Factors Contributing to Disparities

- Disease Prevalence
- Cultural Impact
- Quality of Care
African Americans have the highest rate of first-time occurrence of deep vein thrombosis.

On average, every 19 minutes a US Hispanic will be diagnosed with first-time occurrence of deep vein thrombosis.
Nationwide, African Americans have a higher rate of peripheral artery disease (PAD) than any other ethnic group.

US Hispanic men in their 70s are 48× more likely to have peripheral artery disease than those in their 40s.
Factors Contributing to Disparities

- Cultural Impact
- Disease Prevalence
- Quality of Care
Many African Americans and Hispanics “self-treat” with home remedies before consulting a doctor, and often do not tell their doctor they use alternative treatments instead of, or in addition to, prescribed medications.

**African Americans** discuss “alternative” treatments with influential people in their lives - friends, family, or neighborhood elders - and visit doctors as a last resort.

Some seek the help of spiritualists, faith healers, and other lay practitioners.

There is a frequent cultural misconception of the role, impact, and side effects of medications and medical treatments.

Many **Hispanics** are unfortunately too willing to accept a particular fate with regard to their health.

Believing a health condition or disease is beyond their control prevents many Hispanics from trying to prevent disease, seek professional care.

- It can also decrease likelihood to follow recommended treatment plans and medication regimens.
Cultural Impact

Prevention

- Low awareness of the need to take action to prevent disease
- Minimal understanding of disease risk
- Many aspects of disease prevention are viewed as too expensive
- Studies show that African Americans often do not believe that illness is “serious” until symptoms interfere with their ability to function
  - Therefore, diseases are diagnosed at more advanced stages
- US Hispanics view health as being disease-free or, more specifically, experiencing a lack of pain or discomfort
- Lack of initiative in seeking healthcare contributes significantly to rates of disease and death in US Hispanic communities
Factors Contributing to Disparities

- Disease Prevalence
- Cultural Impact
- Quality of Care
Quality of Care

- There may be multiple barriers to quality healthcare, including system fragmentation, lack of collaboration among organizations that provide resources and services, and lack of patient awareness and use of available resources and services in their community.

- African Americans are less likely than their Caucasian counterparts to have a “medical home.”

- Lacking a usual source of care, many African Americans visit emergency rooms and urgent care centers instead of regular doctors. The result is often lower quality care and higher cost.

- Compared with their Caucasian counterparts, US Hispanics are 2.5 times less likely to have a regular doctor or source of care.

- Even those Hispanic patients with insurance plans comparable to those of their Caucasian counterparts still visit private HCP offices less frequently.

- US Hispanics are 2.22 times more likely than their Caucasian counterparts to use the emergency room for routine healthcare.
Traditional Approaches to Alleviate Disparities

- Programs, materials and services that are not relevant to African American or Hispanic patients
- Fragmented healthcare organizations and services that do not work together
- Education for patients, without simultaneous education for doctors
Program Vision

- Connect local health-related organizations and service providers to each other
- Educate patients about the need to take action to talk to their doctor
- Connect local organizations and patients with health-related resources and services within their communities
- Connect patients to these local resources and improve access to needed health-related services
- A partnership of community leaders, doctors, and health-related community-based organizations working together to address healthcare disparities among African Americans and Hispanics
An easy-to-read, city-specific compilation of health-related organizations and service providers designed to help patients access these resources.

Includes helpful tips to improve the quality of patient visits, and contact information about patient-centered programs in Baltimore, Memphis, Newark, San Antonio, Miami and the Bronx.

Distributed to doctors, CHAT members, and health-related organizations in the community.
Community Health Partnership
Patient Education Materials

- Culturally competent and ethnically relevant materials on conditions developed specifically for patients. They are designed to promote healthy living and disease management.
Role of sanofi-aventis U.S. CHL

Coordinator of:
- Community resources
- Healthcare access/management
- Community events
- Local information
- Provides disease education
- Distribute Patient materials
CHAT is the mobilizing component of the CHP program.

CHAT is comprised of representatives of locally active health-related organizations.

They help connect patients to health-related services they need by:
- Sharing resources and best practices.
- Distributing program information to patients and organizations.

- Quality health means having useful health resources and information available.
Sample CHAT Members

Baltimore
- NMA
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
- Johns Hopkins Medicine

Memphis
- UMMC
- Healthy Memphis Common Table

Newark
- United Way
- Newark Beth Israel Medical Center

Bronx, NY
- New York City Department of Parks & Recreation
- Lighthouse International
- LOLA
- New York Blood Center
- NAHN

Miami
- HCSF: Health Council of South Florida, Inc.

San Antonio
- MUJERES UNIDAS
- Metro Health

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Because health matters
The Speakers Network is a collection of professionals and laypersons in all six CHP cities who speak to their peers about health disparities:

- **Professionals** – Promote health literacy and greater awareness of health concerns and needs/cultural sensitivity training

- **Pillars of Strength Patient Ambassador Program** – Laypeople who have successfully navigated the healthcare system help empower patients to take responsibility for their health by utilizing local resources
Progress in Reducing Healthcare Disparities

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation notes that it is **vital** to “…integrate the strengths of the community and the healthcare system”

The United States spends billions of dollars annually on a fragmented healthcare system that leaves many African Americans and Hispanics confused and frustrated…

“If the problems exist in the community, the solutions exist in the community.”
COMMUNITY HEALTH PARTNERSHIP™

it’s in our hands

COMMUNITY HEALTH PARTNERSHIP™
en nuestras manos

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