College of Medicine and 5 from University of Chicago
- Importance of racial/ethnic disparities in multiple groups
 - Non-Hispanic (NH) white
 - NH Black
 - Hispanic
 - NH American Indian/Alaskan Native
 - NH Asian/ Pacific Islander
 - NH Other/Unknown Race

2. Goals

- Compare of cancer incidence rates across selected ethnic/racial populations
- Social determinants of health assessment at county level
- Cancer burden patterns among the two diverse geographies
- Collect baseline information for future interventions

3. Solutions and Methods

- Dataset used:
 - Catchment area definitions from NCI
 - SEER
 - Stat for cancer incidence
 - Social determinants of health (county-level)
- Analysis approach:
 - 14 counties with complete data
 - Comparative analysis of 2 catchment areas
 - Statistical methodology for missing data handling

4. Outcomes

- To be completed with data, but structure will include:
 - Comparison of:
 - Urban versus rural counties
 - Various racial/ethnic groups
 - Two distinct geographic regions
 - Four types of cancers
 - Using:
 - Linear regressions
 - Random forest models
 - Clustering techniques (k-means)

5. Lessons Learned and Future Directions

- Problems with accessing data and possible solutions
- Positives of collaboration between institutions
- Integration of standardized data collection
- Future directions for complete data coverage