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TITLE: Motivators and Barriers to Seeking Prostate Cancer
Screening and Treatment of Urban African-American Men

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13. ABSTRACT (Maximum 200 Words) African American men are disproportionately affected by prostate cancer. In order to positively impact this disease, early interventions that encourage early detection and treatment are essential. The overall objective of this study is to explore motivators and barriers to seeking prostate cancer screening and treatment among urban African-American men. The proposed study has 2 phases. During phase 1, ethnographic interviews will be conducted with African-American men and other individuals who have insight into their culture. These other individuals could include health care providers and significant others of African-American men. Twenty-two informants were interviewed. After analysis of the qualitative data, the Plowden/Young Prostate Cancer Belief Instrument was refined. Psychometric properties of the instrument will be established, and data collection will begin. The findings will be utilized to design a culturally appropriate intervention that will motivate urban African-American men to seek early prostate cancer screening, participate in clinical trials, and seek effective treatment.				
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Table of Contents

Cover.....	1
SF 298.....	2
Table of Contents.....	3
Introduction.....	4
Body.....	6
Key Research Accomplishments.....	7
Reportable Outcomes.....	7
Conclusions.....	8
References.....	
Appendices.....	

Statement of Work

The overall aim of this 2-phase study is to explore motivators and barriers to seeking prostate cancer screening and treatment among urban African-American men. Ethnographic interviews will be conducted with African-American men and other individuals who have insight into their culture. An estimated 24 individuals will be interviewed. After analysis of the qualitative data, the Plowden/Young Prostate Cancer Belief Instrument will be refined and tested. An additional 350 men will be recruited to complete the instrument. After establishing the psychometric properties of the instrument, results will be analyzed. The results will be used design a culturally appropriate intervention that will motivate urban African-American men to seek early prostate cancer screening, participate in clinical trials, and seek effective treatment. Urban African American men will be recruited for the project. Inclusion criteria will include urban African-American men above the age of 40. The participants must be able to complete a study instrument and participate in a focus group. Exclusion criteria will be any man unable to complete the instrument or participate in an interview. These men will be recruited from community-based organizations in the Baltimore City and surrounding counties.

Motivators and Barriers to Seeking Prostate Cancer Screening and Treatment of Urban African-American Men.

Task 1: Project startup and program development. (Months 1-3)

Project startup and program development. (Months 1-3)

- a. Meeting with collaborating investigator to discuss interviews. A minimum of weekly meetings will be held between Principle Investigator and collaborator.
- b. Consult with urologists, oncologists, and other health care practitioners to discuss strategies for recruitment of clients for interview and instrument completion.
- c. Consult with community organizations to discuss recruitment of clients.
- d. Purchase laptop computer for data collection.
- e. Hire research staff- research assistant and transcriptionist.
- f. Consult with biostatistician
- g. Estimate content validity of instrument

Task 2. Assess prostate cancer beliefs, motivators, and barriers beliefs of urban African-American men in Baltimore, MD and surrounding counties. (Months 3-9)

- a. Obtain Institutional Review Board approval from University of Maryland, Baltimore.
- b. Recruit African-American men and others for the ethnographic interviews and instrument evaluation.
- c. Conduct interviews to explore motivators and barriers and assess face validity of instrument. Interviews will continue until saturation has been reached (approximately 24 individuals).

- d. Assess psychometric properties of instrument.
- e. Data analysis- qualitative and quantitative
- f. Continue to meet with collaborating investigator to discuss progress, item refinement, and instrument testing.

Task 3. Formulation of Research questions for further evaluation-Idea Award proposal (Months 9-12)

- a. Analyze data gathered from interviews and instrument.
- b. Formulate research question from data.
- c. Submit final report summarizing project to DOD.
- d. Summarize findings for presentation at research conference and scholarly journal.
- e. Begin draft of manuscript and publication.
- f. Design intervention for implementation.

Body

Based on the recommendations of the Human Subjects Protection Specialist, the project was divided into 2 distinct phases. A separate proposal was submitted for each phase. Approval for recruitment of informants for phase I was not received until January 2002. The final survey has been developed and initial testing has been completed. University of Maryland IRB approval has been obtained. I am currently waiting on DOD human subjects approval.

The following research tasks have been accomplished:

1. Dr. Plowden completed his post-doctoral training at Johns Hopkins school of public health. (Task I)
2. Dr. Plowden is completing advance methods course at University of Maryland, Baltimore County. Specially, advanced statistics and survey development courses. (Task I)
3. Novella Jackson was hired as a research assistant in 2002. She assisted with conducting general informant interviewing and analyzing qualitative data (Task I)
4. Informants have been recruited and interviews completed. Data have been analyzed, and the instrument has been revised. (Task II)
5. Manuscript has been revised for Oncology Nursing Forum (Task III). A copy of the article was sent with the last report.
6. Proposal for Disparity announcement was completed and submitted to Department of Defense with a positive feedback. (Task III)

Based on the recommendations of the Human Subjects Protection Specialist, the project was divided into 2 distinct phases. A separate proposal was submitted for each phase. Phase I of the study has been completed. Informants have been recruited and interviewed. Data analysis has been completed. Phase II of this study will be testing of an instrument developed from phase I data. This report will reflect work completed during phase I. Phase II is under human subjects review.

Task I: Project startup and program development. (Months 1-3)

7. A research assistant was hired to assist with data collection and analysis. This individual was a graduate student majoring in community health nursing. Due to the limited number of male students enrolled in the school of nursing, an African American female was hired as a research assistant. Data collection was completed. Dr. Plowden completed his Post-Doctoral studies at Johns Hopkins University and continues to study at the University of Maryland Baltimore County in the department of sociology. Dr. Plowden continues to build on the classes taken during phase I of this study. He continues to participate in the Baltimore City Prostate Cancer Demonstration Project. This project is a multidisciplinary initiative at Johns Hopkins School of Public Health as a part of the cigarette restitution fund to decrease prostate cancer disparity among African American men. This allowed increase interaction with epidemiologist, statisticians, and

community groups. As a member of this group, Dr. Plowden continued to assist team members with recruitment strategies. No new Equipment was purchased during this time.

Task II: Assess prostate cancer beliefs, motivators, and barriers beliefs of urban African-American men in Baltimore, MD and surrounding counties. (Months 3-9)

After analyzing the data, several social factors were identified as significant motivators of prostate cancer screening for urban Black men. These factors included: 1) Kinship/significant others; 2) knowledge; and 3) media/technology. A manuscript was developed that further explains the findings. A manuscript was submitted and revised to the Oncology Nursing Forum Journal. No men have been recruited for phase II. For Phase II, University of Maryland IRB approval was obtained, but I am still awaiting human subjects approval from DOD.

Task III. Formulation of Research questions for further evaluation-Idea Award proposal.

Based on phase I data, a proposal was submitted entitled, "Baltimore City Faith-Based Prostate Cancer Prevention and Control Coalition" to the Health Disparity Research- Prostate Scholar Project (W81XWH-04-1-0297). Initial review and revisions have been completed. The primary purpose of this study is to test an investigator developed community-based intervention that explores the impact of peer-outreach workers on prostate cancer knowledge, perceived benefit and barriers, and overall screening behavior. The target sample for this study will be Black men over age 40 who have never participated in prostate cancer screening. Achievement of this objective will result in an increase in prostate cancer knowledge, an increase in perceived benefit prostate cancer screening and treatment; a decrease in perceived barrier to screening, and an increase in screening among men in the intervention group. University of Maryland IRB approval has been obtained for this study. Revisions have been made and submitted to DOD human subjects committee for full approval.

Key Research Accomplishments:

- IRB approval of phase II.
- Completion of Phase I and development of survey
- Submission and funding of intervention study
- Completion of Post-Doctoral studies

Reportable Outcomes:

A manuscript has been completed and revised with phase I data. The article was submitted to the Oncology Nursing Forum. Funding of intervention study by Department of Defense. Full human subjects approval from DOD is pending. No human subjects have been recruited since phase I of this study.

Conclusion:

A current myth about Black men is that they are a hard to reach group. Because of this assumption, may be left out of many innovative strategies. By identifying factors associated with prostate cancer among urban Black men, these finding have the potential for increasing enrollment in prevention strategies and impacting the prostate cancer disparity. The need to identify factors that will reduce disparity among racial and ethnic population is the priority for most research agencies. Building on the finding of this study, specific interventions should be developed, tested, and measured quantitatively. Agencies should take an active role in educating communities regarding motivating strategies for urban Black and incorporate them into any outreach activity.

The men in this study expressed an interest in participating in prostate cancer prevention strategies that were culturally appropriate. Outreach activities should strive to create culturally appropriate environment that reduce barriers to participating in screening activities for Black men. Finding from this study and other studies begin to provide insight into reaching Black men and specific motivators. While generalization is limited, this study provides a foundation upon which other intervention might be developed.