

Current and Classic Resources, November-December 2011

Current Resources

Morgan JW, Cho MM, Guenzi CD et al. Predictors of delayed-stage colorectal cancer: are we neglecting critical demographic information? *Ann Epidemiol.* 2011;21:914–921.

Aims: “The aim of this study was to determine independent roles for age, sex, race/ethnicity, a community SES index, and anatomic subsite as predictors of delayed-stage colorectal adenocarcinoma.”

Sample: Data for 75, 6300 invasive colon and rectum cancer or in situ cancer obtained for 2004-2008 from the California Cancer Registry.

Methodology: Retrospective Cohort Study

Results: “Younger and older than age 50-74; females; Hispanic ethnicity; bowel segment contrasts (right/left, proximal/distal, cecum plus appendix/distal), and lower SES were independent predictors of delayed diagnosis.” SES was the strongest independent predictor.

Discussion: The authors conclude the importance of using SES as an independent predictor of delayed-stage colorectal cancer.

Towfighi A, Markovic D, Ovbiagele B. National gender-specific trends in myocardial infarction hospitalization rates among patients aged 35 to 64 years. *Am J Cardiol.* 2011;108:1102–1107.

Aims: “...to assess recent gender-specific temporal trends in the hospitalization rates for MI among middle-aged subjects in the United States.”

Sample: All patients with the diagnosis of myocardial infarction from 1997-2006 using the Nationwide Inpatient Sampling data base

Methodology: Cross-sectional, trend analysis

Results: Decrease in MI hospitalizations for men and women, the reduction was greater for men. A slight increase in MI hospitalizations for women aged 35-44 years of age.

Discussion: The authors suggest that previously reported increases in MI prevalence in middle-aged women may be a factor of improvements in diagnosis and increased survival after MI.

Classic Resources

Granger-Monsen M, Haslett J. *Worlds Apart: A Four-Part Series on Cross-Cultural Healthcare* [DVD]. Brooklyn, NY: Fanlight Productions, Icarus Productions; 2003.

Green A, Betancourt J, Carrillo JE. Fanlight Productions Web Site. *Worlds Apart: Facilitator’s Guide*. Available at: http://www.fanlight.com/downloads/Worlds_Apart.pdf Last Accessed: February 17, 2012.

Worlds Apart is a highly acclaimed four part series that illustrates the stories of cross-cultural medical encounters. There is a well-developed facilitator guide that provides background and discussion questions. Below are a brief discussion of the scenarios and some possible discussion topics for each scenario.

Justine Chitsena’s Story; Khmu child with and atrial septal defect. Discussion issues include health and illness beliefs, medical decision-making authority, traditional health practices, shared decision-making and negotiation.

Mohammad Kochi’s Story; Afghan Man with Gastric Cancer. Discussion issues include family decision making authority, withholding information, language barriers and communication, religious beliefs, and the culture of medicine.

Alicia Mercado’s Story; Puerto Rican Women with chronic medical problems. Discussion issues include perspectives on chronic disease, social stressors, social support networks, fears of medical treatment, adherence, and Complementary and Alternative Medicine.

Robert Phillips’ Story, African American Man with Renal Failure on Dialysis. Discussion issues include the distinction between disease and illness, discrimination and racial/ethnic health disparities, stereotyping, and mistrust.

If you would like to contribute an annotated reference contact: [Timothy P. Hickman, MD, MEd, MPH](mailto:Timothy.P.Hickman@MD.MPH) or [Fariha Shafi, MD](mailto:Fariha.Shafi@MD)