



Health Equity and Patient Care: How to be an Impactful Clinical Equity Champion



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How to be an Impactful Clinical Equity Champion

CPAN Advocacy Chats:
Educational Conversations on Cancer Advocacy & Policy
July 17, 2024

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Why?



43 y/o black male (he/him/his)

New metastatic colon cancer

No significant PMH, works out, cares about fitness

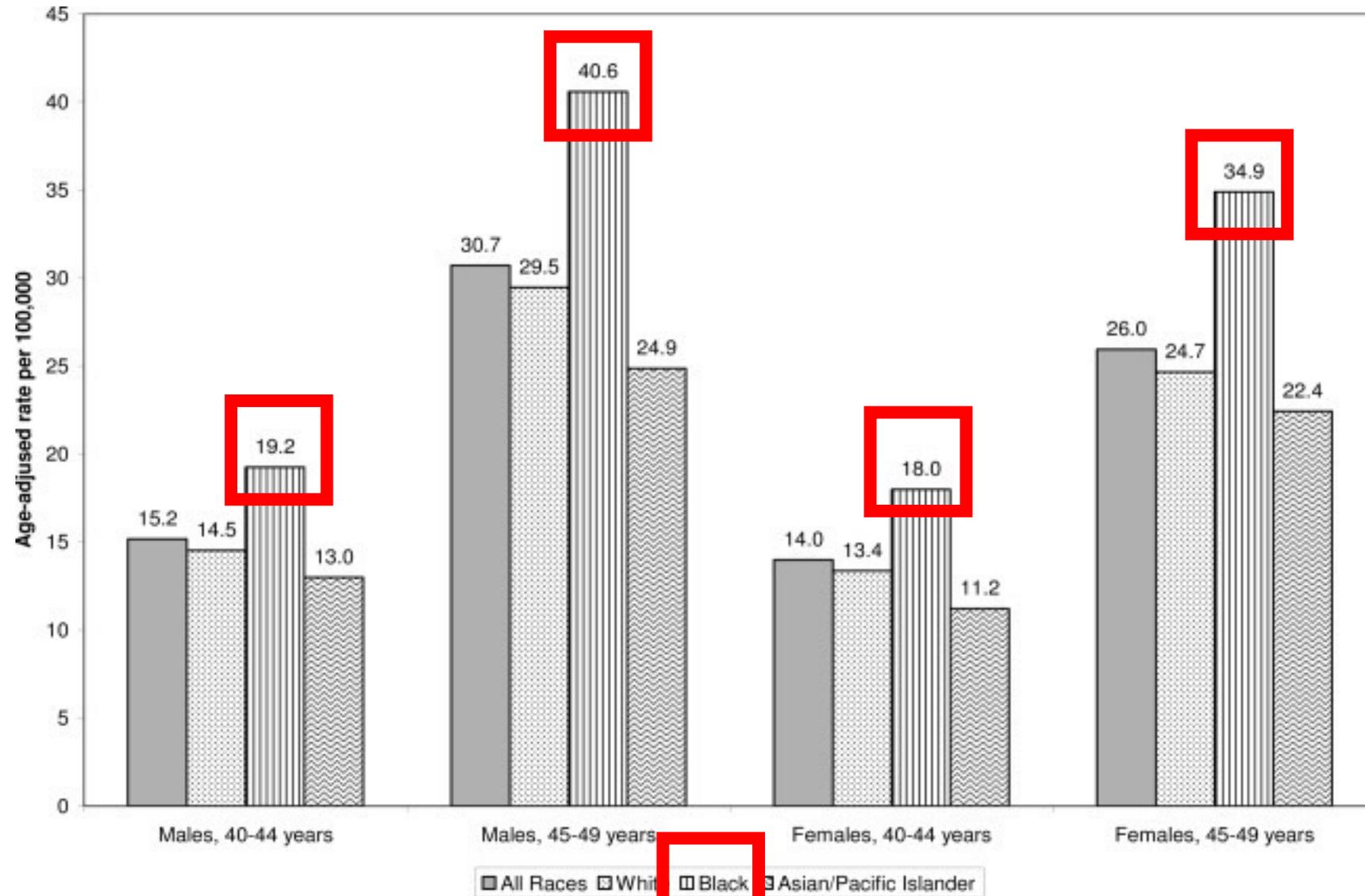
FH: Colon Cancer in Mother 60s deceased

Patient is devastated.

Asks how this could have happened to him?

What do you tell him?

Colorectal cancer in U.S. adults younger than 50 years of age, 1998–2001



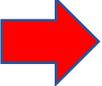


Updated Colorectal Cancer (CRC) Screening Recommendations 2021

- Average Risk Age 45-49 (Category B)
- Racially Focused Recommendations: **NONE**

Rationale for Expanding Screening Guidelines

Incidence has always been high among young Blacks

 Now increasing in young Whites and Hispanics/Latinos

Insufficient empirical evidence on benefit/harm of earlier CRC screening in Blacks

NCI CISNET modeling does not support different screening strategies by race

Why?



63 y/o black female (she/her/hers)

New metastatic NSCLC adenocarcinoma.

50 pack year smoking history (no LDCT screening)

ECOG2, CKD2, HTN, COPD

FH: sarcoidosis

NGS: No current molecular targets, PDL1 70%

Patient interested in immunotherapy and wants to know data supporting use

What do you tell her?

Immunotherapy Trial Representation

Tumor Type	Clinical Trial and Treatment Agent	Trial Design and Population	Sample Size (N)	Racial Composition (% , N)*			
				Caucasian	Black or African American	Asian	Other
Melanoma	CheckMate 067 ³⁵ Nivolumab +/- ipilimumab	Global phase III, previously untreated	945	97.5%	0%	1.1%	1.5%
				921	0	10	14
	CheckMate 037 ³⁶ Nivolumab	Global phase III, previously treated	405	98.3%	0.7%	0.5%	0.5%
				398	3	2	2
Squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck	CheckMate 141 ³⁷ Nivolumab	Global phase III, previously treated	361	83.1%	3.6%	11.9%	1.4%
				300	13	43	5
Non-small cell lung cancer	CheckMate 057 ³⁸ (non-squamous) Nivolumab	Global phase III, previously treated	582	92%	3%	3%	3%
				533	16	17	16
				KEYNOTE 010 ³⁹ Pembrolizumab	Global phase II/III, previously treated	344	72%
246	13	73	5				
	OAK Trial ⁴⁰ Atezolizumab	Global phase III previously treated	850	70%	2%	21%	7%
				598	16	180	56
Renal cell carcinoma (clear cell)	CheckMate 025 ⁴¹ Nivolumab	Global phase III, previously treated	821	88%	1%	9%	3%
				720	5	74	22
Urothelial carcinoma	IMvigor211 ⁴² Atezolizumab	Global phase III, previously treated	931	72.1%	0.3%	12.7%	14.8%
				671	3	118	138
Gastric and gastroesophageal junction cancer (PD-L1+)	KEYNOTE 059 ⁴³ Pembrolizumab	Global phase II, previously treated	259	77.2%	1.9%	15.8%	5.0%
				200	5	41	13

*General U.S. population racial composition: 76.6% white, 13.4% black or African American, 5.8% Asian, 18.1% Hispanic or Latino.

Why?



39 y/o transgender Latina (she/her/hers)

PMH: Transitioned with gender affirming surgery and hormones ~10yrs ago, asthma, T2DM

FH: TNBC Mother Age 65 (dx 2mo ago)

Interested in breast cancer screening given her mother's recent diagnosis.

Wants to know if USPSTF and NCCN guidelines include her?

Wondering if her chance of BRCA1/2 mutation is greater than white women?

What do you tell her?

Transgender Patient Data*

Extrapolated risk from cisgender women HRT studies

- Gooren et al (2013) Incidence Rate = 4.1 per 100,000py TW, 170 per 100,000py CW
- Brown and Jones (2015) Incidence Ratio = 0.7 (95% CI 0.03, 5.57) vs. CM

Institutional Best Practices

- Fenway Health
- UCSF Center for Excellence for Transgender Health
- Endocrine Society Clinical Practice Guidelines

LatinX and Non-White Hispanic Data**

- Lower BC incidence, but younger age, more TNBC
- BRCA1/2 pathogenic allele frequency may be higher
 - Regional BRCA 1/2 variants
 - More VUS due to incompletely understood
- NCCN eligible for BRCA 1/2 testing
 - ~10% NHW
 - ~25% LatinX

*Parikh et al. *RadioGraphics*. 2019

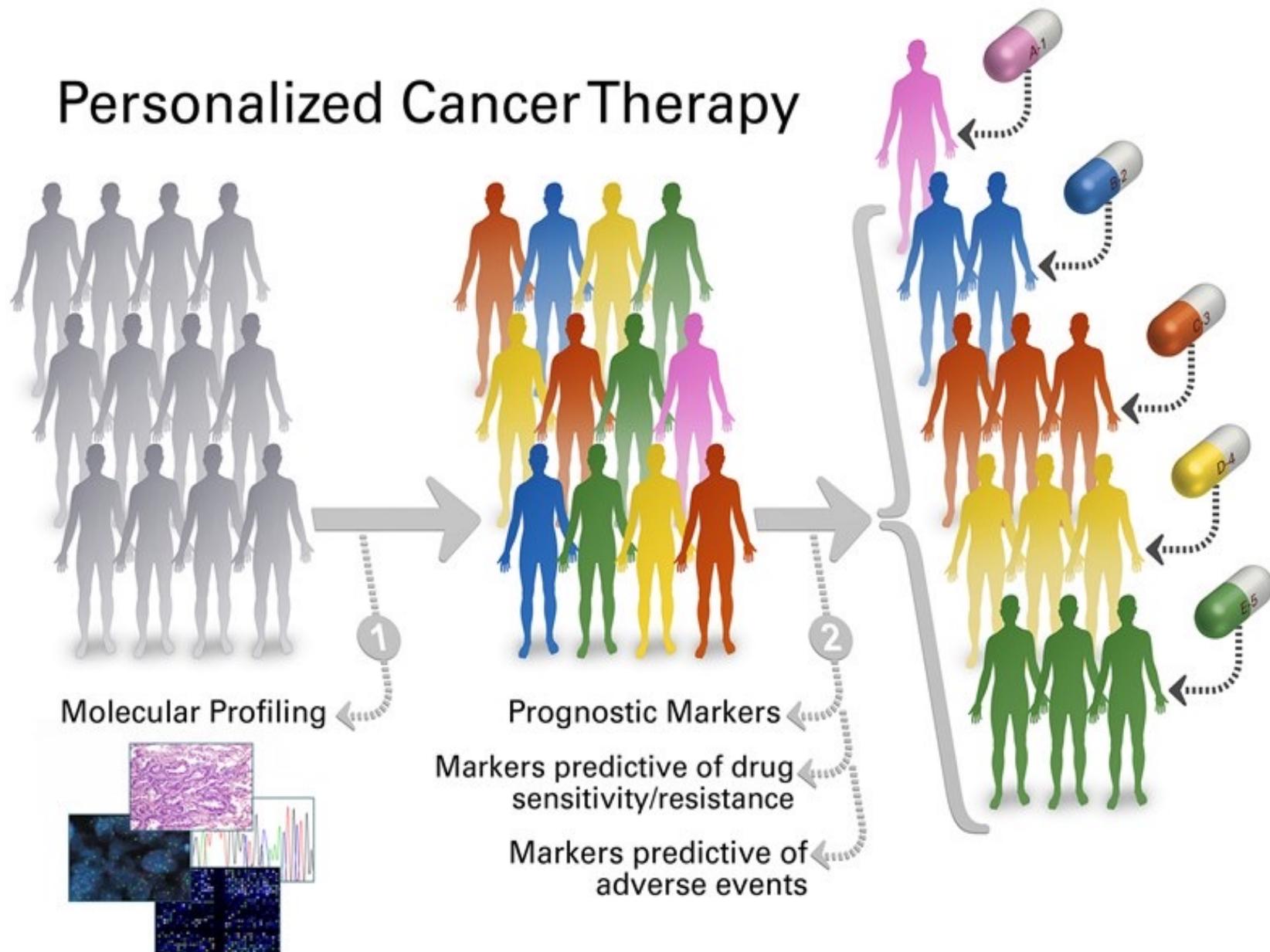
** Herzog JS, et al. *Nature*. 2021

**Weitzel et al. *J. Am. Soc. Clin. Oncol*. 2013

CURRENT DATA

- Cell of Origin
- Stage
- Molecular
- Prior Lines of Therapy
- Concurrent Therapies
- Performance Status
- Co-Morbidities
- Consent

Personalized Cancer Therapy





Objectives

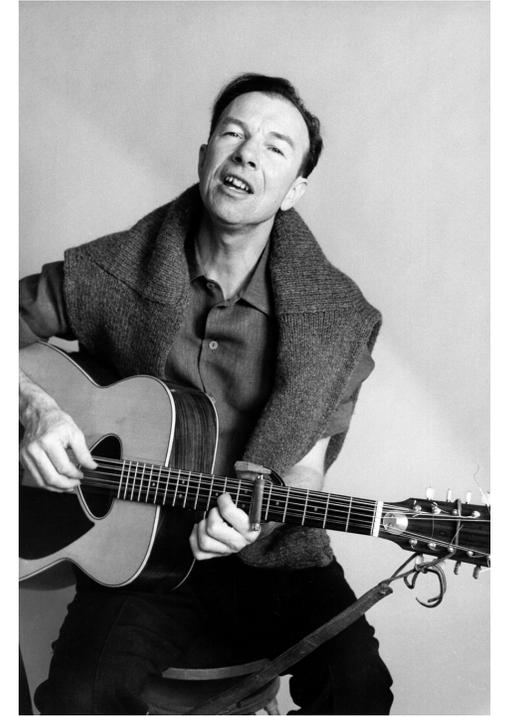
1. Making the Value Argument: Why Equity, Why Now?
 - Aligned Incentives
 - Impetus for Change
2. Getting Buy In: From the Top Down? From the Bottom Up?
 - Involving Executive, Corporate, Payer Stakeholders
 - Involving Staff, Patients, and Community Stakeholders
3. From Plan to Action:
 - Building internal and external capacity
 - Commit

Disclosure and Conflicts of Interest

- None to report

Why Equity? Why Now?

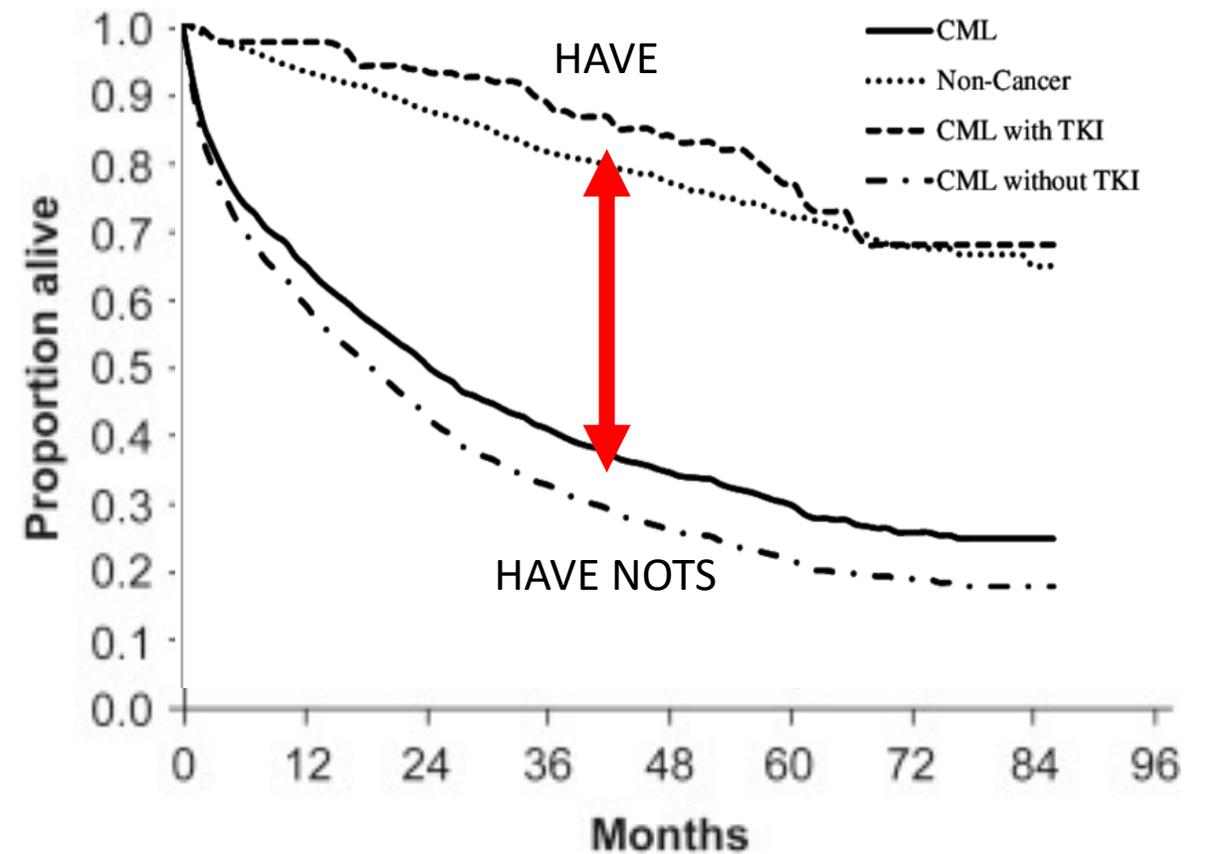
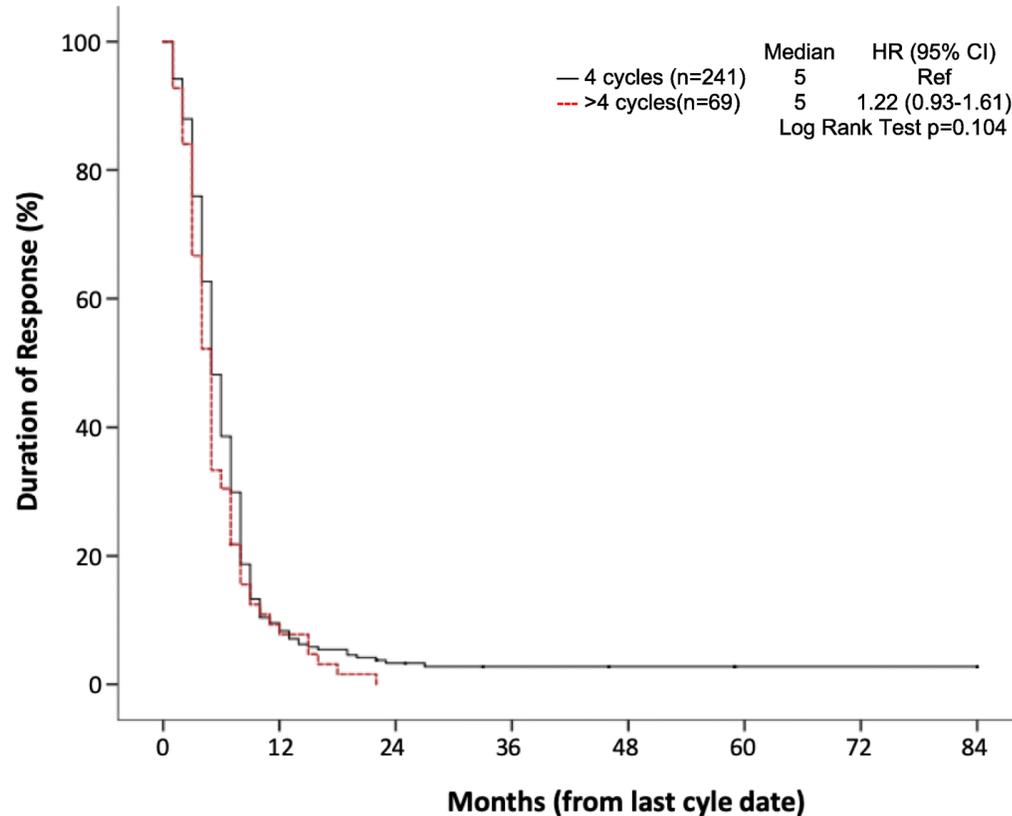
- **Values:** Justice, Solidarity, Integrity, Compassion
- **Duty:** Hippocratic Oath, Service to All



Why Equity? Why Now?

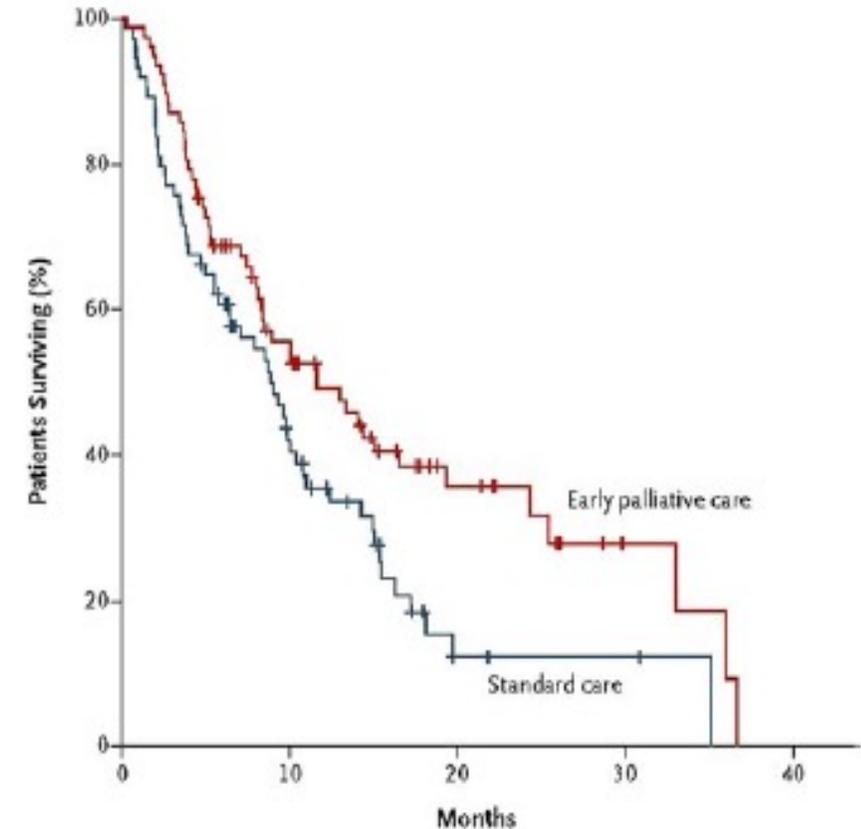
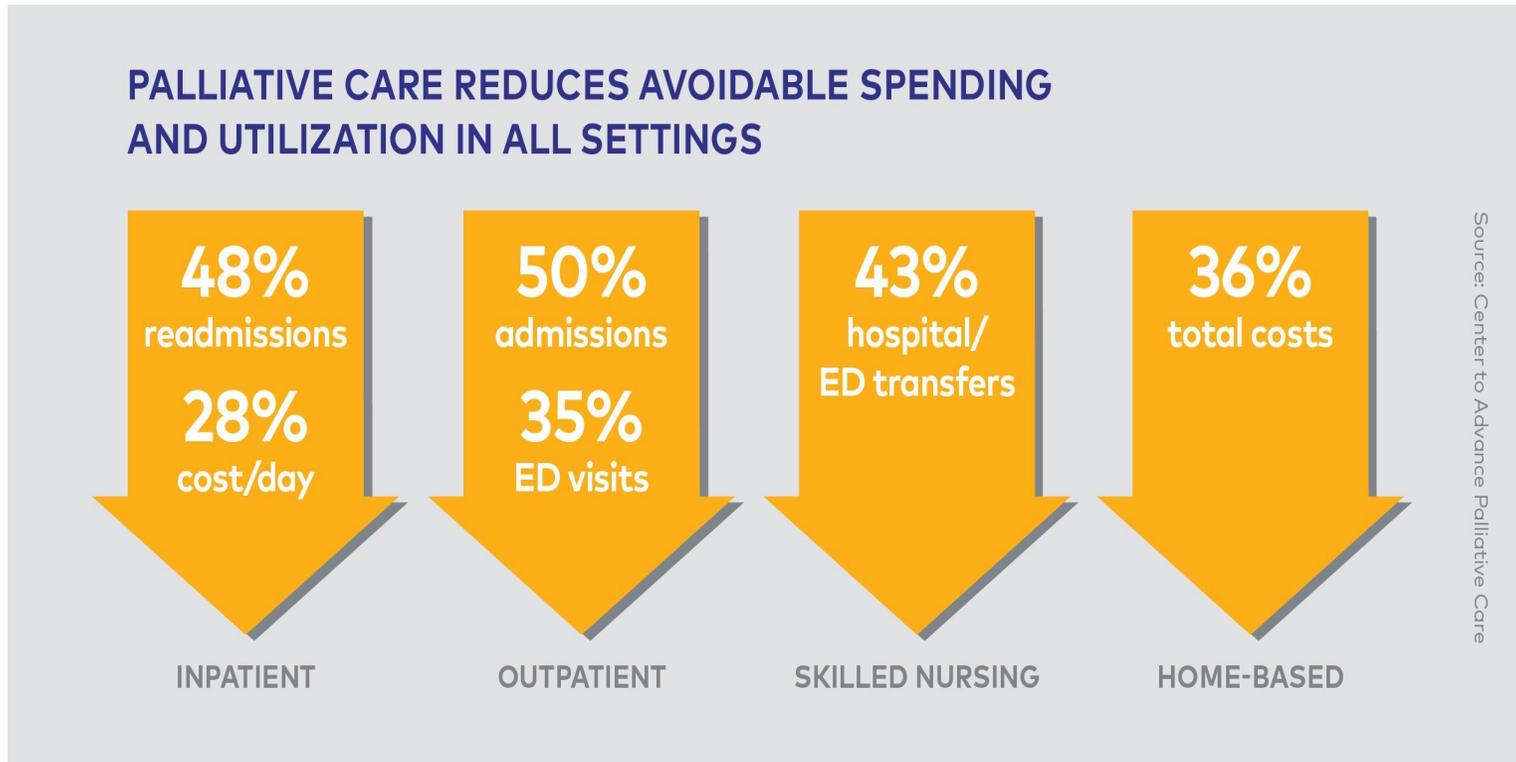
1900 - 2000

2000 - present



Redefining “Cancer Care”

High Value = Reduced Costs, Improved QoL, and Survival



Redefining “Cancer Care”

High Value = Reduced Waste, Improved QoL, Treatment Adherence

	Medication			
Food Insecurity	Skipped	Reduced	Delayed	Unaffordable
None	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Low	2.51	2.54	2.62	2.94
High	3.71	3.80	4.03	4.27

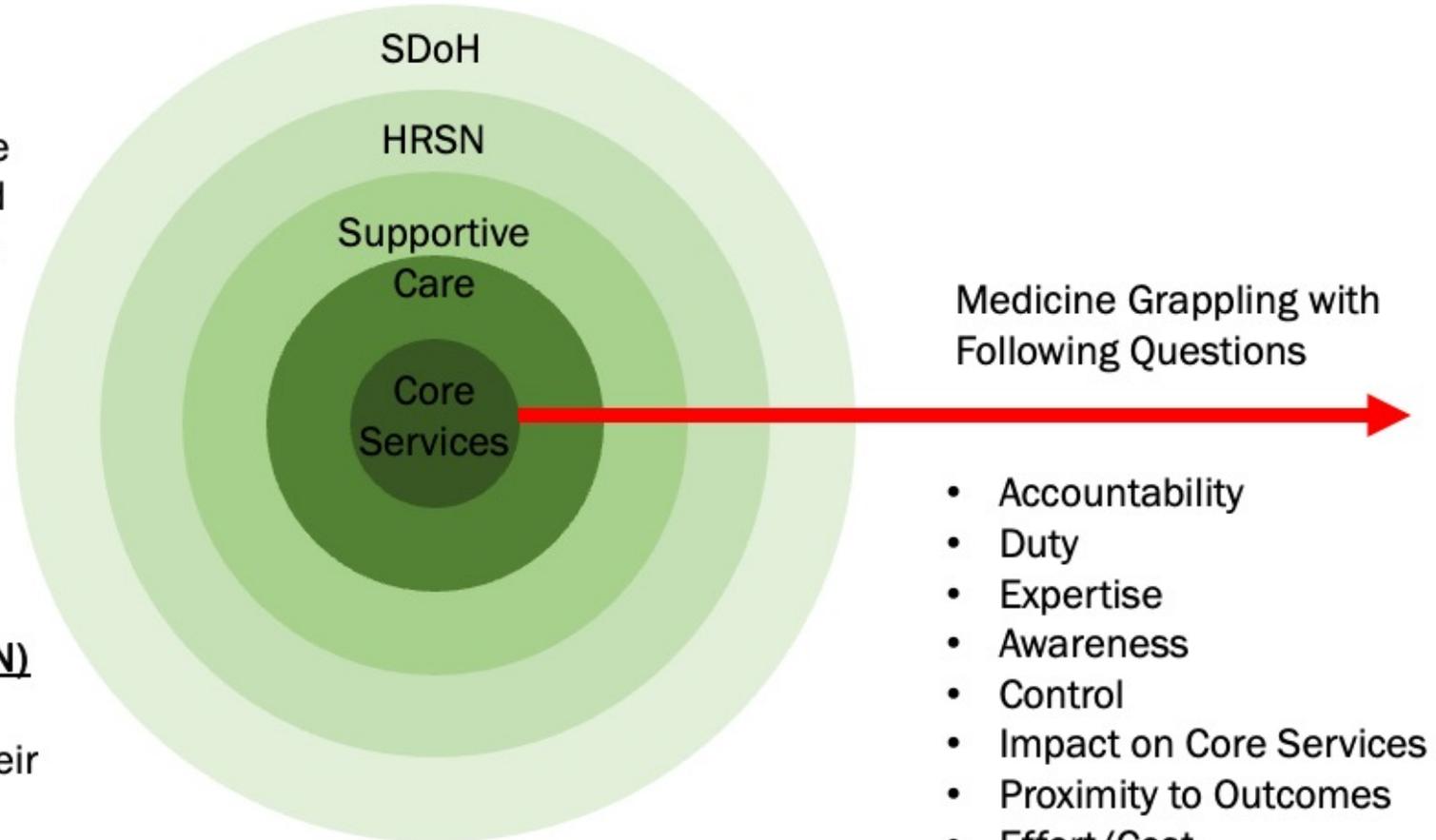
At what level are we accountable?

Social Determinants of Health (SDoH)

Conditions in the environment where people are born, grow, work, live and age that shape and influence health outcomes.

Health Related Social Needs (HRSN)

Social and economic needs that individuals experience that affect their ability to maintain health and well-being.



Medicine Grappling with Following Questions

- Accountability
- Duty
- Expertise
- Awareness
- Control
- Impact on Core Services
- Proximity to Outcomes
- Effort/Cost

Objectives

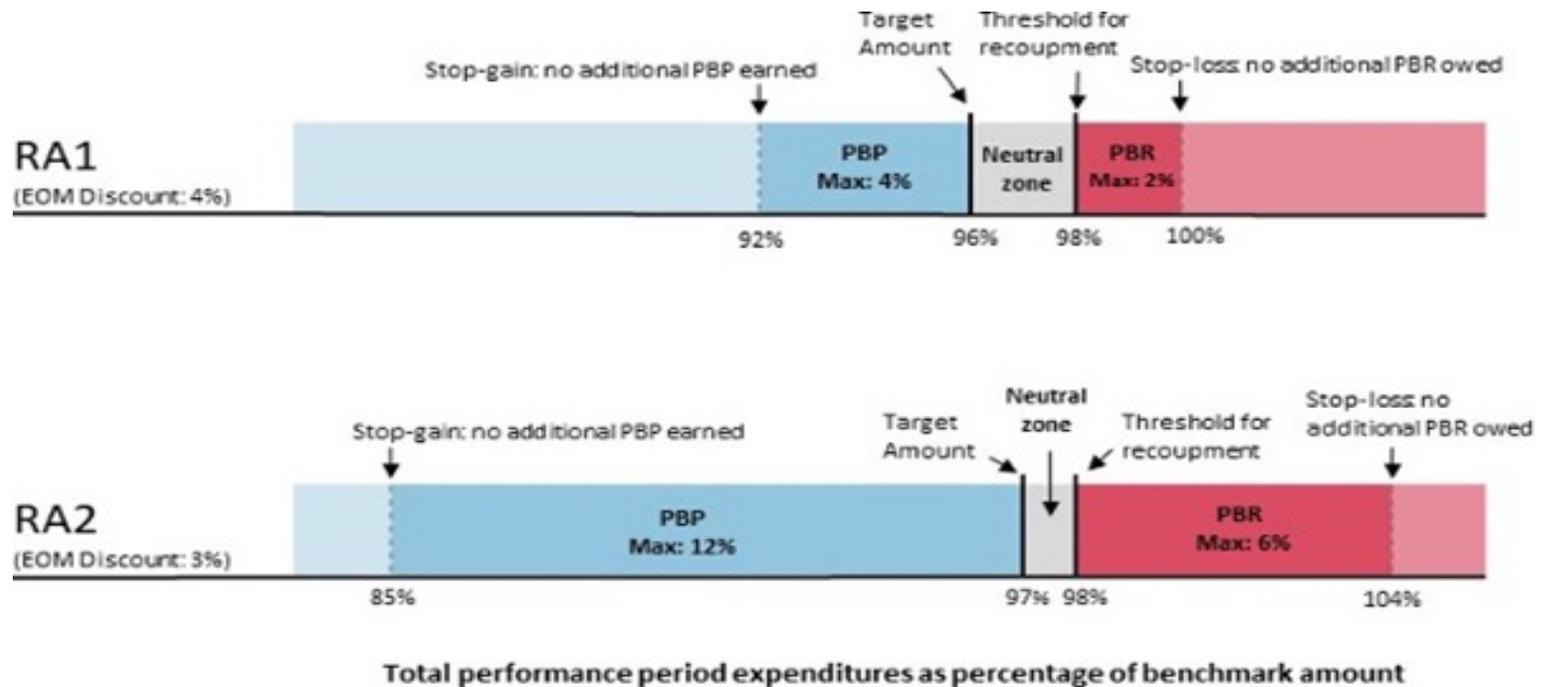
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FDA to require diversity plan for clinical trials

US regulatory agency makes 'big change' to increase the number of participants from under-represented groups in drug testing.



**ENHANCING
ONCOLOGY
MODEL**
SUPPORT NETWORK

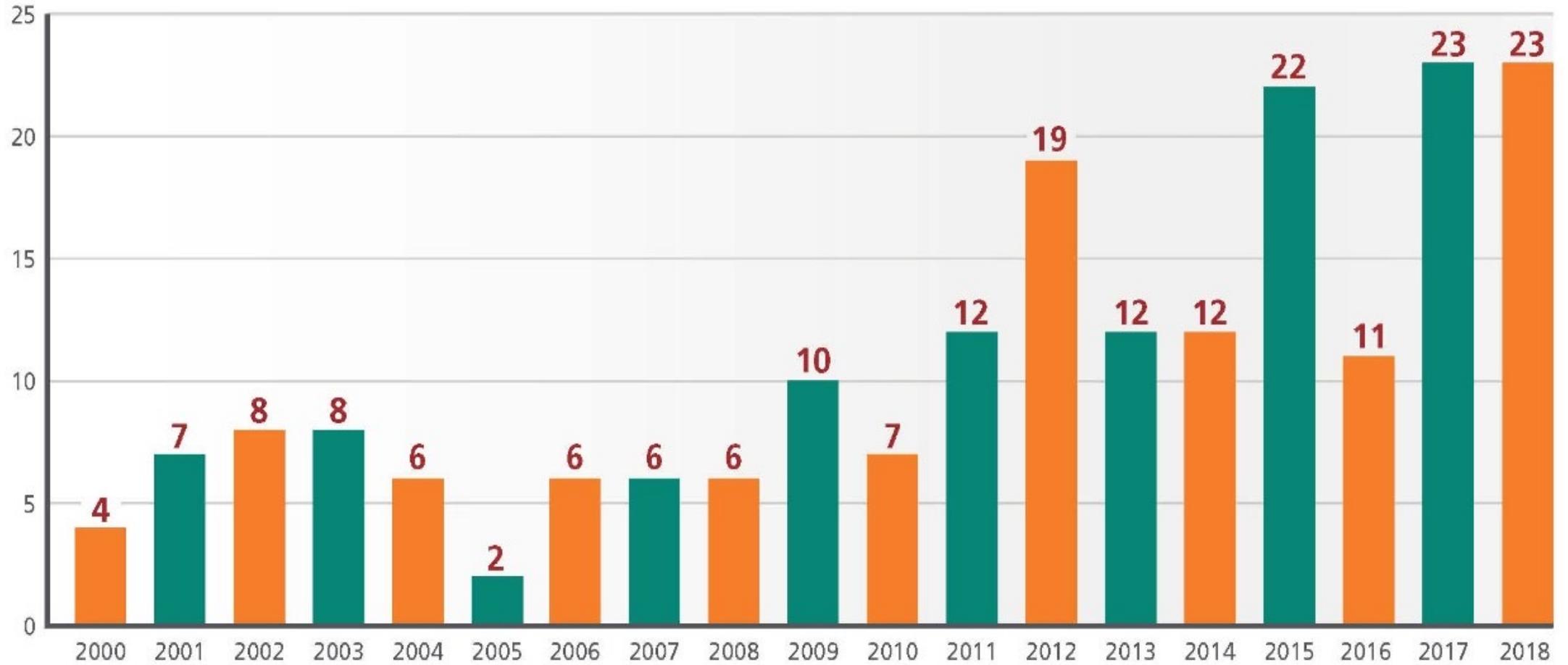


Enhancing Oncology Model

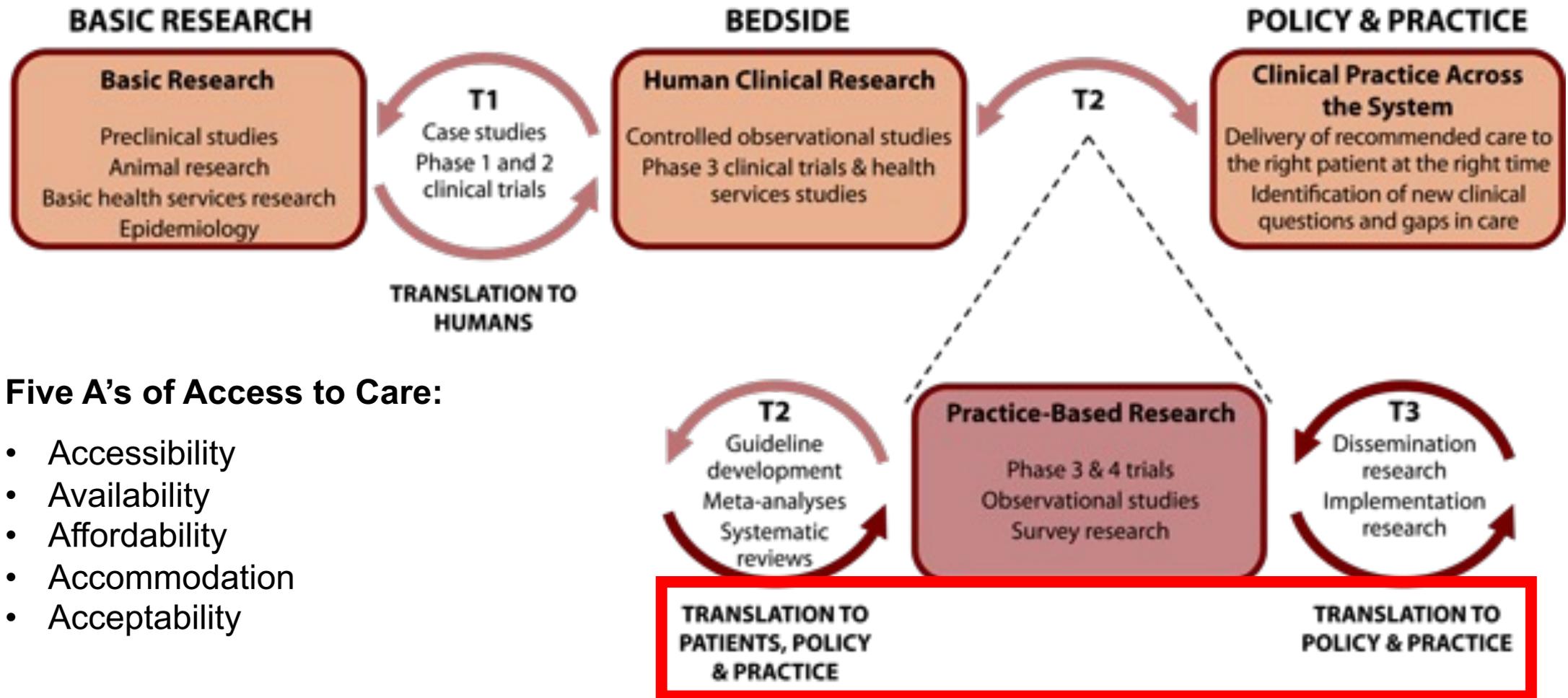
EOM seeks to improve quality of care and equitable health outcomes for all EOM beneficiaries, including but not limited to:

EOM Requirement	Description
1 Incentivize care for underserved communities	<p>Differential MEOS payment to support Enhanced Services (base: \$70 PBPM; \$30 PBPM, outside of TCOC accountability, for dual eligible beneficiaries)</p> <p>TCOC benchmark will be risk adjusted for multiple factors, including, but not limited to, dual status and low-income subsidy (LIS) status</p>
2 Collect beneficiary-level sociodemographic data	<p>EOM participants will collect and report beneficiary-level sociodemographic data to report to CMS for purposes of monitoring and evaluation</p>
3 Identify and address health-related social needs (HRSN)	<p>EOM participants will be required to use screening tools to screen for, at a minimum, three HRSN domains: transportation, food insecurity, and housing instability</p> <p>Example HRSN screening tools.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NCCN Distress Thermometer and Problem List • Accountable Health Communities (AHC) Screening Tool • Protocol for Responding to and Assessing Patient’s Assets, Risks, and Experiences (PRAPARE) Tool <p>Collect ePROs from patients, including a HRSN domain*</p>
4 Improved shared decision-making and care planning	<p>EOM participants will be required to develop a care plan with the patient, including discussion of prognosis and treatment goals, a plan for addressing psychosocial health needs, and estimated out-of-pocket costs</p>
5 Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI)	<p>EOM participants will be required to develop a health equity plan as part of using data for CQI</p>

ONCOLOGY DRUG APPROVALS BY YEAR



~17 years*



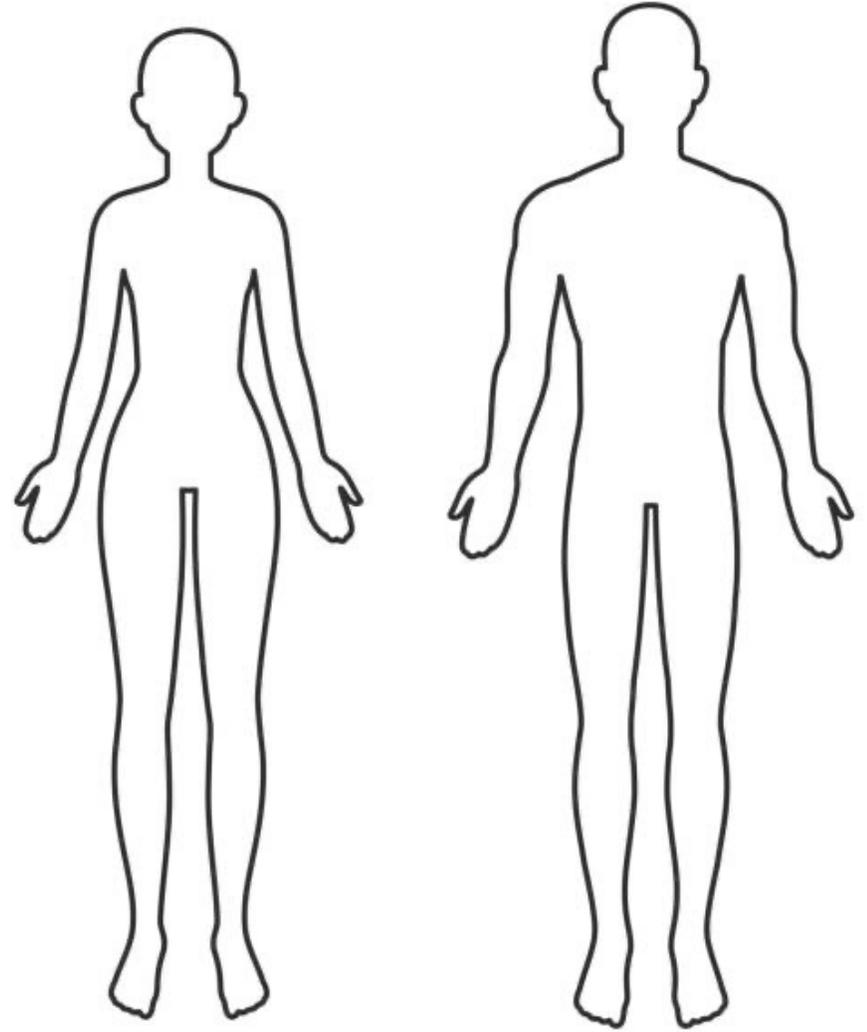
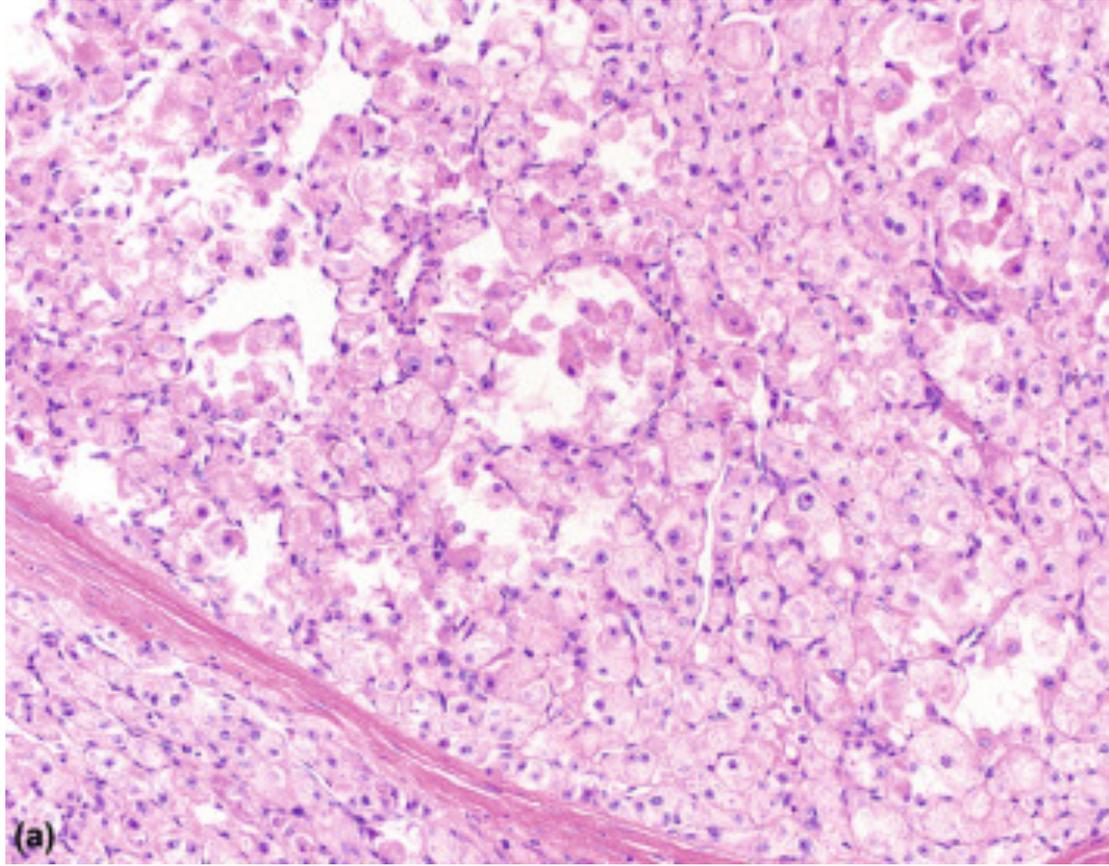
Five A's of Access to Care:

- Accessibility
- Availability
- Affordability
- Accommodation
- Acceptability

*Morris, Wooding, and Grant. *J R Soc. Med.* 2011

Westfall et al. Practice-based research – “blue Highways” on NIH roadmap. *JAMA.* 2007; 297(4): 403–406 (adaptation).

NSW Health and Medical Research Strategic Review 2012. NSW Ministry of Health. Page 4 (adaptation).



Trial Matching Services

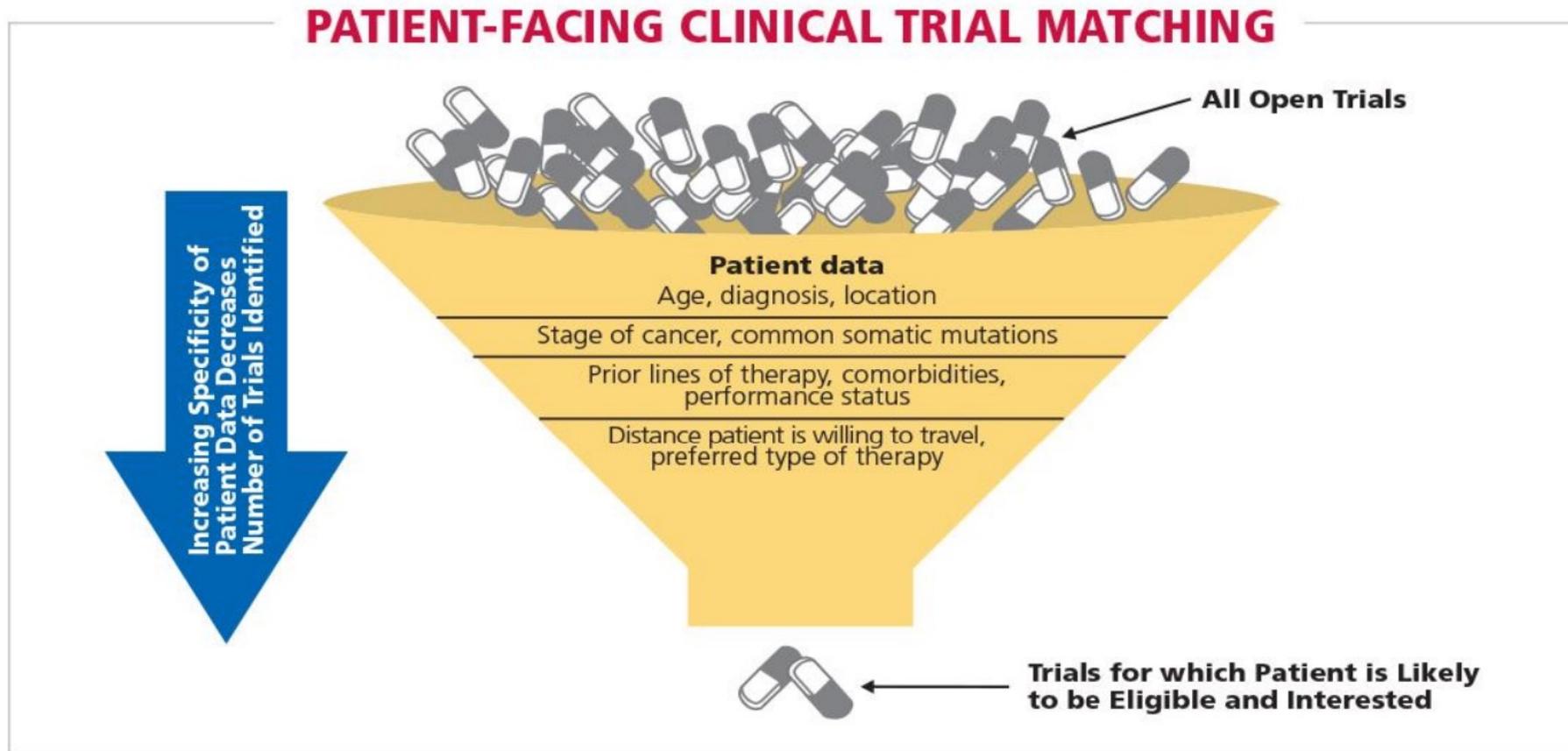


Figure 1: Consideration of additional patient data further refines the clinical trials considered for a patient and makes a match more accurate. Data may include clinical characteristics like genetic mutations, but may also include patient preference data such as location of the trial or type of therapy.

What is Equity?

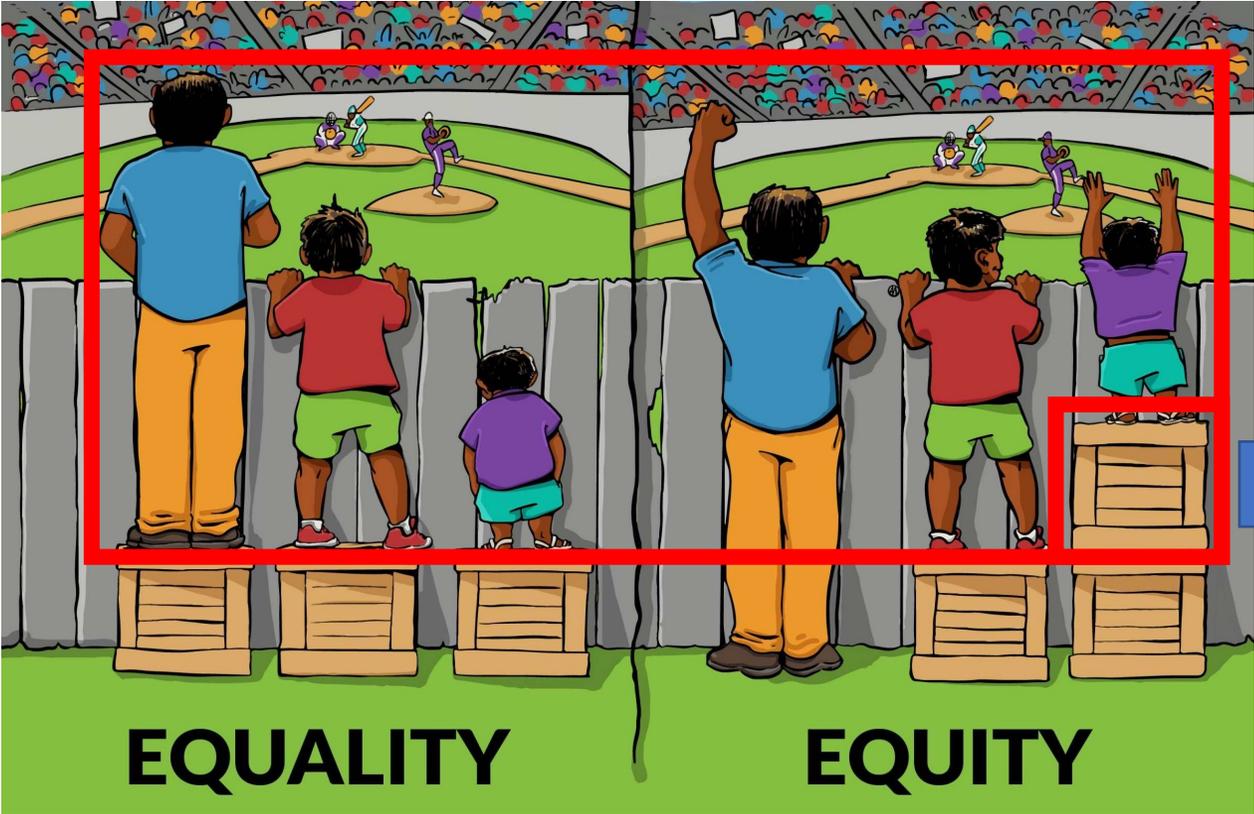
DISPARITY



???

Health *Equity*

DISPARITY



Get to know your people

Stakeholders

**Pharmaceutical
Company**

**Health Data
Company**

**Clinical
Practice**

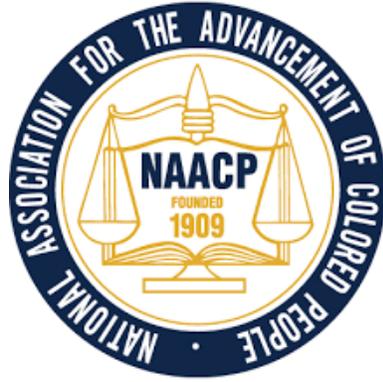
**Diagnostic
Company**

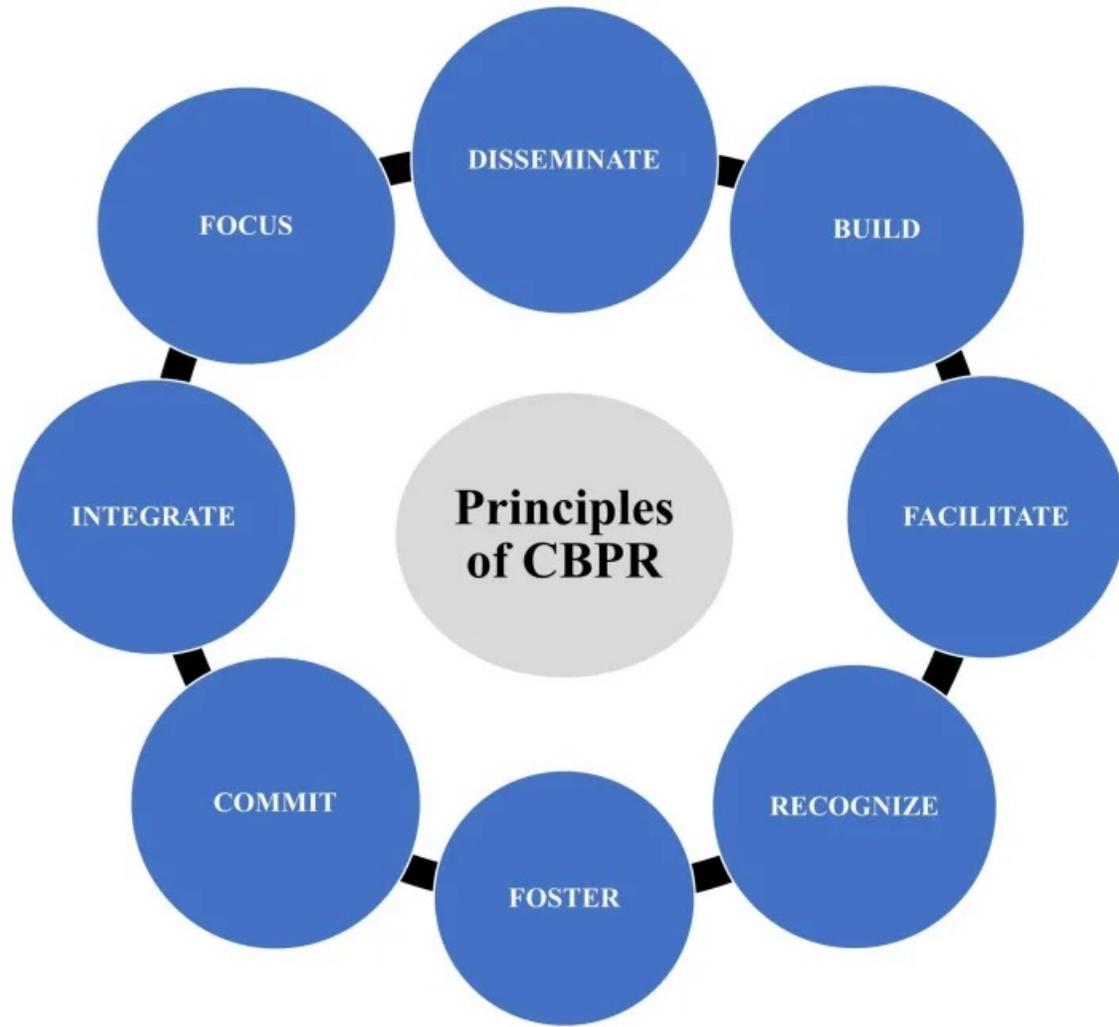
**Insurance
Company**

Patients

**Community
Organizations**







Community informed

Community as adviser

Community involved

Community as collaborator

Community directed

Community as leader

Greater Community Engagement

Strategic 'Logic Model' Framework

Inputs, Resources, Priorities, Plan

Operations, Delivery, Outcomes, Analytics

Workplace

Community

Partnering
Organizations

SOC
Services

Research
Services

SDOH
Services

Human
Resources

Community
Outreach

Strategy
Officer

Clinical
Operations

Clinical
Research

Social
Services

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion Officer

12 Ways CEOs And Companies Fail Chief Diversity Officers

4. CDOs Are Hired Into Haphazardly-Conceived Jobs

In too many businesses, CEOs jumped on the 'everybody else is doing it bandwagon' and created CDO positions without being entirely clear about what the role was really supposed to be and do. In the weeks after George Floyd's

5. CDO Roles Are Lopsidedly HR-Focused

Like financial operations, communications, human resources, marketing, and legal affairs, DEI should be a cross-business function. In many places it's isolated to one area of the company: HR. Some DEI professionals ascend to the CDO job

8. DEI Work Isn't Deeply Connected To The Business Strategy

It's painfully apparent to many CDOs that the work they lead isn't nearly as connected as it should be to other parts of the business. With the exception of demographic representation numbers, the CEO and executive leadership team usually don't have the same expectations for KPIs; the same shared, enterprise-wide accountability standards; and the same strategic concern for DEI as they do other things. Most CDOs strongly believe that good business strategy has DEI deeply, measurably, and sustainably imbedded into its every dimension.

Objectives

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Tennessee Oncology IMPACT Program

- Advanced Practice Provider (Leadership)
- Four Regions: North, South, East, Central
- Three Domains
 1. Service
 2. Education
 3. Advocacy

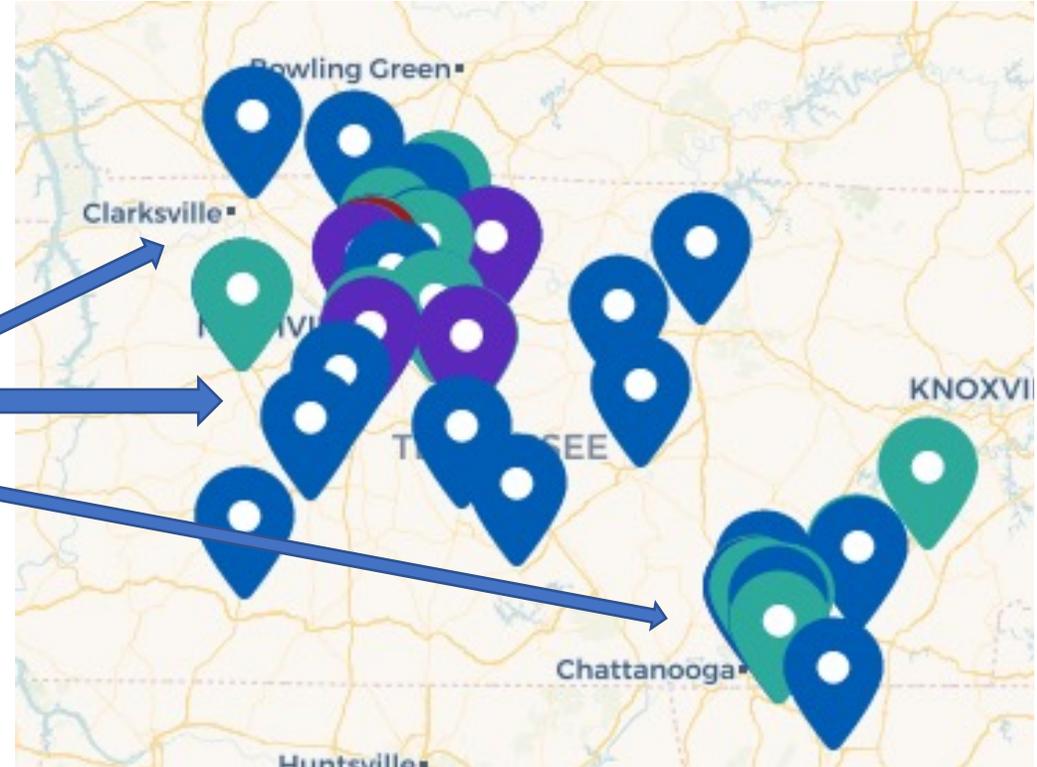
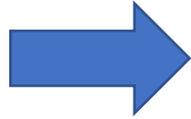


Volunteer Recruitment

Strategy:

- Align outreach efforts with Tennessee Oncology's core mission
- Build capacity by growing volunteers, training pipeline
- Improve sustainability through replicating successful projects

Tennessee Oncology “Food is Medicine” Program



THOUGHT EXPERIMENT:

Replace “DRUG” with “Health Related Social Need”

Could current infrastructure, policies, and processes be reconfigured to help?

Tennessee Oncology “NEST” Program

- NEST = Navigated, Embedded, Supportive Care via Telehealth



- Expands access to Supportive Services to remote rural communities
- Hybridized telehealth with local clinic navigation/support
- Community guidance and feedback via longitudinal Advisory Boards

Other Upcoming Projects

- Patient Intake Process
 - Accessible (language, literacy, etc.)
 - Action Oriented (responses linked to orders)
 - Standardization (identify opportunities, subgroup trends)
- Wellness Center
 - Vendor Space, Link with Trainees
 - Spiritual, Mental, Physical, Social Services
 - Community Event Space
- Reimbursement
 - Principle Illness Navigation
 - Principle Care Management
 - Chronic Care Management

Take Aways

- Better systems are more equitable
- Equity is foundational across cancer care services
- Make it Easy – Repurpose Current Operations for HRSN/SDOH
- Venturing out always begins with a first step
- Stay Humble and Listen – YOU ARE NOT THE EXPERT
- Build Human Capacity – which is aligned with support diverse people
- Commit and Hold Yourself Accountable
- Keep showing up!!!



QUESTIONS?

Thank You!

Richard L. Martin III, MD, MPH

We're taking an Advocacy Chat Break for August.
See you Wednesday, September 18, at 12:00 pm ET

