



# Equity and Equality for Minorities in Cancer Care

Jorge J. Nieva M.D.

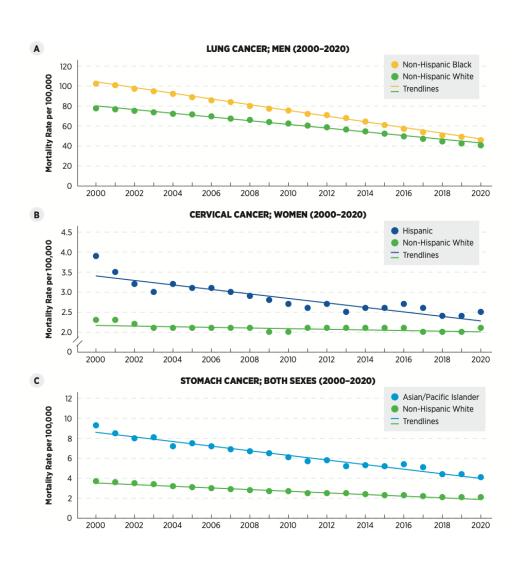
**USC/Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center** 

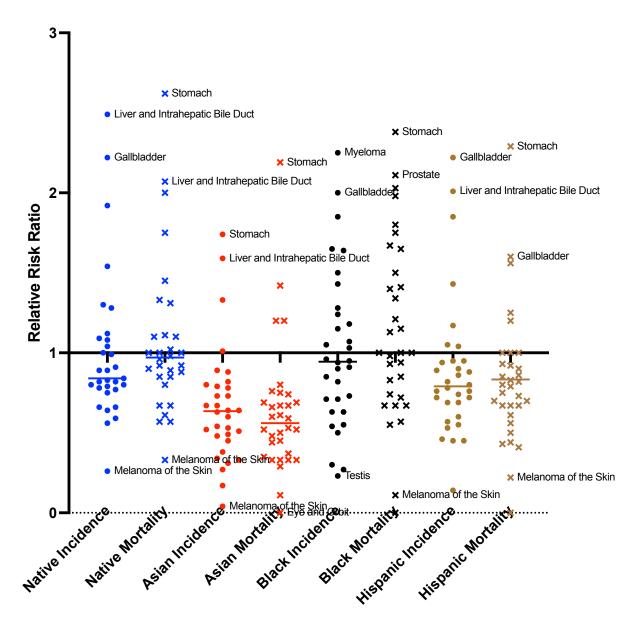
#### Outline

- Review treatment patterns that lead to disparities
  - Financial and Social Determinants of Health
  - Biological factors and epidemiological distributions
- Discuss diagnosis and workup patterns that lead to disparities
- Explore structural issues related to clinical trial enrollment

• My Bias: I am a lung cancer doctor and will demonstrate my bias by focusing on disparities related to lung cancer care.

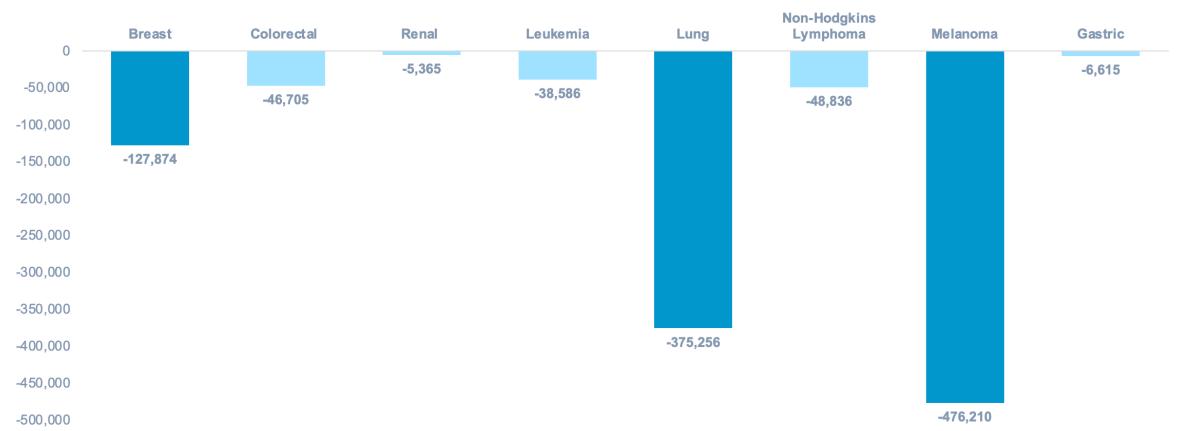
### Improvement in Cancer Disparities





# New Medicines Are Associated with Reduced Mortality Across Many Forms of Cancer, Including Lung Cancer<sup>1</sup>

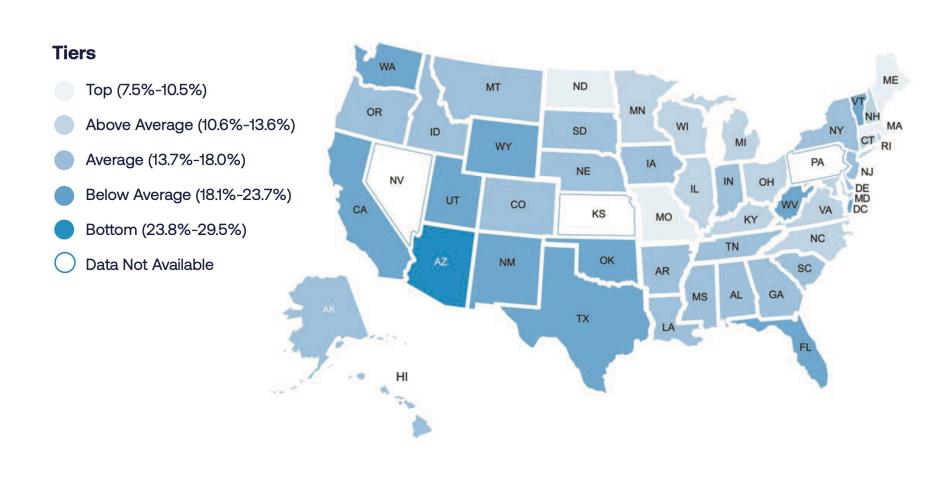
#### Change in Total Deaths Associated with New Cancer Medicines in the U.S., 2000-2016\* \*\*



<sup>\*</sup>Results are show for the 15 most common tumor types with statistically significant results.

<sup>\*\*106</sup> new drugs were approved in 173 indications from 2000 to 2016 across 15 most common tumor types.

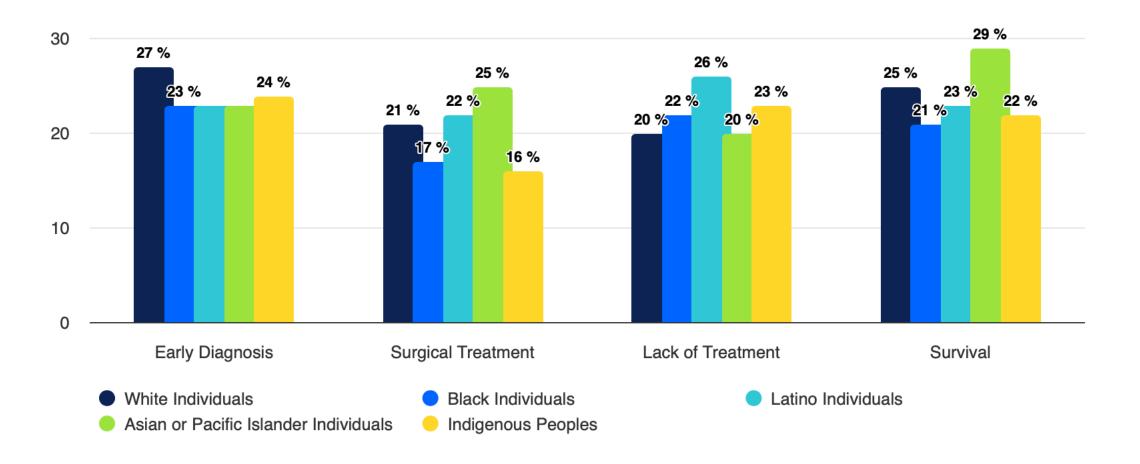
## Rates of "no treatment" for lung cancer





## Racial Disparities in Lung Cancer

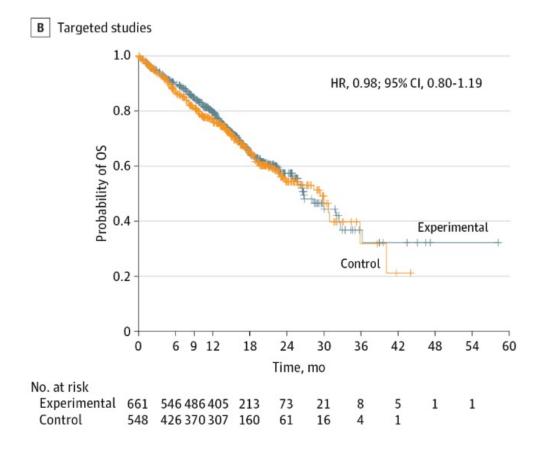
Latinos have the highest rates of no treatment, Blacks have the worst survival



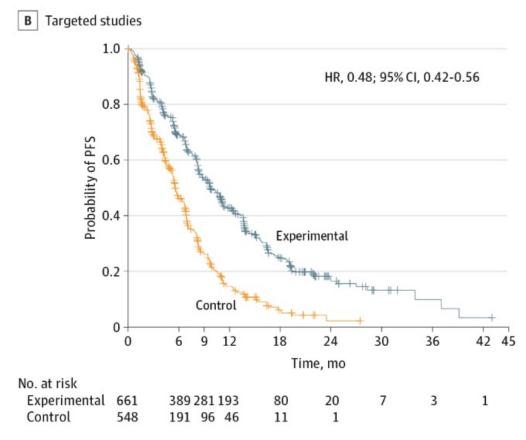
## The Impact of Targeted Therapy

FDA meta-analysis





#### **Progression Free Survival**



## Not all races benefit from targeted therapy

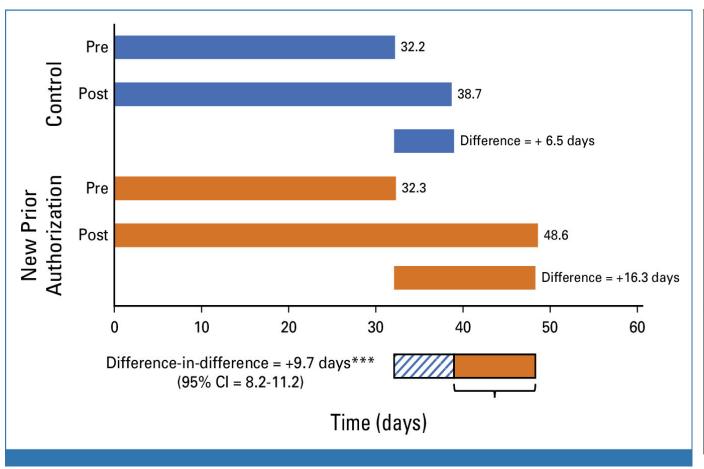
TABLE 2. Mutation Prevalence by Race

Mutation N = 15,306	Black n = 3,363	White n = 9,507	Hispanic n = 1,989	Asian n = 447
<i>EGFR</i> n = 9,459	6 (5 to 7)	12 (11 to 13)	35 (33 to 37)	46 (40 to 51)
<i>BRAF</i> n = 2,535	1 (0 to 2)	3 (2 to 3)	4 (1 to 18)	2 (0 to 11)
<i>ROS-1</i> n = 686	0 (0 to 1)	1 (0 to 3)	NA	0
<i>ALK</i> n = 2,626	1 (0 to 2)	2 (1 to 3)	7 (2 to 23)	6 (1 to 11)

NOTE. % (95% CI), n = number tested.

Abbreviation: NA, not available.

# Impact of Preauthorization in Oncology for Targeted Therapy

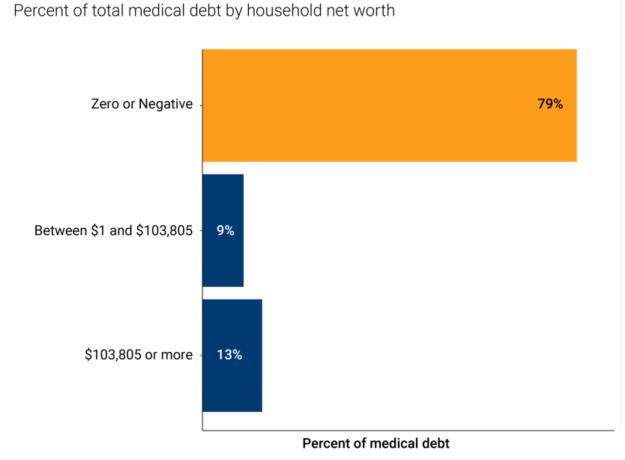


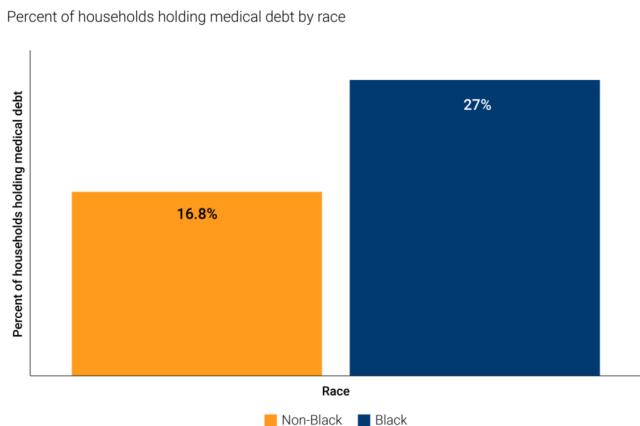
	Prior authorization required	Standard
Stopped <120 days	5.8%	1.4%
Delayed fill >30 days	21.7%	7.1%

# Most Common NSCLC Therapies Used by Race<sup>1</sup>

First-line regimen	NSCLC overall (n=14,768)	White (n=9,793)	Black or African American (n=1,288)
Carboplatin, Pembrolizumab, Pemetrexed	2933 (19.9)	1936 (19.8)	291 (22.6)
Carboplatin, Paclitaxel	2428 (16.4)	1617 (16.5)	240 (18.6)
Pembrolizumab	2042 (13.8)	1450 (14.8)	148 (11.5)
Carboplatin, Pemetrexed	944 (6.4)	618 (6.3)	81 (6.3)
Osimertinib	819 (5.5)	447 (4.6)	52 (4.0)
Nivolumab	537 (3.6)	377 (3.8)	59 (4.6)
Carboplatin, Paclitaxel, Pembrolizumab	499 (3.4)	348 (3.6)	37 (2.9)
Carboplatin, Paclitaxel Protein-Bound	352 (2.4)	246 (2.5)	37 (2.9)
Carboplatin, Paclitaxel Protein-Bound, Pembrolizumab	360 (2.4)	234 (2.4)	31 (2.4)
Bevacizumab, Carboplatin, Pemetrexed	334 (2.3)	218 (2.2)	28 (2.2)

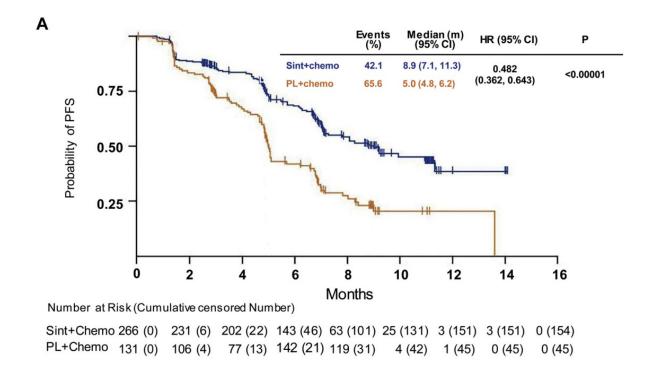
#### Medical Debt<sup>1</sup>





#### ORIENT-11 as a Case Study<sup>1</sup>

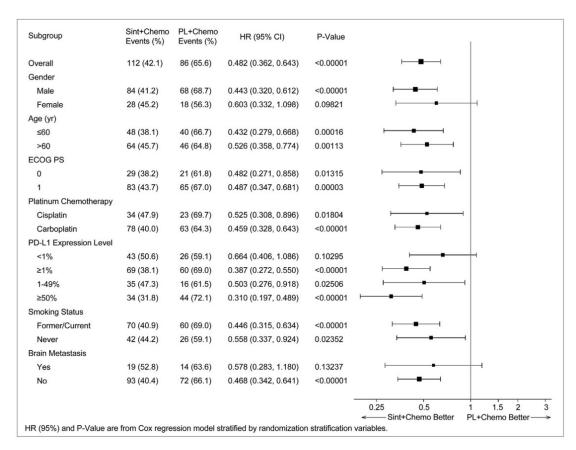
#### Kaplan-Meier plots for PFS in all randomized patients



#### Generalizability/applicability to US population?

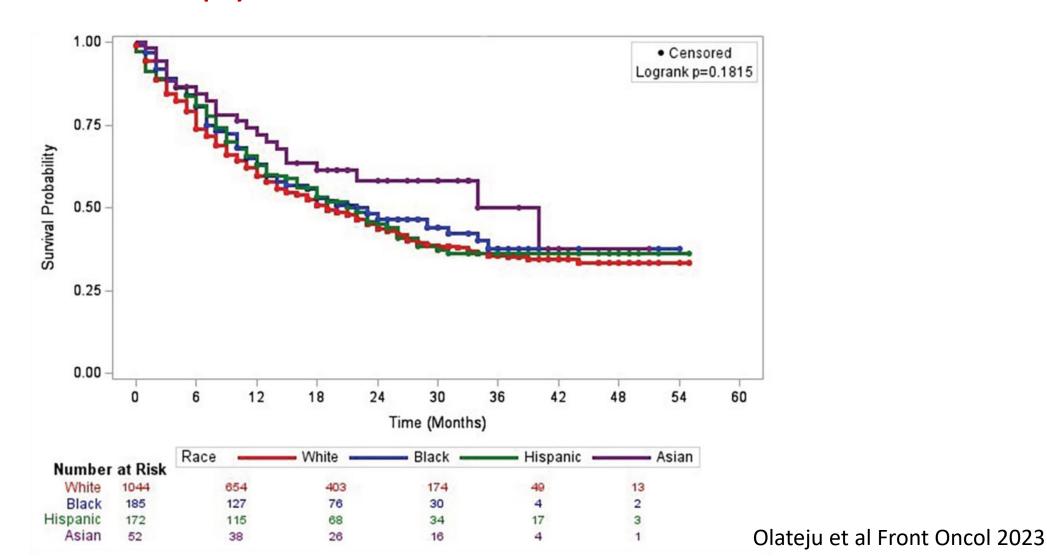
- Similar clinical practice standards between US and China
- Similar PK and PD of sintilimab in US and Chinese patients
- Similar efficacy and safety of sintilimab in US and Chinese patients

### Forest plot of HRs for PFS according to patient characteristics at baseline

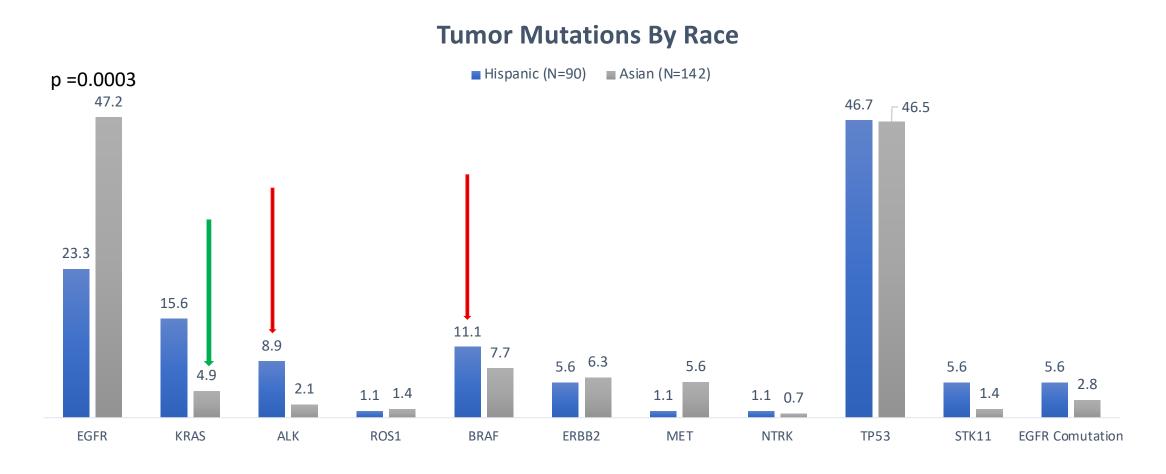


1. Yang Y et al. J Thorac Oncol. 2020;15(10):1636-1646.

# Asian patients have Similar Outcomes when Immunotherapy is used.



## Actionable Biomarkers Differ by Race



#### Gaps and Disparities in Biomarker Testing in NSCLC

#### **MYLUNG Consortium**

Test Types	Overall (N = 3,474)	Nonsquamous (n = 2,820)
EGFR	70%	76%
ALK	70%	76%
ROS1	68%	73%
BRAF	55%	59%
PD-L1	83%	83%
Any biomarker	90%	91%
All 5 biomarker tests	46%	49%
NGS	37%	39%

Study Period: April 2018 to March 2020

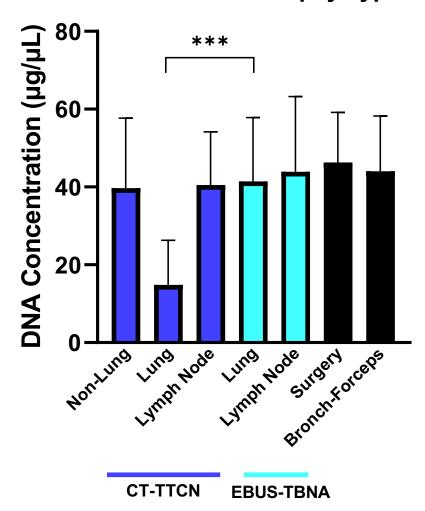
#### **FLATIRON EHR-Derived Data**

	NSCLC Overall (N = 14,768)	White (n = 9,793)	Black/AA (n = 1,288)	P, White vs Black/AA
All patients with NSCLC				
Ever tested	11 207 /76 50/\	7,477 (76.4%)	948 (73.6%)	.03
Tested prior to 1L therapy	11,297 (76.5%)	6,064 (61.9%)	784 (60.9%)	.47
Ever NGS tested	7,185 (48.7%)	4,904 (50.1%)	513 (39.8%)	< .0001
NGS tested prior to 1L therapy		3,081 (31.5%)	332 (25.8%)	< .0001
	Nonsquamous (n = 10,333)	White (n = 6,705)	Black/AA (n = 922)	P, White vs Black/AA
Patients with nonsquamous NSCLC				
Ever tested	0.706 (05.00/)	5,699 (85.0%)	764 (82.9%)	.09
Tested prior to 1L therapy	8,786 (85.0%)	4,881 (72.8%)	662 (71.8%)	.52
Ever NGS tested	5,494 (53.2%)	3,668 (54.7%)	404 (43.8%)	< .0001
NGS tested prior to 1L therapy	3,434 (33.270)	2,452 (36.6%)	274 (29.7%)	< .0001
		• •	• • •	

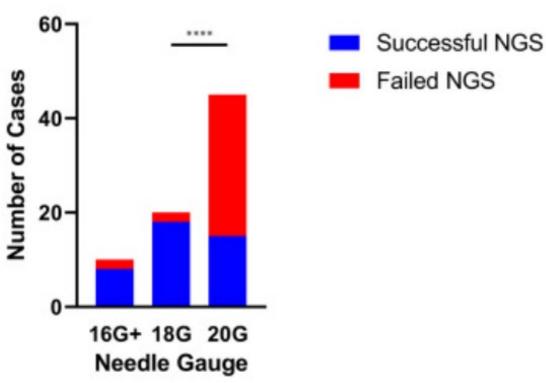
Still missing the mark overall, and there are notable disparities in testing

## Needle Gauge Matters

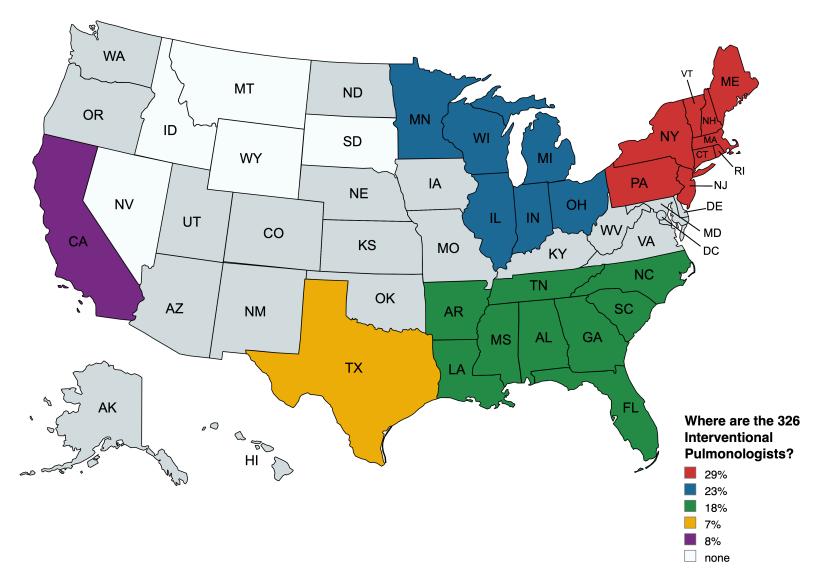
**DNA Yield Based on Biopsy Type** 



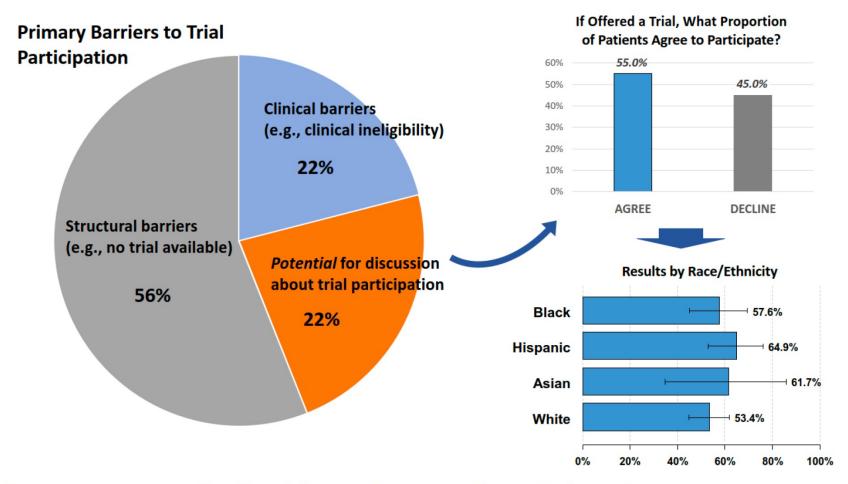




# Can anyone have a bronchoscopic biopsy?

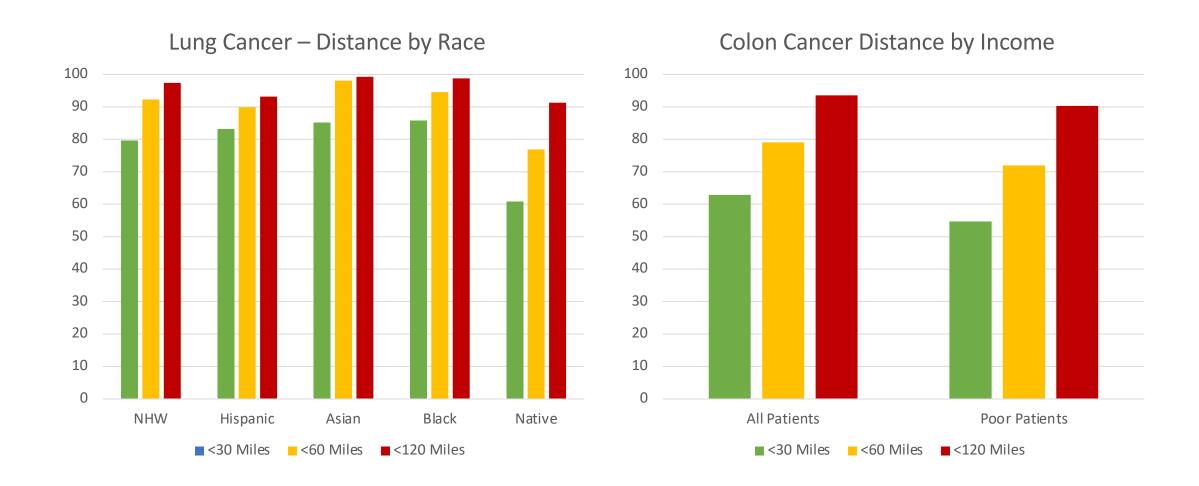


#### Real Barriers to Clinical Trial Participation



Osarogiagbon RU, Sineshaw HM, Unger JM, Acuña-Villaorduña A, Goel S. Am Soc Clin Oncol Educ Book. 2021 Mar;41:1-13. PMID: 33830825.

## Probability that you live close to a clinical trial



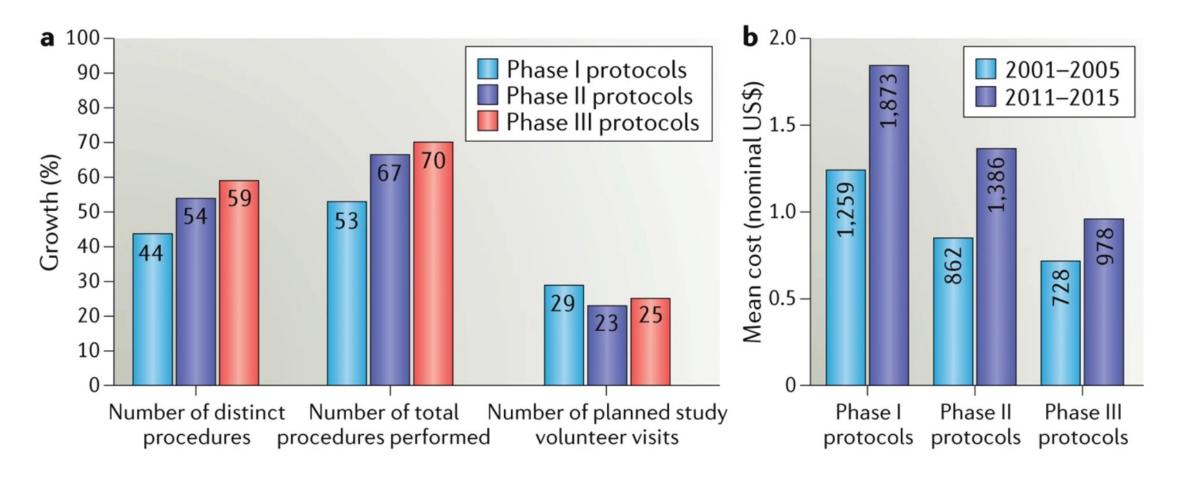
## Why few clinical trials in small communities?

A survey of 61 centers

- CTO median employees 104 (4-811)
- Median analytic cases 3856
- Annual budget \$8.2M (.25M-23.9M)
- Median days to activation 167
- Median accruals per center 480 (5-6271)
- Median trials per center 282 (31-1833)
- Median accruals per trial 1.7

There is a structural bias in our clinical trial system favoring urban centers, those with philanthropic support and well insured patients

#### Trends in Clinical Trial Complexity and Cost

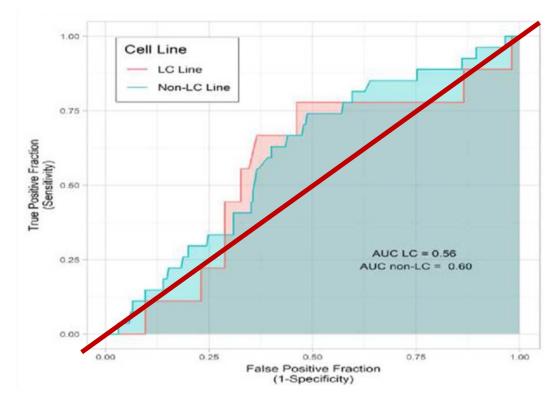


## Preclinical Research Challenges

#### **Lack of Diversity in Cell Lines**

- 800 Lung Cancer Cell Lines
- Most are isogenic or derived from multiple sites on same patients
- 30/230 cell lines form Black patients (ranging from 56-91% African ancestry)

#### **Lack of Prediction of Drug Success**





#### Conclusions

- Good News! Disparities in cancer outcomes are improving!
- Causes of disparities may be financial, biological or structural
- Those of us who treat cancer should recognize when we are building systems and structures that have the potential to worsen disparities.

# Thank You!