

experiences of hospice care. Such research could guide efforts to develop culturally tailored care for this community.

### INFORMING THE FUTURE: CANCER PREVENTION AND DIAGNOSIS BELIEFS AMONG OLDER LATINO IMMIGRANTS

Iraida Carrion,<sup>1</sup> Malinee Neelamegam,<sup>2</sup> and Jane Roberts,<sup>3</sup>  
 1. *University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida, United States*, 2. *Yale School of Public Health, New Haven, Connecticut, United States*, 3. *University of South Florida, Sarasota, Florida, United States*

Despite emerging research on Latinos and cancer (Carrion et al., 2018), there are no data regarding beliefs about cancer prevention and diagnosis in older Latinos residing in Central Florida. Similarly, to the US in general, Central Florida's older Latino population is growing. Compared with other national samples, Latino immigrants in the southern U.S. report poorer health than in other regions (Siegel et al., 2015). Using convenience sampling (N = 168), univariate analysis was done to recognize the study population's characteristics. Frequencies were assessed to understand participants' responses to questions on cancer-related attitudes. The effects of age, country of origin, length of stay in the U.S., and marital status were assessed using logistic regression. Of the 168 individuals in the study, 34.5% were male with a mean age of 67.9, and a majority had at least a high school education and 25.8 years residing in the U.S. The participants were aware that tobacco use can cause cancer (93.5%) and that smoking affects the smoker as well as their family members (84.5%). They were also aware that mammograms facilitate early diagnosis of breast cancer (81.5%) and of the association between prolonged sun exposure and skin cancer (86.9%). However, specific knowledge about early diagnosis was low. Only 29.2% of participants knew that breast cancer can be diagnosed early, which was similar to the response toward early diagnosis of prostate cancer (24.4%). Among the participants, 26.2% were categorized as having poor knowledge of cancer prevention.

### LIFELONG BILINGUALISM AND LITERACY SKILLS USE AMONG HISPANIC ADULTS

Roberto Millar,<sup>1</sup> Shalini Sahoo,<sup>2</sup> Taka Yamashita,<sup>3</sup> and Phyllis Cummins,<sup>4</sup> 1. *Graduate Student, Baltimore, Maryland, United States*, 2. *University of Maryland, Baltimore, Elkridge, Maryland, United States*, 3. *University of Maryland, Baltimore, Maryland, United States*, 4. *Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, United States*

Literacy skills use in everyday life is associated with social (e.g., civic participation) and economic (e.g., higher wages) benefits throughout the life course. Yet, the use of literacy skills may be lower among immigrants and those with limited language proficiency. No prior research examined associations between bilingualism in early life — a critical period for language acquisition — English literacy skills, and the use of literacy skills in later life of Hispanic adults. The objective of this study is to determine whether lifelong bilingualism (i.e., learning a second language in childhood and still understanding today) is associated with Hispanics' everyday use of literacy skills later in life. Nationally representative data (n = 412) of Hispanics 35 years and older were obtained from the 2012/2014 Program for International

Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC). A series of logistic regression models were used to examine the associations between lifelong bilingualism and several measures of literacy skills use in everyday life. Results showed that lifelong bilingualism (vs. being monolingual) was negatively associated with the daily use of letters, notes, and e-mails (Odds Ratio = 0.426,  $p < 0.05$ ), reading financial statements (Odds Ratio = 0.474,  $p < 0.05$ ), and reading diagrams (Odds Ratio = 0.391,  $p < 0.05$ ). Additionally, literacy was a consistent predictor of skill use. While bilingualism is generally beneficial for aging adults, our findings suggest that, among Hispanics, lifelong bilingualism is associated with the less frequent use of literacy skills later in life. We discuss the possible theoretical and practice implications of these findings.

### LITERACY SKILLS, IMMIGRATION, AND MOTIVATION TO LEARN AMONG MIDDLE-AGED AND OLDER ADULTS IN THE UNITED STATES

Shalini Sahoo,<sup>1</sup> Roberto Millar,<sup>2</sup> Taka Yamashita,<sup>3</sup> and Phyllis Cummins,<sup>4</sup> 1. *University of Maryland, Baltimore, Elkridge, Maryland, United States*, 2. *Graduate Student, Baltimore, Maryland, United States*, 3. *University of Maryland, Baltimore, Maryland, United States*, 4. *Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, United States*

Education and training over the life course or lifelong learning has become critical in the fast-changing U.S. society. Foundation skills (e.g., literacy), motivation, curiosity, as well as access to learning opportunities are essential to promote lifelong learning. Despite the importance of these promoting factors, empirical research focusing on complex relationships between literacy skills, immigration and motivation to learn (MtL) among middle-aged and older adults is scarce. The objective of this study is to examine how literacy skills and immigration (vs. U.S. born) are associated with MtL among middle-aged and older adults in the U.S. Nationally representative data (n = 8,670) of adults aged 45 years and older were obtained from the 2012/2014 Program for International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC). Structural equation models were constructed to examine the formerly tested and validated latent MtL construct based on four 5-point Likert-type scale items among the sub-population of interest. Results showed that higher literacy skills (0-500 points;  $b = 0.002$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ) was associated with greater MtL. Additionally, immigrants were less likely ( $b = -0.114$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ) to have greater MtL than those who are non-immigrants (i.e. U.S. born). Higher literacy skills may indicate positive experiences in previous adult education and training and greater readiness for further learning. Findings from this study provide new empirical evidence of lifelong learning determinants. Educators and researchers should be aware of limited literacy and being an immigrant as potential barriers to knowledge-seeking in later life.

### PREDICTORS OF CANCER DETECTION BEHAVIORS AMONG OLDER NIGERIAN MEN

Kelsey Brodie,<sup>1</sup> Darlingtina Esiaka,<sup>2</sup> and Candidus Nwakasi,<sup>3</sup> 1. *Union College, Schenectady, New York, United States*, 2. *Union College, Union College, New York, United States*, 3. *University of Southern Indiana, Evansville, Indiana, United States*

Recent research emerging from Nigeria suggest an increasing mortality due to cancer, especially among older