PSYCHOLOGICAL EFFECT OF ANTI-ASIAN ATTITUDES BY COVID-19 ON ASIAN AMERICANS IN COASTAL ALABAMA

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This study aimed to understand how the anti-Asian attitude due to the COVID-19 affected Asian American communities in Alabama. We asked whether Asian Americans were worried about going out due to the anti-Asian attitude due to COVID-19. This study conducted online surveys to Cambodians or Laotians, who were 18 years and older, were living in Coastal Alabama, in May 2020. To avoid in-person contact, respondents answered questions online. A total of 353 respondents participated in the survey. In the Cambodian community, more younger adults participated in the survey, while more middle-aged adults participated from the Laotian community. Laotians had longer educational attainment and watched multiple media to obtain COVID-19 related information. Cambodians (72%) were afraid of COVID-19 infection more than Laotians (53%). More Cambodians (73%) were afraid to go out because of the anti-Asian attitude than Laotians (52%). The logistic regression analysis presented that people worried more about the COVID-19 infection were less likely to go out due to anti-Asian attitudes. Educational attainment did not have a protective effect. Watching multiple media sources decreased the worry about the anti-Asian attitude for Laotians. The age cohort showed both a protective and exacerbate the effect. Cambodians, who were in their thirties, were worried about going out. However, Laotian fifties and over did not worry about going out. This difference might be related to the length of the stay in the U.S. Hanks et al. found that Cambodians, compared to Laotians, had more new immigrants who recently came to the community to marry.

PSYCHOSOCIAL MENTORSHIP NEEDS: PROMOTING DIVERSITY IN AGING AND ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE RESEARCH AND CLINICAL CAREERS

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The UC San Diego MADURA Mentorship Program, funded by an R25 National Institute on Aging grant, has goals to improve diversity in Aging and Alzheimer's Disease (ADRD) research and clinical practice. MADURA strives to improve retention and academic success of its URM trainees, and to increase graduate/medical school applications and/or entry into Aging/ADRD careers. Mentees receive paid research experience, skills training, peer support, seminars, and additional professional development opportunities. Given local demographics and Co-Investigator expertise, MADURA recruits primarily Hispanic/Latinx (H/L) students, and other URM students. Non-exclusive racial identifications of 32 Year 1 mentees were: 69% H/L, 9% Black/African American, 22% Asian and 31% other race. 72% met NIH criteria for Disadvantaged Backgrounds. As of June 2021, 100% of students completed surveys assessing Racial Microaggressions and Imposter Syndrome experiences, and Professional Self-efficacy. This poster will define the concepts, discuss relevance for URM student success and retention, and present student data on each topic. As examples, 56% of trainees experienced overt discrimination and 72% reported having experienced microaggressions at least occasionally, as undergraduates. As related to Imposter Syndrome, 62% secretly worried that others would find out that they are not as bright and capable as others think. Half attributed accomplishments to being a "fluke," or due to reasons other than true merit. Still, in terms of Professional Self-efficacy, 62% of mentees thought it moderately or very likely that they would succeed as an Aging/ADRD researcher. The authors will make specific suggestions for optimized URM training and mentorship program content, and provide resources.

RECRUITING RESIDENT PARTICIPANTS FROM NURSING HOMES DURING THE COVID PANDEMIC: CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS

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Recruiting nursing home residents as participants in research is challenging. In early 2021, Covid-19 cases rose rapidly in nursing homes, prompting the rapid deployment of infectious disease protocols and ultimately, facility lockdowns to control the spread of the virus. By September, 2020, many research projects were delayed or cancelled, and future research was jeopardized. During this period, as well as prior to and after the administration of the COVID vaccine, we enrolled residents in a complex protocol involving administration of two Shingles vaccines (0- and 90 days) and three separate blood samples. Here, we present the strategies we used to recruit 216 residents, from 23 homes, over a 9-month period. We faced many challenges. Our research staff faced weekly COVID-19 antigen tests prior to entering the facility, adhering to strict protocols on travel, as well as packaging of materials that entered and left the facility. N95 masks and face shields further made it difficult to communicate with residents. For homes, COVID protocols required residents to be transported to specified areas to meet with research staff. Daily monitoring of COVID and Shingrix vaccine symptoms became part of daily care. To minimize resident harm and interruption of workflow in nursing homes, we utilized principles of stakeholder engagement, healthcare leadership, infectious disease/immunology, and staff (research and nursing homes) empowerment. In the face of crisis, like the COVID-19 pandemic, we have gained the trust and commitment of these facilities; thus, establishing a sustainable partnership that is prepared for what comes next.

REMOTE ASSESSMENT PREFERENCES OF NIA ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE RESEARCH CENTER PARTICIPANTS DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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