# Health Disparities in U.S. Stroke Care and Beyond

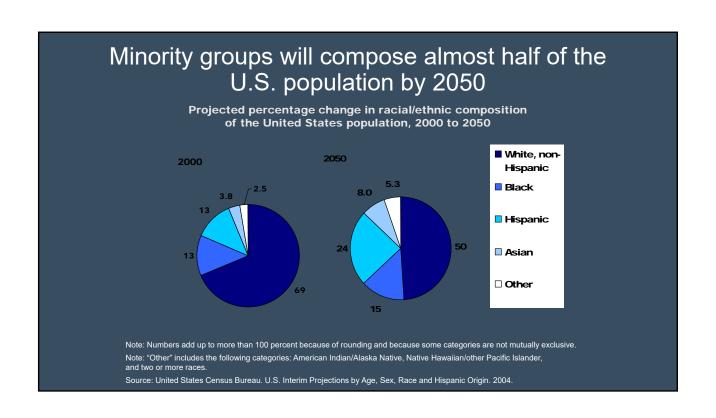
Andrew N. Russman, DO, FAAN, FAHA Head, Cleveland Clinic Stroke Program Medical Director, Comprehensive Stroke Center Staff, Vascular Neurology Cerebrovascular Center

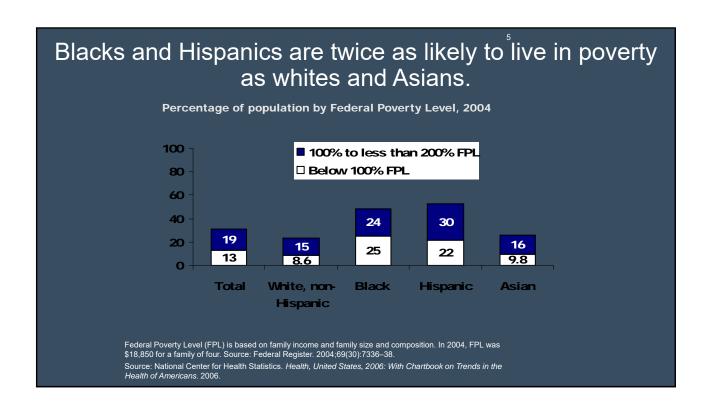


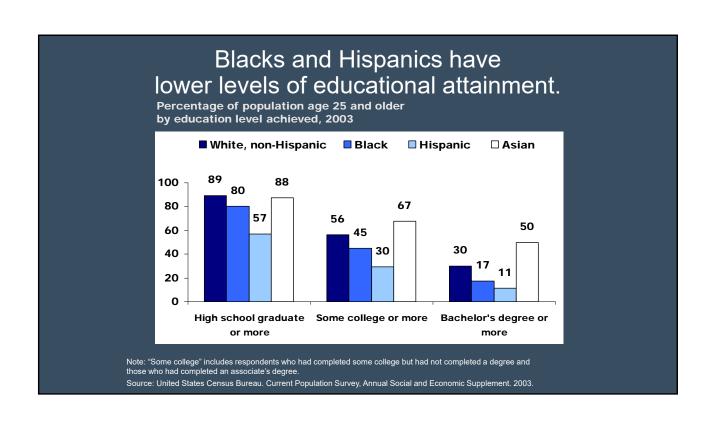
## **Disclosures**

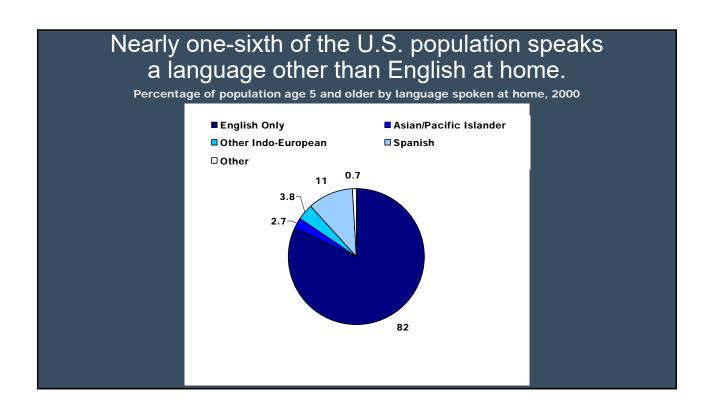
• Consultant, Boston Scientific

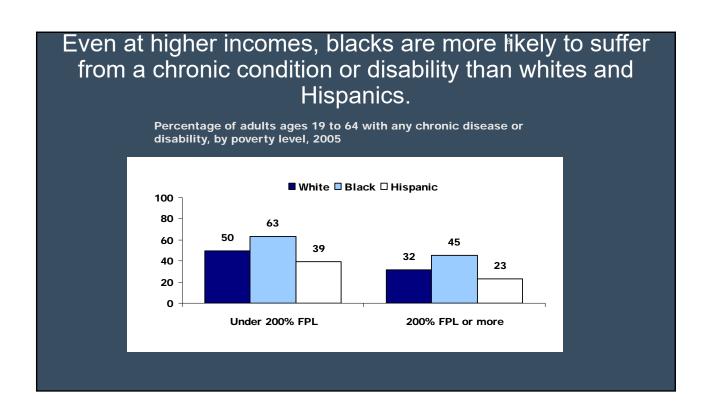


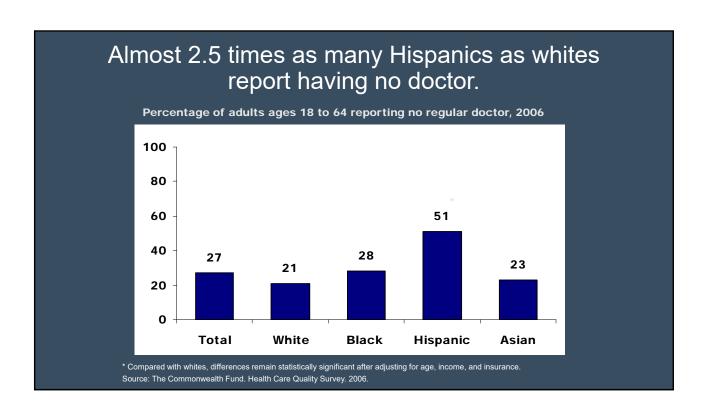


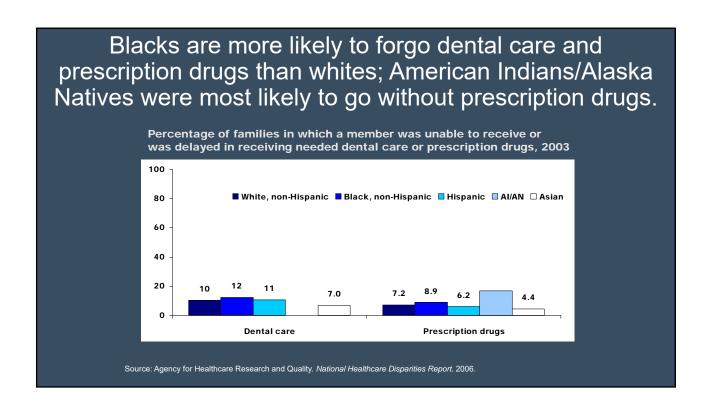


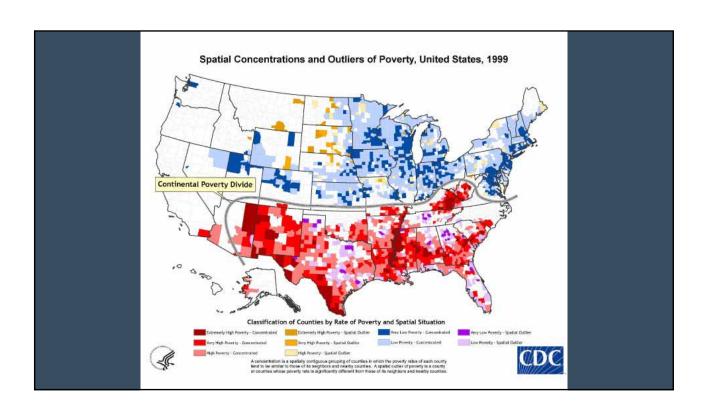


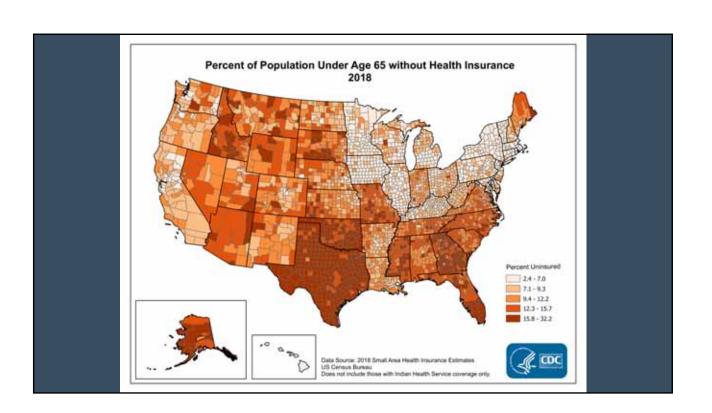








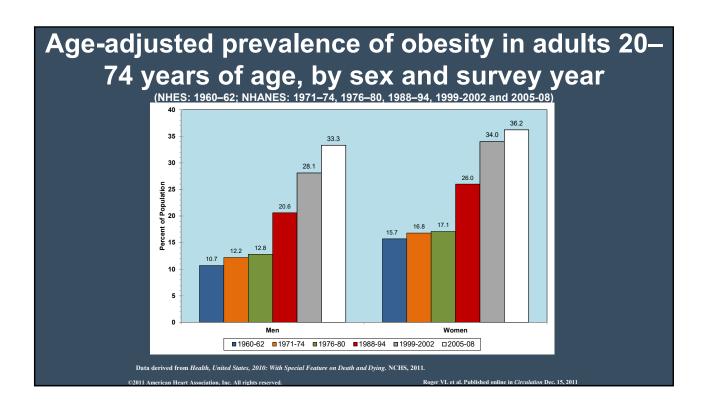


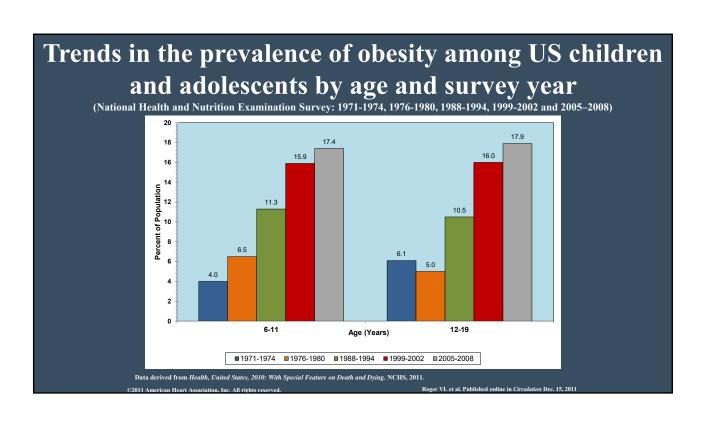


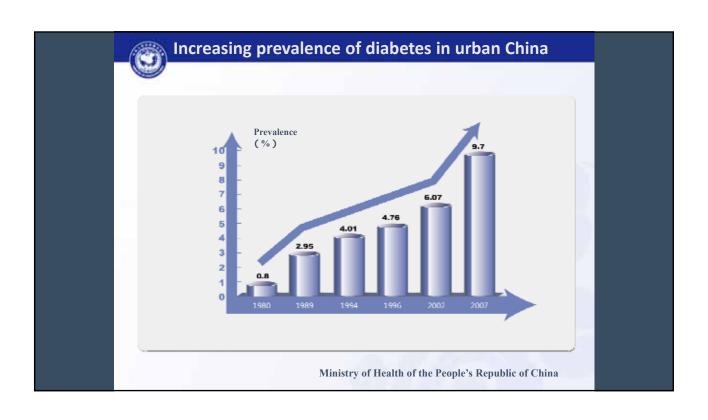
## Major Stroke Risk Factors

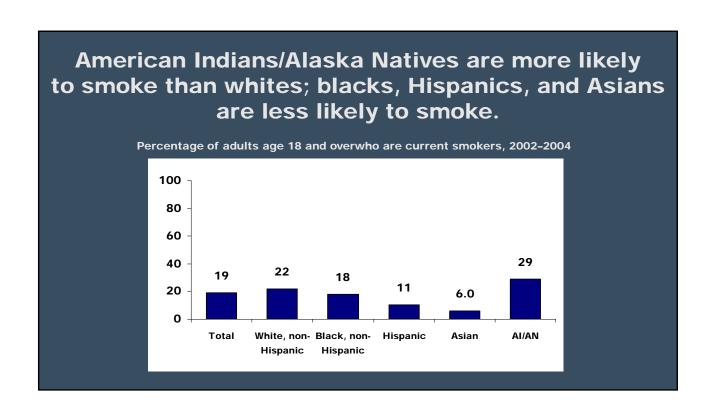
- Hypertension (BP ≥140/90 mmHg or on antihypertensive medication)
- Cigarette smoking (passive smoking?)
- Elevated total or LDL-cholesterol
- Obesity
- Physical inactivity: most experts recommend at least 30 minutes moderate activity at least 4-5 days/week
- Atrial Fibrillation
- · Extracranial and intracranial atherosclerosis

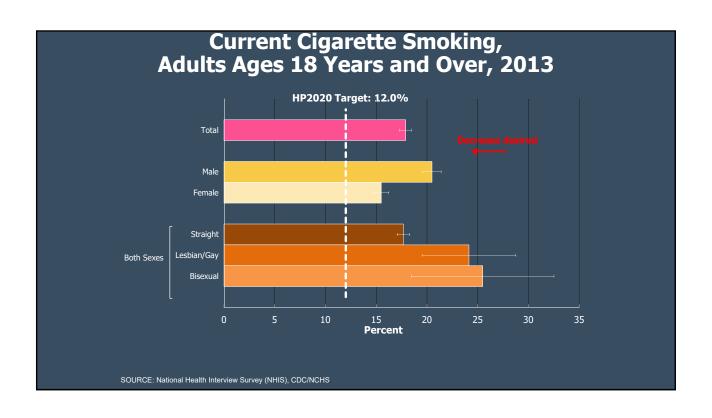


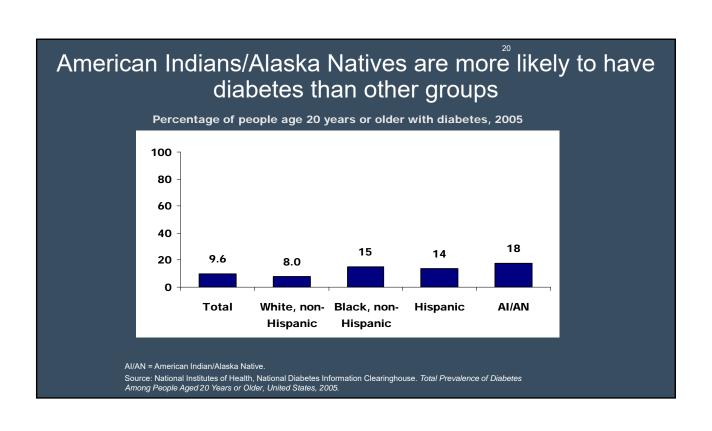






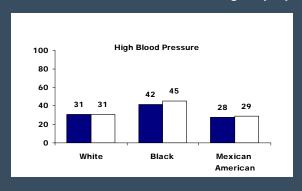


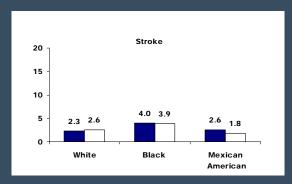




## Black men and women are most likely to have high blood pressure, and stroke

Percentage of people age 20 or older, 2003





Note: Data were only available for the largest Hispanic subpopulation, Mexican Americans.

Note: Data are age adjusted for Americans age 20 and older.

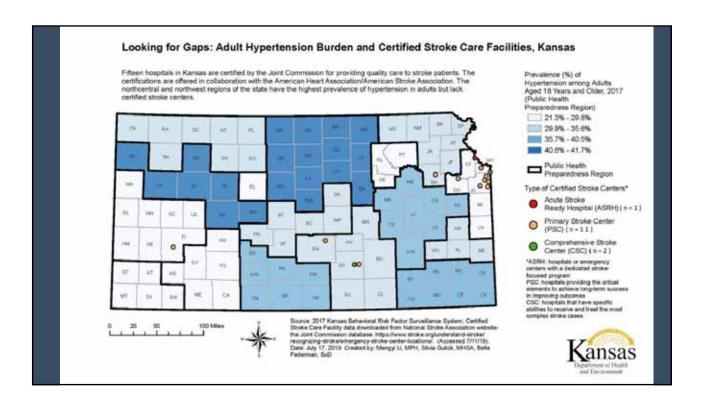
Source: T. Thom et al., "Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics—2006 Update," Circulation, Feb. 14, 2006 113(6):e85-e151.

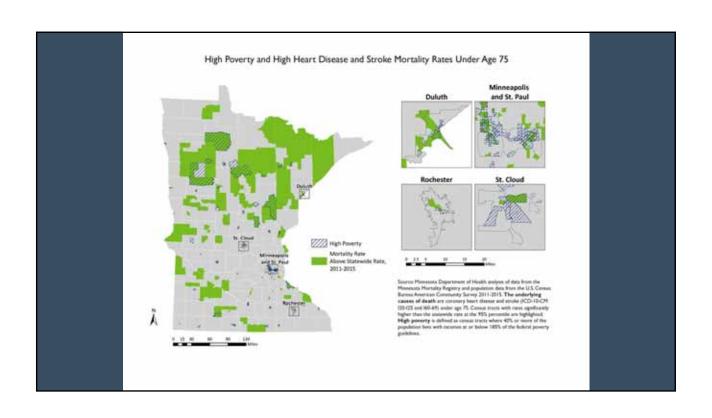
#### Adverse Work Conditions and Job Loss

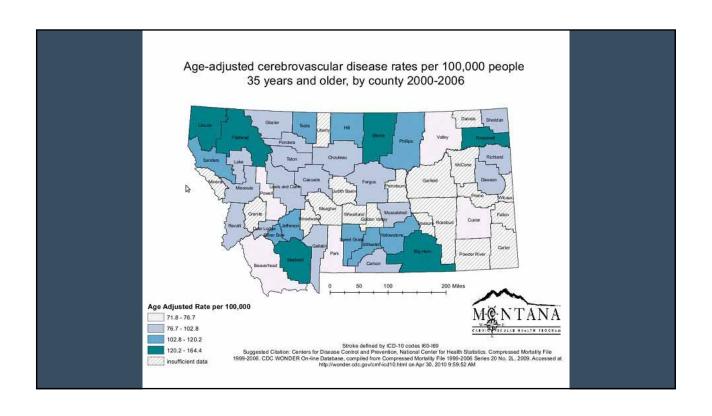
- 21902 Japanese males and 19826 females were followed up for 19 years
- Job loss was associated with a >50% increase in incident stroke and a >2-fold increase in stroke mortality

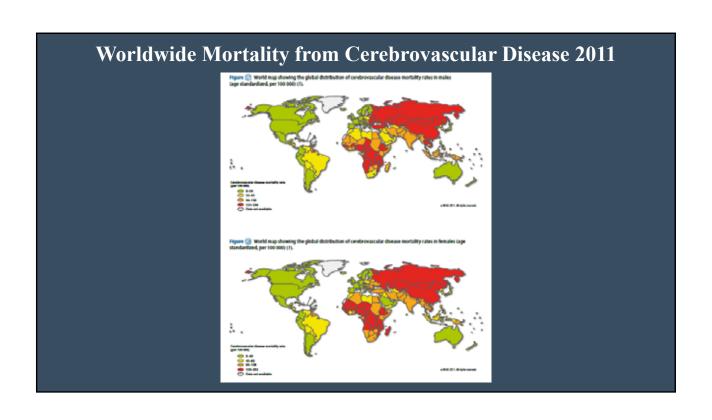


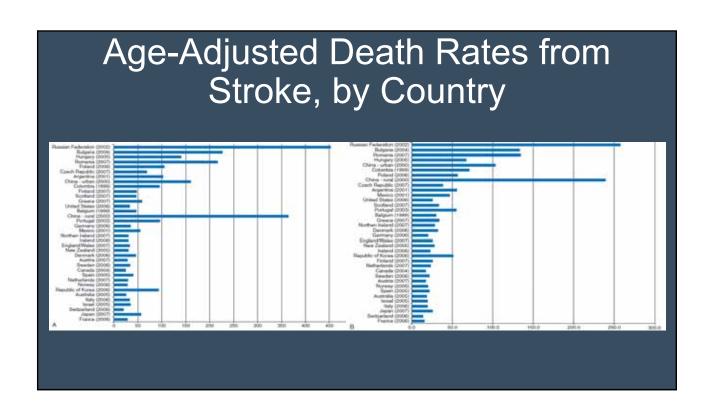
Eshak ES, et al. *Stroke* 2017;48:1176–1182.

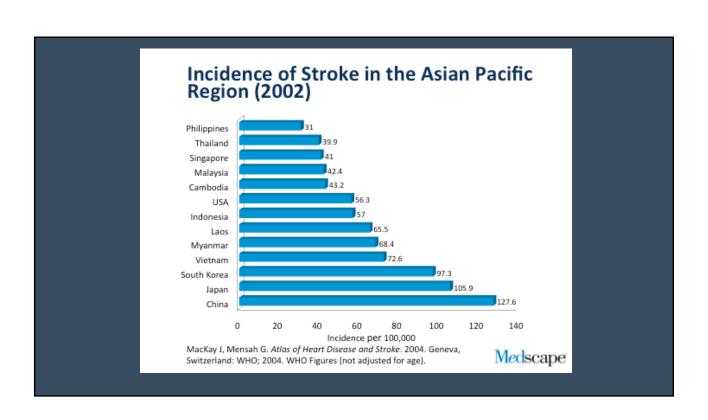


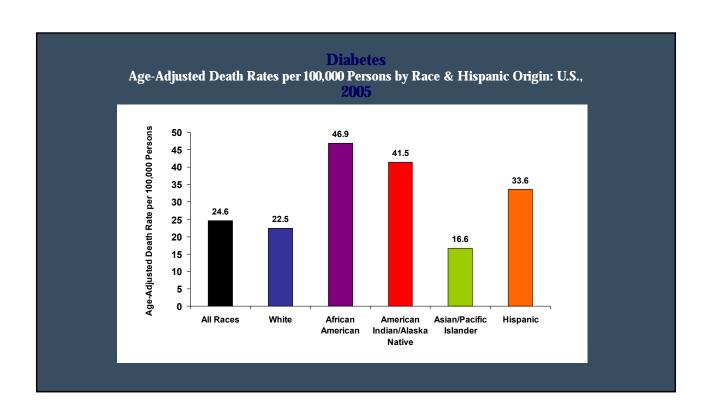


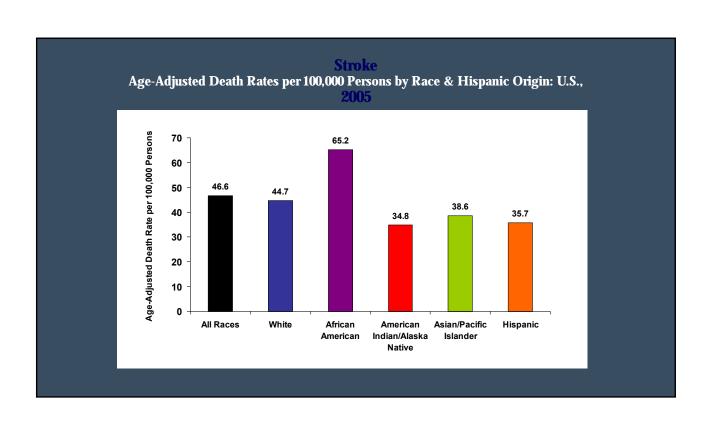


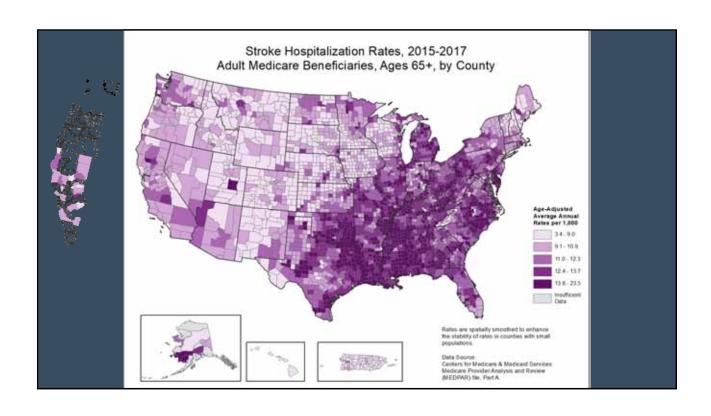


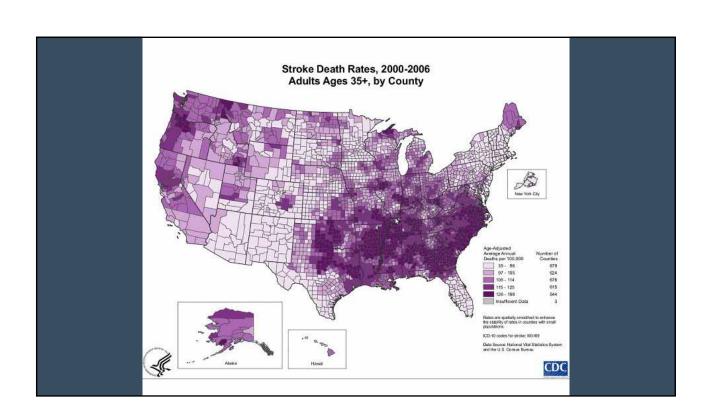


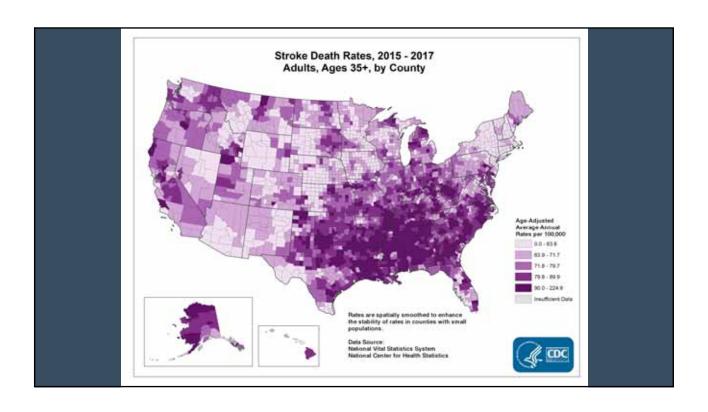


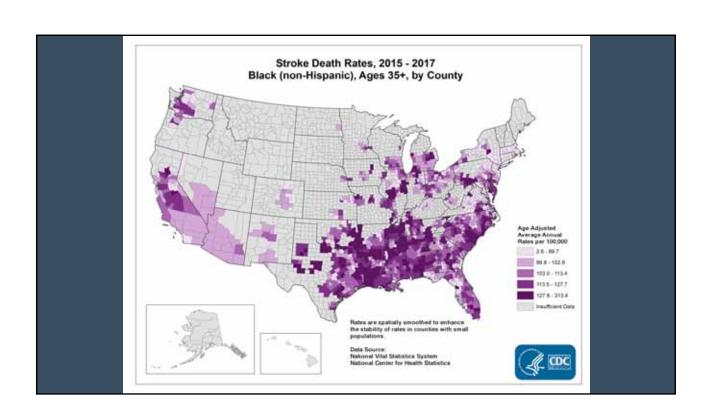


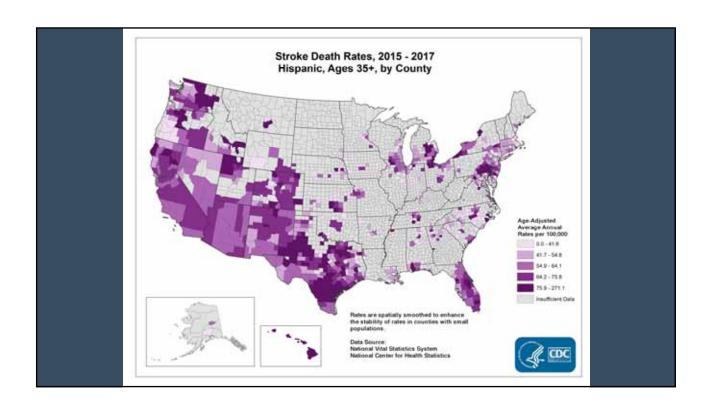


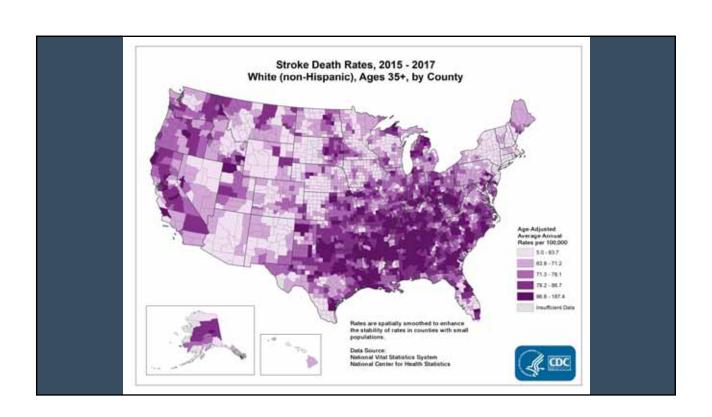


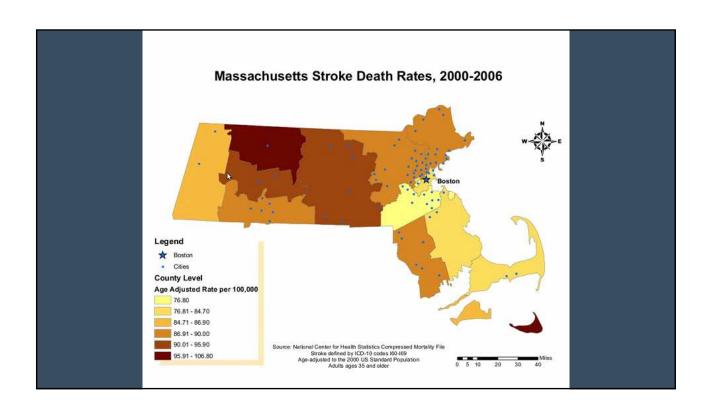


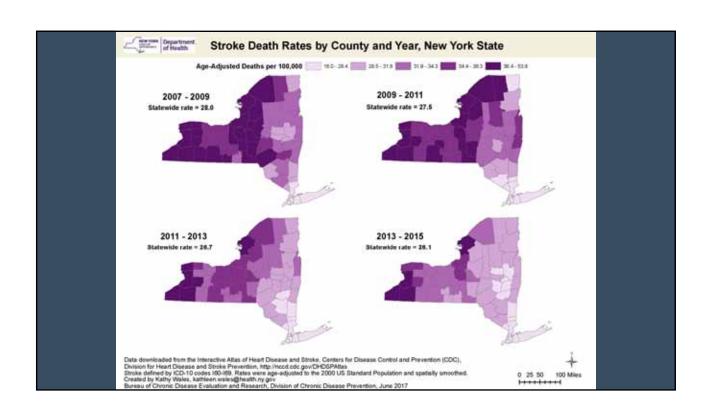


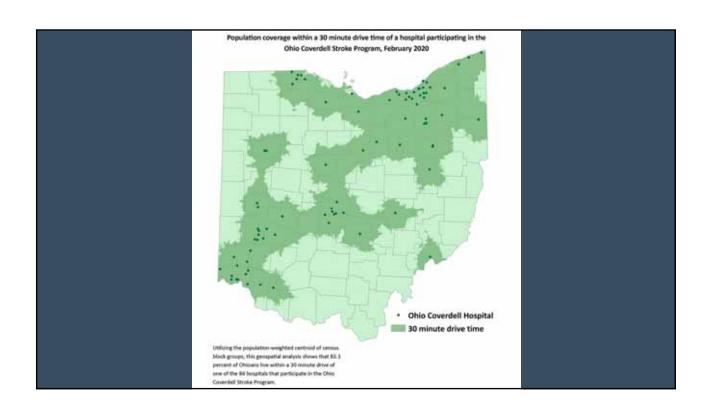


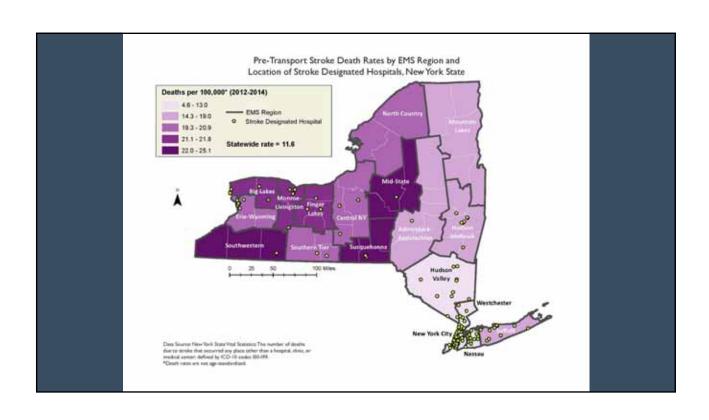


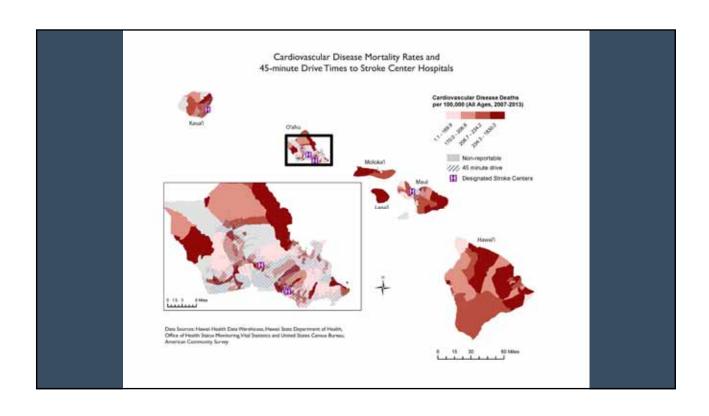


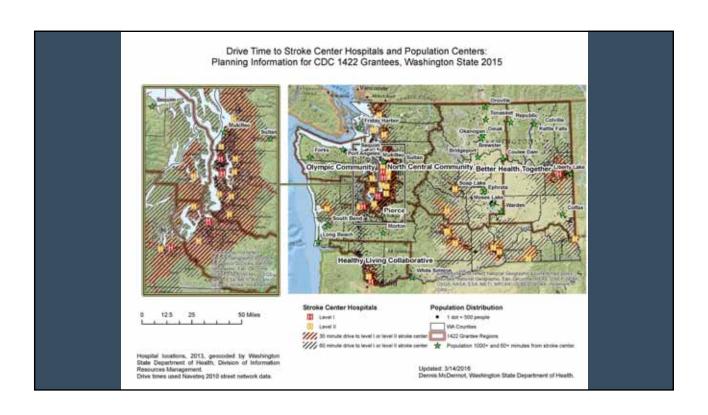


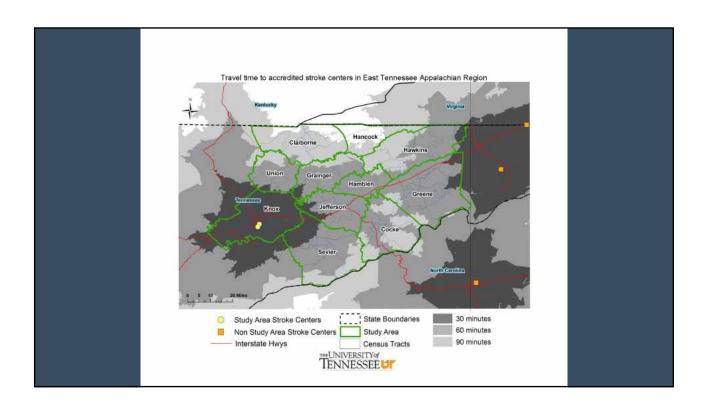


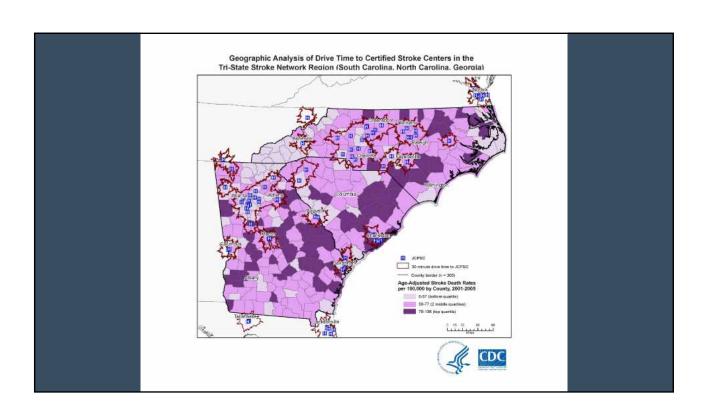


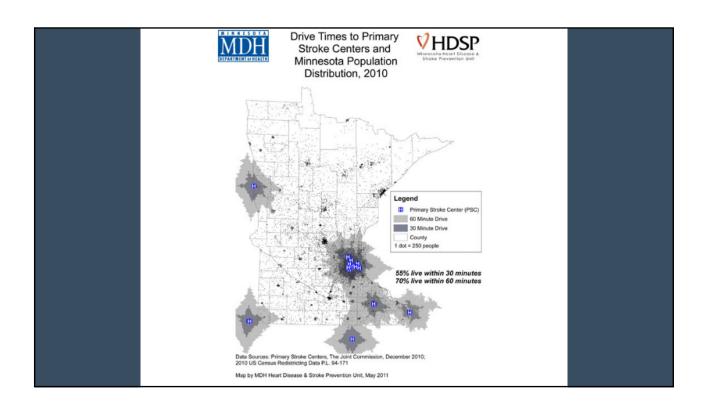


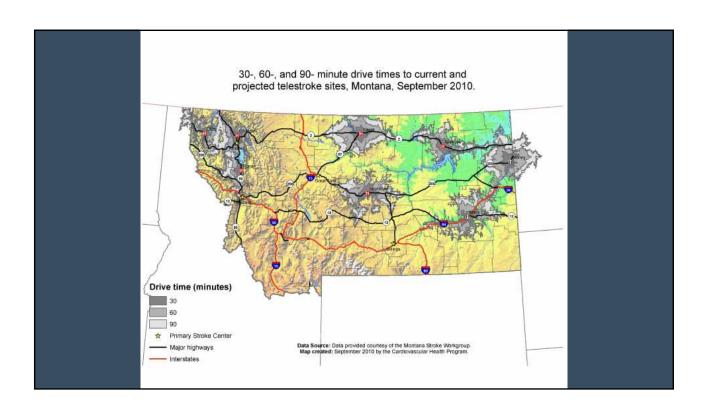












#### Access to IV Thrombolysis

- Among the National Inpatient Sample 2004-2010, 304,152 patients from 26 states were reviewed.
- A higher proportion received rt-PA at PSCs than non-PSCs in all race/ethnic groups (white 7.6% versus 2.6%, black 4.8% versus 2.0%, Hispanic 7.1% versus 2.4%, other 7.2% versus 2.5%, all *P*<0.001)
- In a multivariable model, blacks were less likely to receive rt-PA than whites at non-PSCs (odds ratio=0.58, 95% CI 0.50 to 0.67) and PSCs (odds ratio=0.63, 95% CI 0.54 to 0.74)
- Hispanics were less likely than whites to receive rt-PA at PSCs (odds ratio=0.77, 95% CI: 0.63 to 0.95).

Aparicio HJ, et al. J Am Heart Assoc 2015;4:e001877.

#### Access to Mechanical Thrombectomy

- From 2016-2018, 206,853 admissions to 173 endovascular centers were reviewed. Overall utilization of MT was 8.4%.
- Utilization of MT for black/Hispanic patients was lower than that among white/non- Hispanic patients (7.0% versus 9.8%; *P*<0.001).
- Black/Hispanic patients were also less likely to receive IV-tPA (16.2% versus 20.5%; *P*<0.001) and to be admitted to the endovascular center after transfer from a different hospital (20.0% versus 30.1%; *P*<0.001).
- On multivariate linear regression analysis, insurance with Medicaid or uninsured status ( $\beta$ =-0.153; P=0.029), and black/Hispanic race/ethnicity ( $\beta$ =-0.062; P=0.046) were independently associated with lower institutional utilization of MT.

Rinaldo L, et al. Stroke 2019;50:2428-2432.

#### Carotid Artery Revascularization: CARE Registry

n=6633	Hispanic, n=152	Non-Hispanic Whites, n=6239	Blacks, n=181	Others, n=61	<i>P</i> Value*
Death, %	2.0	0.8	2.2	1.6	0.10
Stroke, %	4.6	3.1	7.2	4.9	0.03
MI, %	0.7	0.9	0.6	1.6	0.78
MACCE, %	5.9	4.5	8.8	6.6	0.04

• From 2007-2012, among 13,129 patients who underwent CAS, an increase in CAS utilization was observed in non-Hispanic whites and other groups, whereas the opposite was observed among Hispanics and blacks.

Wayangankar SA, et al. Stroke 2015:46:1525-1532.

#### Carotid Artery Revascularization: CARE Registry

- Among the CEA cohort, the black population had a higher proportion of patients with ASA grade 3 or 4 compared with other groups representing a vulnerable population predisposed to worse 30-day outcomes compared with other groups.
- Adherence to antiplatelet and statin therapy was significantly lower among blacks post-CEA.
- 30-day major adverse cardiac and cerebrovascular events were significantly higher in blacks.

Wayangankar SA, et al. Stroke 2015;46:1525-1532.

## Carotid Endarterectomy: VQI Registry

- Black patients undergoing carotid endarterectomy (CEA) in the United States are more often symptomatic at presentation and have more comorbidities compared with white patients.
- 57,622 CEA patients from the VQI Registry were studied; 2909 (5.0%) were black, 34% were symptomatic. Of the 54,713 white patients, 30% were symptomatic.
- Black patients, compared with white patients, had a higher vascular disease burden and were less likely to be operated on in a high-volume hospital or by a high-volume surgeon.
- Black symptomatic patients, compared with white symptomatic patients, were more often operated on <2 weeks after the index neurologic symptom (47% vs 40%; P < .001).

Pothof AB, et al. J Vasc Surg 2018;68:426-35.

## Carotid Endarterectomy: VQI Registry

- Perioperative stroke/death was comparable between black and white patients (symptomatic, 2.8% vs 2.2% [P 1/4 .2]; asymptomatic, 1.6% vs 1.3% [P 1/4 .2]), as was unadjusted survival at 3 years (93% vs 93%; P 1/4 .7).
- However, after adjustment, black patients did experience better long-term survival compared with white patients (hazard ratio, 0.8; 95% confidence interval, 0.7-0.9; P 1/4 .01).
- On multilevel logistic regression, race was not associated with perioperative stroke/death (odds ratio, 1.0; 95% confidence interval, 0.8-1.3; P 1/4 .98).

Pothof AB, et al. *J Vasc Surg* 2018;68:426-35.

## Health Disparities in GWTG-Stroke

- Data were collected from 397,257 patients admitted with ischemic stroke to 1181 hospitals participating in the GWTG-Stroke program were evaluated from April 1, 2003- September 30, 2008.
  - The hospitals were participating in the Get With the Guidelines–Stroke Program (GWTG-Stroke).
  - 3 groups were analyzed: Black, Hispanic and White patients.
  - 7 evidence-based performance measurements were used to evaluate the quality of care of these patients.
  - Hospital characteristics were evaluated.

Schwamm et al. Circulation, 2010

## Health Disparities in GWTG-Stroke

- Blacks were 16 percent less likely than whites to receive the clot-busting drug tissue plasminogen activator (tPA) and to receive anticoagulants for atrial fibrillation.
- Blacks were 12 percent less likely than whites to receive deep vein thrombosis prevention and to be discharged with anti-clotting medications.
- Blacks were 9 percent less likely than whites to receive cholesterol-lowering therapy.
- Blacks were 15 percent less likely than whites and Hispanics were 18 percent less likely than whites to receive smoking cessation counseling.

Schwamm et al. Circulation, 2010

#### Health Disparity Interventions: Hypertension

- Among Black and Hispanic poststroke, home care patients, the addition of a 30-day nurse practitioner transitional care program with/without a 60-day health coach program to usual care was not associated with a significant change in systolic BP.
- A culturally tailored, skills-based educational intervention with telephone follow-up did not reduce systolic BP more than standard discharge care in a diverse racial/ethnic cohort of patients with mild/ moderate stroke/TIA.
- A multicomponent intervention consisting of clinics with advanced practice providers, self-management support, group clinics, report cards, decision support, and ongoing care coordination did not reduce systolic BP compared with usual care.

Feldman PH, et al. *Am J Hypertens*. 2020;33:362–370. Boden-Albala B, et al. *JAMA Neurol*. 2019;76:20–27. Cheng EM, et al. *Circ Cardiovasc* 18;11:e003228.

#### Health Disparity Interventions: Diabetes Mellitus

- Evidence from 2 RCTs have demonstrated the effectiveness of interventions targeting patients, providers, and health systems although these interventions have shown less success among racial/ethnic minorities other than Black and Latino individuals.
- An intervention consisting of group education sessions, counseling, and behavioral coaching by nurses and community health workers reduced glycosylated hemoglobin in Korean Americans with diabetes.
- A translated, culturally tailored version of the effective Diabetes
   Prevention Program-based lifestyle intervention lowered glycosylated
   hemoglobin and weight in Chinese immigrants at risk of diabetes.

Peek ME, et al. *Med Care Res Rev.* 2007;64(5 suppl):101S–156S. Kim MT, et al. *Am J Prev Med.* 2015;49:726–737. Yeh MC, et al. *Diabet Med.* 2016;33:547–551.

#### Health Disparity Interventions: The Beauty Shop

- 30 black beauticians were educated about stroke warning signs and risk factors in 2 large urban areas in the US. The beauticians then educated their clientele.
- 383 women completed an initial and follow-up survey, 78% were <60 years old, 69% had some college education, 41% had hypertension, and 12% had diabetes.
- Knowledge of 3 warning signs significantly improved from the baseline survey (40.7%) to the final survey (50.6%), and similar improvements in knowledge were seen in both study regions.
- Although there was no improvement in knowledge of 3 risk factors, 94% knew to call 911 for stroke symptoms, an 8% improvement over baseline (*P*=0.002).



Kleindorfer D, et al. Stroke 2008;39:2331-2335.

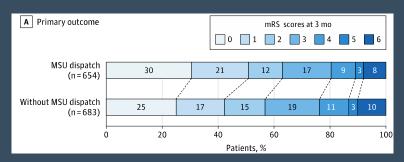
### Mobile Stroke Care: B-PROUD

- Compared simultaneous dispatch of an MSU and a conventional ambulance (n = 749) vs conventional ambulance alone (n = 794).
- The primary outcome was the distribution of modified Rankin Scale (mRS) scores at 90days after transport



Ebinger M, et al. *JAMA* 2021;325(5):454-466

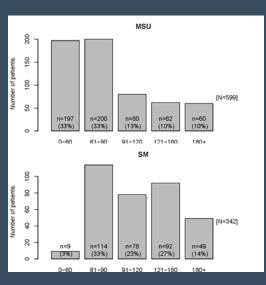
## Mobile Stroke Care: B-PROUD



 Mobile stroke transport and treatment results in a higher proportion of good or excellent outcomes after stroke

Ebinger M, et al. JAMA 2021;325(5):454-466

## **BEST-MSU**

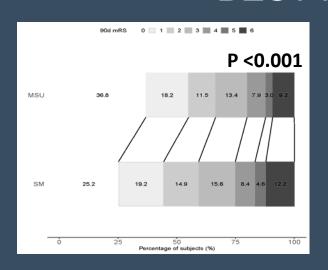




- 617 Patient transported by MSU vs. 430 via conventional ambulance
- Proportion of patient treated within the "Golden Hour"
  - 33% on MSU
  - 3% on conventional ambulance

Grotta J, et al. ISC and PRESTO presentations, 2021

## **BEST-MSU**



- For every 100 patients treated with an MSU rather than conventional ambulance,
  - 27 will have less final disability,
  - 11 more will be disability-free
- NNT = 9
- Potential to reduce health disparities in urban centers

Grotta J. et al. ISC and PRESTO presentations, 2021

#### Health Disparity Interventions: Future Direction

- We need more studies recruiting and treating minority patients in non-traditional settings (e.g. barbershops and churches)
- We need to utilize more mobile health technology interventions delivered by nonphysicians which would help us to meet patients where they are.
- We need more stroke risk factor and signs/symptoms education through social media platforms
- We need more investment in prehospital stroke systems
- We need post-acute care systems which address health disparities (e.g. community-based stroke secondary prevention clinics, faith-based education)

Levine DA, et al. Stroke 2020;51:3425-3432.



