



# The Navigation Perspective

**EM**PACT

# Overview

In this presentation, you will learn about:

**Minority participation in clinical trials**

**Navigation**

**Navigator's perspective towards recruitment challenges**

# Clinical Trial Participation in the U.S.

Clinical trial participation has always been low for all adult populations, especially for minorities and underserved communities

Only about  
**3-5%**

of the 10.1 million adults with cancer in the U.S. participate in cancer clinical trials. This low rate stands in sharp contrast to the 60% participation of children with cancer.

(Murthy VH et al. 2004)

From 2002-2008, only

**0.33%**

California cancer patients enrolled in clinical trials. Even lower enrollment was seen among all minority groups (0.24-0.29%).

(Chow et. al. 2013)

# Clinical Trial Participation Among Underserved Populations

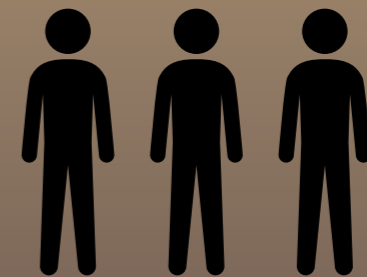
Populations with lowest clinical trials participation:



low income



elderly



racial/ethnic minorities



rural



regional



women

Unfortunately, these same populations also bear a disproportionate burden of cancer morbidity and mortality.

# How can we improve clinical trials participation rates?



- Establish trust between participants and the clinical trial team.
- Integrate Patient Navigators into the clinical trial teams.
- Build trust within the ‘expanded’ clinical trials team that includes navigators and participants.

# Clinical Trials Team

## What is a team?

A group of people with a full set of complementary skills required to complete a task, job, or project.

## Who is on the clinical trials team?

- Physicians
- Nurses
- Researchers
- Patient Navigators
- Social Workers
- Support Staff



[www.businessdictionary.com/  
definition/team.html](http://www.businessdictionary.com/definition/team.html)

# Team Dynamics Optimize Trust

## Stages of Team Development

Forming, Storming, Norming, Performing

## Group Maintenance Behavior

Integrate team work

## Self-managing Multicultural

## Team Process and Task Behavior

Tasks, Maintenance

## Cohesion

Remain in group

## Communication and Decision Making

Build consensus  
Listening

# Clinical Trials Team

**How does a highly functioning clinical trials team work?**

- Interdependence.
- Shared authority and responsibility.
- Collectively accountable.
- Common goals and shared rewards.
- Respect each member's expertise.



**Do the team members...**

- like each other?
- listen to each other?
- define their work pace individually?
- act cohesively to achieve their goals?



# Overview

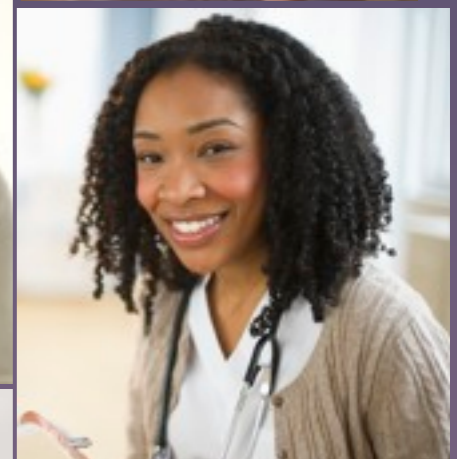
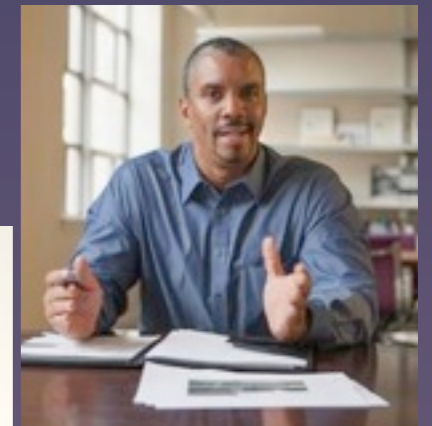
Minority participation in clinical trials

Navigation

Navigator's perspective towards recruitment challenges

# Who are Patient Navigators?

- Trained healthcare workers, including lay navigators and professionals such as nurses and social workers.
- People who act as the support hub and provide guidance for all aspects of participants' movement through a clinical trial and the health care system.
- They build trust, rapport, and effective working relationships with individuals and organizations.



# Who is a Patient Navigator?

The navigator is an agent of change of the community and models the values that are inclusive, democratic, honest, fair, equitable, just, and transparent.

**Important characteristics of patient navigators include:**

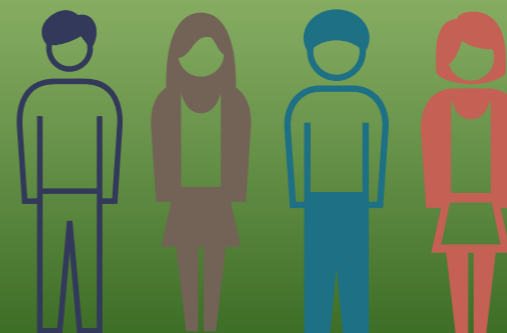
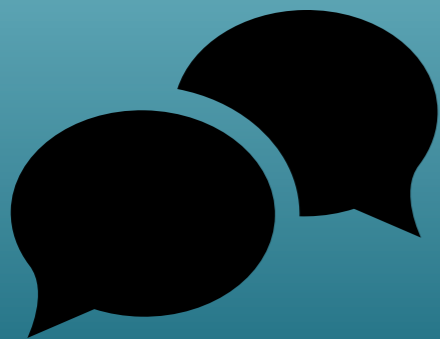
compassion



intelligence



great  
communication  
skills



cultural  
sensitivity

<http://www.hpfreemanpni.org/the-program/>  
<http://crchd.cancer.gov/pnp/what-are.html>

# Why is Patient Navigation Important?

- More accurately identifies and eliminates barriers to minority participation in clinical trials and health care.
- Improves sharing of resources.
- Enhances continuity of participation, which may result in improved outcomes.
- Improves quality of service and research.
- Increases participant satisfaction.



Long Island College Hospital. Breast Health Navigator Program. In: HANYS Breast Cancer Demonstration Project®. Best Practices Strategy Guide. Rensselaer, NY: Healthcare Association of New York State; 2002.

# Participation Barriers

## Barriers

Personal attitudes or beliefs

Financial barriers

Communication barriers  
(language and literacy)

Medical system barriers

Psychological barriers  
(trust and distrust)

Family and household issues

Health status

Lack of transportation

# Patient Navigation Services

## Navigation Services

Provide resources for education

Provide resources for financial aid

Provide transportation options

Enroll or refer participants to different agencies or organizations

Assist and educate participants in scheduling and complying with appointments

Provide guidance, social support, and accompaniment

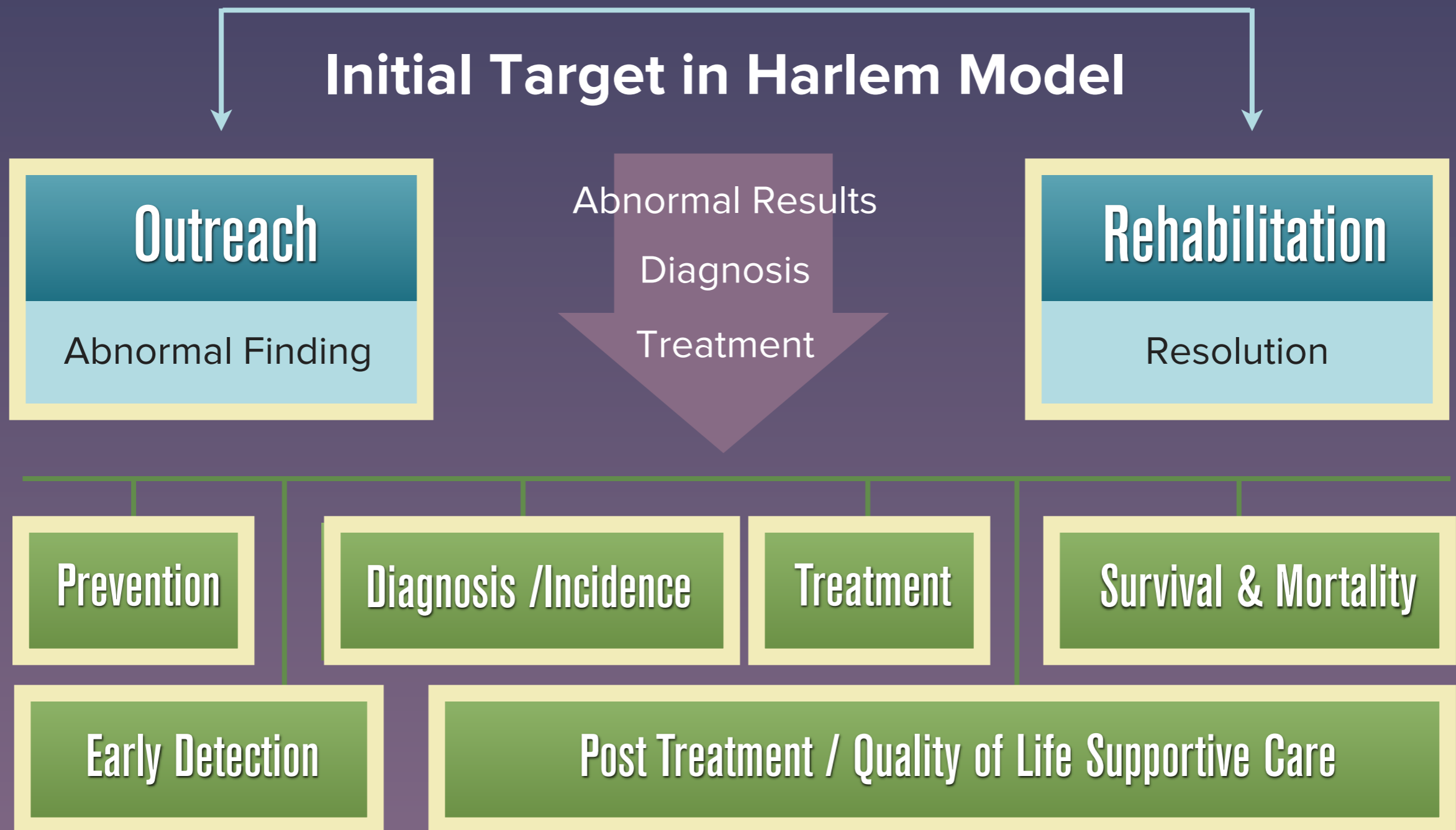
## Other services

# Navigation Strategies and Challenges

Key Strategies	Key Challenges
Meeting participants where they are	Setting boundaries with participants
Being accessible	Identifying and overcoming burnout
Community credibility	Being aware of unsafe environments
Cultural sensitivity and competency	

# Patient Navigation Across the Health Care Continuum

## Patient Navigation





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# The Navigator's Community

## Healthcare Team



## Participant



## Community Resource Providers



## Patient Navigator



# The Navigator's Community



First...  
recruit participants  
to your team.

Then...  
recruit them to  
your trial.



# Effective Clinical Trials Teams

Meet or exceed the study participant's expectations for quality, timeliness, and quantity of service by building trusting, bidirectional partnerships.



Use social processes to increase the patient and medical team's ability to work together.

Promote learning that positively contributes to every team member's well being through the group experience.

# Activity: How do you describe your team?

## Low Success Team

- Apathy
- Stingy
- Rigid
- Fixed
- Plan based
- Poor Communication
- Disorganized
- Obstruct
- Independent
- Low Morale
- Fragmented Vision

## High Success Team

- Empathy
- Generous
- Flexible
- Adaptable
- Improvise
- Strong Communication
- Coordinated
- Cooperate
- Interdependent
- High Morale
- Shared Vision

# Summary

Patient Navigation is an important component of patient care and should be recognized and utilized to build trust and rapport.

Recruitment and retention challenges for both the participant and the clinical trials team can be reduced through navigation.

Effective team dynamics can build trust between team members, enhances collaboration and may result in favorable research and treatment outcomes.

Patient Navigators have a unique community perspective that can effectively engage the oncology team, participant, community, and cancer center.

# EMPACT

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Enhancing  
Minority  
Participation  
in Clinical Trials