

thematic coding of fully transcribed FGD using MAXQDA software. Several themes emerged. Both OWLH and older HIV-seronegative women defined SA as “aging gracefully,” i.e. accepting and celebrating aging after having survived hardships of earlier life (e.g., HIV diagnosis, drug use). They also emphasized taking care of themselves (e.g., taking their meds) and spirituality in their definitions of SA. In contrast to HIV-seronegative participants, who prioritized sobriety as taking good care of themselves, OWLH emphasized taking care of their HIV (e.g., “staying on top of your numbers”).

LINKAGES BETWEEN INDIGENOUS CULTURAL GENERATIVITY AND SOBRIETY TO PROMOTE SUCCESSFUL AGING AMONG ALASKA NATIVES

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This article builds on the People Awakening Project, which explored an Alaska Native understanding of the recovery process from alcohol use disorder and sobriety. The presentation will explore motivating and maintenance factors for sobriety among older AN adult participants (age 50+) from across Alaska. Ten life history narratives of Alaska Native older adults, representing Alutiiq, Athabascan, Tlingit, Yup'ik/Cup'ik Eskimos, from the PA sample were explored using thematic analysis. AN older adults are motivated to abstain from, or to quit drinking alcohol through spirituality, family influence, role socialization and others' role modeling, and a desire to engage in indigenous cultural generative activities with their family and community. A desire to pass on their accumulated wisdom to a younger generation through engagement and sharing of culturally grounded activities and values, or indigenous cultural generativity, is a central unifying motivational and maintenance factor for sobriety. The implications of this research indicates that family, role expectations and socialization, desire for community and culture engagement, and spirituality are central features to both Alaska Native Elders' understanding of sobriety, and more broadly, to their successful aging. Sobriety can put older Alaska Native adults on a pathway to successful aging, in positions to serve as role models for their family and community, where they are provided opportunities to engage in meaningful indigenous cultural generative acts.

PET OWNERSHIP AND LONGITUDINAL CHANGE IN PHYSICAL FUNCTION: EVIDENCE FROM THE BLSA

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Successful aging depends on avoiding disease and disability, maintaining high physical and cognitive function, and psychological adaptation. Research examining the

relationship of pet ownership (PO) or human-animal interaction (HAI) to human health supports contributions to these successful aging-related outcomes at some point in the life-cycle, mostly in populations with diseases or disabilities. We examine the contributions of PO to maintaining physical capacity among generally healthy community-dwelling older participants in the Baltimore Longitudinal Study of Aging (BLSA). Participants' [N=637, mean age=68.3 years (SD=9.6), pet owners N=149] completed a standardized physical function test battery (among other measures) every 1-4 years and a ten-year PO history. Linear mixed, or generalized linear mixed, models with time varying PO were used to examine change in successful aging-related outcomes over up to 13 years [mean=7.5, (SD=3.6)] according to PO. Physical function declined across all domains examined, but was observed to be less severe with PO in overall physical performance ($p<0.001$), rapid gait speed ($p=0.041$), 400-meter walk time ($p<0.001$), and reported physical wellbeing ($p=0.032$). No differences were observed for grip strength ($p=0.56$), usual gait speed ($p=0.07$), and leisure time physical activity ($p=0.26$) after controlling for age. This study provides the first longitudinal evidence that PO may promote successful aging among community-dwelling healthy older adults by moderating age-related declines in physical functional status in late-life.

THE USE OF CONCEPT-MAPPING TO STRUCTURE THE CULTURAL ADAPTATION OF EDUCATIONAL CURRICULA FOR LATINO OLDER ADULTS

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Culture, embedded in language and reflected in colloquial expressions, influences behaviors and cognitive constructs that affect health. To reach Latino older adults, health promotion efforts should include congruent cultural aspects—such as relevant metaphors, values, and proverbs—that will resonate with their cognitive constructs. However, this content should also be situated within a broader social context. For community-dwelling Latino older adults, this means considering their care systems and the multiple stakeholders within. In this paper presentation, we describe an innovative, interdisciplinary collaboration to culturally and linguistically adapt existing Illinois Extension curricula to meet the needs of Latino older adults and their families living in Cook County, which includes Chicago and its neighboring suburbs. We will demonstrate how concept-mapping (CM) studies can be used to structure the cultural adaptation of educational curriculum to a Latino audience. Specifically, we describe these CM studies, which asked how multiple stakeholders and Latino older adults living in the Chicagoland area defined positive aging provided empirically-grounded direction for our 11-member steering committee, composed of investigators, service leaders, and Latino older adults. We also will describe how the current project deepens relationships in the community that facilitate dissemination efforts to Latino older adults.