# Partnership for Cancer Health Disparities Research 

Sora Park Tanjasiri, DrPH, MPH<br>Professor, UCI Department of Epidemiology Associate Director, Cancer Health Disparities \& Community Engagement UCI Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center

ICTS CHRE
July 26, 2019


## PRESENTATION OBJECTIVES

By the end of this lecture, you will:

1. Increase your understanding of cancer health disparities and community-based participatory research (CBPR)
2. Describe strategies that promote cancer health behaviors in community-based settings
3. Identify five strategies to cultural targeting/tailoring of health interventions
4. Explore the strengths and limitations of CBPR

## CANCER HEALTH DISPARITIES

Cancer health disparities are adverse differences between certain populations groups, such as incidence (new cases), prevalence (existing cases), morbidity (cancer-related health complications), mortality (deaths), survivorship and quality of life after cancer treatment, burden of cancer or related health conditions, screening rates, and stage at diagnosis.

These population groups may be characterized by race, ethnicity, disability, gender and sexual identity, geographic location, income, education, and other characteristics.

## WHAT ARE CANCER HEALTH DISPARITIES?

Cancer health disparities are defined by the National Cancer Institute as adverse differences in cancer measures such as number of new cases, number of deaths, cancer-related health complications, survivorship and quality of life after cancer treatment, burden of cancer or related health conditions, screening rates, and stage at diagnosis that exist among certain segments of the population (11), including:


[^0]Figure 2. Trends in Age-adjusted Cancer Death Rates* by Site, Females, US, 1930-2015

*Age adjusted to the 2000 US standard population. +Uterus refers to uterine cervix and uterine corpus combined. $\ddagger$ The mortality rate for liver cancer is increasing.
Note: Due to changes in ICD coding, numerator information has changed over time. Rates for cancers of the liver, lung and bronchus, colon and rectum, and uterus are affected by these coding changes.
Source: US Mortality Volumes 1930 to 1959, US Mortality Data 1960 to 2015, National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
©2018, American Cancer Society, Inc., Surveillance Research

American Cancer Society (2018). Cancer Facts \& Figures.

Figure 5b. Trends in Female Breast Cancer Death Rates* by Race and Ethnicity, US, 1975-2010

*Rates are age adjusted to the 2000 US standard population.
Source: National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, as provided by the Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results Program, National Cancer Institute. Rates for American Indians/Alaska Natives are based on data from the Contract Health Service Delivery Area (CHSDA) counties. For Hispanics, mortality rates do not include data from Connecticut, Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New York, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Vermont, and the District of Columbia.

American Cancer Society, Surveillance and Health Services Research, 2013


FIGURE 8. Trends in Female Breast Cancer Mortality Rates by Race/Ethnicity, United States.
Rates are per 100,000 females and are age adjusted to the 2000 US standard population. Data are not shown for American Indians/Alaska Natives because of unstable rates, reflecting small numbers of deaths. APL, Asian/Pacific Islander. Source: National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2017.

## WHY DO CANCER HEALTH DISPARITIES EXIST?



## WHY DO CANCER HEALTH DISPARITIES EXIST?

Complex and interrelated factors contribute to U.S. cancer health disparities.
The factors may include, but are not limited to, differences and/or inequalities in:


American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) Cancer Progress Report 2018

## Breast Cancer Mortality in California


_ Denotes Healthy People 2010 Target (22.3 per 100,000)
Data from the California Department of Health Services, Sentinel Health Indicators for California's Multicultural Populations, 1991-2001, CA: Center for Health Statistics, May 2004.

## Breast Cancer Mortality in California



Denotes Healthy People 2010 Target ( 22.3 per 100,000)

* Unreliable rate, Relative Standard Error (RSE) greater than 23 percent.

Data from the California Department of Health Services, Sentinel Health Indicators for California's Multicultural Populations, 1991-2001, CA:
Center for Health Statistics, May 2004.

Cancer Death Rates* by Race and Ethnicity, US, 2012-2016
Cancer Facts \& Figures (American Cancer Society, 2019)


## PROMOTING CANCER HEALTH BEHAVIORS IN COMMUNITY SETTINGS





## PACIFIC ISLANDER CULTURE

- Families are extended with many social connections (e.g., Hawaiian ohana, Samoan aiga) (Palafox \& Warren, 1980)
- Health is defined holistically, including balance between physical, mental, and spiritual (e.g., Hawaiian lokahi) (Wong et al., 2004)
- Traditional diets are rich in low-fat, high-complex carbohydrate plant and fish-based foods (Blaisdell, 1996)
- Traditional livelihoods are very physically active, including fishing and agriculture, and the importance of dance


## THERE ARE OVER 221,458 PACIFIC ISLANDERS IN CALIFORNIA

## 2000 California Population*

Alone Inclusive | $\%<\mathrm{HS}<100 \%$ |
| ---: |
| deg |
| FPL** |

Native

| Hawaiian | 20,571 | 60,048 | 14\% | 11\% | 27\% | 5\% | 3\% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Samoan | 37,498 | 49,804 | 22\% | 20\% | 45\% | 12\% | 17\% |
| Chamorro/ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Guamanian | 20,918 | 33,849 | 20\% | 10\% | 29\% | 6\% | 9\% |
| Tongan | 12,111 | 15,252 | 40\% | 18\% | 44\% | 10\% | 32\% |
| NH Whites | 15,816,790 | 16,538,491 | 10\% | 8\% | 20\% | 3\% | 3\% |
| * US Census 2 <br> ** Federal Pov <br> *** Limited Eng | Line Proficient |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## PACIFIC ISLANDERS AND CERVICAL CANCER

- Cervical cancer is the $4^{\text {th }}$ most common cause of cancer mortality among Pacific Islanders
- Age-adjusted incidence rates:
- Samoans - 15.1/100,000
- Native Hawaiians - 12.3/100,000
- Whites - 9.3/100,000
- 60\% of cervical cancers among Samoans and Native Hawaiians were found at more advanced (regional/distant) stages
- Pap testing is the most important cervical cancer prevention, but Pacific Islanders have low rates (46$71 \%)$ of Pap testing compared to HP2020 goal of 93\%


## PACIFIC ISLANDER CANCER RISK IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (2001)



California Health Interview Survey, 2001

## COMMUNITY-BASED PARTICIPATORY RESEARCH (CBPR)

- Collaborative approach to research
- Close partnerships between academic researchers and members of underserved communities
- Partners contribute expertise, share decision making and ownership of the research endeavor
- The aim is to increase knowledge and understanding of a given phenomenon leading to the development and testing of interventions to improve the health and quality of life of communities


## SUPPORTING OUR WOMEN (SOW) STUDY: PARTNERSHIPS



NCI grant number 5R01CA149324-05

Guam Communications Network Orange County Asian and Pacific Islander Community Alliance
Pacific Islander Health Partnership Samoan National Nurses Association Tongan Community Service Center/SSG



Multiple Pls: Lola Sablan-Santos \& Sora Tanjasiri

## SUPPORTING OUR WOMEN STUDY: PARTNERSHIP

## Guam Communications Network

Lola Sablan-Santos Perci Flores

Lou Quitugua Pete Flores
Samoan National Nurses Association
Dorothy Vaivao
Marina Tupua
Genesis Lutu
Peni Taito
Caroline Pele*
Tongan Community Service Center / SSG
Vanessa Tuione-May
Elenoa Vaikona
Isi Vunileva
Orange County Asian \& Pacific Islander Community Alliance
Mary Anne Foo
Jason Lacsamana

| California State University, Fullerton |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| Sora Park Tanjasiri | Michele Mouttapa |
| Jie Weiss | Ciara Paige |
| Ualani Ho`opai |  |
| Jasmine DeGuzman Lacsamana |  |
| Community Advisory Board members |  |
| Lolini Vaimaona | Albert Van Meter |
| Tamara Tavai | Sione Holakeituai |
| Nuuausala Gafa | Tina Holakeituai |
| Peka Petaia | Katalina Fehoko |
| Nerisa Laufili Time | Laulile Fehoko |
| Christina Dorame | Akanesi Fehoko |
| Viola Johnson | Setaleki Fehoko |
| Paua Manuatu (Tuisoso) |  |
| Semisi Uhi Joe Vaivao |  |
| Faleiva Seti Pauliasi Taufa |  |

California State University, Fullerton

Sora Park Tanjasiri
Jie Weiss
Ualani Ho`opai
Jasmine DeGuzman Lacsamana
Community Advisory Board members

Lolini Vaimaona
Tamara Tavai
Nuuausala Gafa
Peka Petaia
Nerisa Laufili Time
Christina Dorame
Viola Johnson

Semisi Uhi Joe Vaivao
Faleiva Seti Pauliasi Taufa
ocapica

| SAMOAN NATHONAL NURSES ASSOCLATION |
| :---: |

## SUPPORTING OUR WOMEN STUDY: STUDY DESIGN

- Longitudinal randomized community trial with intervention vs. wait-list controls to increase Pap testing among Pacific Islander women in Southern California

Targeted married Chamorro, Samoan and Tongan women age 21-65 years old Included their husbands

Used CBPR in all aspects of the study design, implementation and evaluation


## CULTURAL TARGETING/TAILORING

## Five strategies for targeting of health promotion programs:

- Peripheral - gives the appearance of cultural appropriateness to increase appeal (e.g., use of colors, images, fonts, pictures of group members, etc)
- Evidential - incorporates evidence of impact on a group to enhance perceived relevance (e.g., mortality data for that specific group)
- Linguistic - use of the dominant language to increase accessibility of the program (e.g., no Tongan word for cervix)
- Constituent involving - draw on the experience of group members by including them in the planning and decision making of the program (e.g., CBPR)
- Sociocultural - places the health-related topic within the context of the broader social and/or cultural values of the group (e.g., collectivism)


## SUPPORTING OUR WOMEN STUDY: INTERVENTION

- WOMEN: Get Pap tests to stay healthy for your family
- MEN: Encourage your spouse to get Pap tests because you love her
- Materials
- Brochure
- PowerPoint
- Video


## http://voutu.be/0fX4M2OMKF8

- Booster/reminder \& magnet calendar

Tanjasiri SP et al., Progress in Community Health Partnerships, 2015; 9(3): 389-396.


# WHAT CULTURAL TARGETING STRATEGIES WERE USED? 

- Peripheral?
- Evidential?
- Linguistic?
- Constituent-involving?
- Sociocultural?


## SUPPORTING OUR WOMEN STUDY: METHODS

Figure 1: CONSORT Flow Diagram


Questionnaires: Completed prior to receiving the intervention (Pre-test), immediately after completing the intervention (Post-test1), and 6 months after completing the intervention (Post-test2).

- Measures: Included demographics, Pap knowledge, attitudes, beliefs, behaviors, social support, and social desirability.
GLM mixed models with repeated measures were computed to determine intervention vs. comparison group changes.


## Table 1．Baseline Characteristics

|  | Women（n＝591） | Men（n－416） |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Age（in years |  |  |
| $21-39$ | $122(20.8)$ | $81(20.0)$ |
| $30-39$ | $120(20.4)$ | $90(22.3)$ |
| $40-49$ | $163(27.7)$ | $96(23.8)$ |
| $50+$ | $182(31.0)$ | $137(33.9)$ |
| Employed | $312(58.3)$ | $267(65.9)$ |
| Has health insurance | $461(78.8)$ | $298(72.9)$ |
| Language at home |  |  |
| Pl only | $30(5.2)$ | $27(6.6)$. |
| More Pl | $53(9.2)$ | $44(10.7)$ |
| Pl／English | $250(43.2)$ | $157(38.2)$ |
| More English | $128(22.1)$ | $80(19.5)$ |
| English only | $118(20.4)$ | $103(25.1)$ |
| Pap compliant | $311(53.2)$ | $94(32.0)$ |
| Pap intention | $144(52.7)$ | $297(74.4)$ |

－Insurance status was significantly higher among intervention women compared to control women．
－There were no other statistically significant differences betweenintervention and control women and men．

EリPPORTN二略

## SUPPORTING OUR WOMEN STUDY: 6-MONTH OUTCOMES

|  | Intervention |  | Comparison |  | Fixed Effects |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Pre-test | Follow-up | Pre-test | Follow-up | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Intervention vs. } \\ \text { Comparison } \\ \text { Group } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Health Insurance Coverage | Acculturation to the US |
|  | n | n | n | n | $\beta$ | $\beta$ | $\beta$ |
|  | M | M | M | M | SE | SE | SE |
|  | SD | SD | SD | SD | 95\% CI | 95\% CI | 95\% CI |
|  |  |  |  |  | $p$ | $p$ | $p$ |
| Women's | 135 | 135 | 218 | 218 | . 134 | . 452 | . 097 |
| knowledge | 5.08 | 6.39 | 5.28 | 6.08 | . 286 | . 232 | . 046 |
|  | 2.56 | 2.53 | 3.04 | 2.64 | -.428, . 696 | -.004, . 908 | .008, . 186 |
|  |  |  |  |  | . 640 | . 052 | . 034 |
| Women's | 129 | 129 | 211 | 211 | -. 109 | -. 185 | -. 059 |
| fatalistic | 1.08 | 0.71 | 1.19 | 0.84 | . 146 | . 097 | . 019 |
| attitudes | 1.08 | 1.10 | 1.28 | 1.20 | -. $395,-.176$ | -.376, -. 006 | -.10, -. 02 |
|  |  |  |  |  | . 452 | . 058 | . 002 |
| Women's | 135 | 135 | 225 | 225 | . 802 | -. 771 | . 607 |
| perceived | 50.21 | 50.61 | 52.29 | 51.20 | . 881 | . 782 | . 151 |
| social | 9.99 | 9.69 | 8.56 | 10.37 | -.926, 2.53 | -2.307, . 764 | . $310, .903$ |
| support |  |  |  |  | . 363 | . 324 | . 000 |
| Men's | 103 | 103 | 99 | 99 | . 515 | N/A | N/A |
| knowledge | 3.17 | 5.77 | 3.84 | 5.38 | . 524 |  |  |
|  | 2.69 | 2.59 | 2.79 | 3.03 | -.520, 1.549 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | . 328 |  |  |

- Regardless of group, women increased their knowledge and decreased fatalistic attitudes about cervical cancer, and men increased their knowledge


## SUPPORTING OUR WOMEN STUDY: 6-MONTH OUTCOMES

|  | Intervention | Comparison | Fixed Effects |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Intervention } \\ & \text { vs. Comparison } \\ & \text { Group } \end{aligned}$ | Health Insurance Coverage | Acculturation to the US |
|  | n (\%) | n (\%) | $\begin{aligned} & \hline \text { B (SE) } \\ & 95 \% \text { CI } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { B (SE) } \\ 95 \% \text { CI } \\ p \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { B (SE) } \\ 95 \% \text { CI } \\ p \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| Only women not compliant with Pap tests at pre-test |  |  |  |  |  |
| Scheduled Pap test | 41 (55.4) | 43 (40.2) | $\begin{gathered} .757(.403) \\ -0.04,1.553 \\ \mathbf{. 0 6 2} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} .068(.366) \\ -.655, .791 \\ .853 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} .016(.080) \\ -.142, .174 \\ .840 \end{gathered}$ |
| Received Pap tests | 38 (51.4) | 37 (34.9) | $\begin{gathered} .820(.451) \\ -.071,1.171 \\ . \mathbf{0 7 1} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} .044(.391) \\ -.728, .816 \\ .910 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} .115(.086) \\ -.055, .286 \\ .184 \end{gathered}$ |
| Man talked to woman about Pap test ${ }^{1}$ | 38 (73.1) | 45 (53.6) | $\begin{gathered} .153(.560) \\ -.959,1.264 \\ .785 \end{gathered}$ | N/A | N/A |
| Man encouraged woman to get Pap test ${ }^{1}$ | 35 (71.4) | 43 (52.4) | $\begin{gathered} .354(.525) \\ -.689,1.396 \\ .502 \end{gathered}$ | N/A | N/A |

${ }^{1}$ Analyses were adjusted for men's report at pre-test that they had, at least once, recommended to their wife/female partner to have a Pap test.

- Women in the intervention group were more likely to have scheduled and to have received a Pap test compared to women in the comparison group.

Tanjasiri SP et al. Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers, \& Prevention, 2019.

High community engagement
Positive outcomes
Strength of cultural targeting


Relied on self-reported Pap test behavior

Retention: overall 25\% loss to follow-up

Wide dissemination to wait-list controls

# WHAT DO YOU THINK WERE THE STRENGTHS \& LIMITATIONS 

Recruitment took time and multiple meetings

Uncertain
generalizability

## SUPPORTING OUR WOMEN STUDY: LESSONS LEARNED

- Importance of working with church and clan leaders to show respect regardless of denomination or clan ties
- Ability to be flexible to accommodate schedules
- Neutrality of community organizations and study staff
- Providing food at all recruitment and education activities as show of appreciation to organizations and individuals
- Emphasis on helping women and men overcome their reluctance to talk about the taboo subject of cervical cancer
- Adding humor to all presentations
- Importance of wider dissemination: toolkit available at http://wincart.fullerton.edu



## SUPPORTING OUR WOMEN STUDY: ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

## Guam Communications Network

Lola Sablan-Santos Perci Flores

Lou Quitugua
Pete Flores

## Samoan National Nurses Association

Dorothy Vaivao
Marina Tupua
Genesis Lutu
Peni Taito
Caroline Pele*
Tongan Community Service Center / SSG
Vanessa Tuione-May
Elenoa Vaikona
Isi Vunileva
Orange County Asian \& Pacific Islander Community Alliance
Mary Anne Foo
Jason Lacsamana

| California State University, Fullerton |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| Sora Park Tanjasiri | Michele Mouttapa |
| Jie Weiss | Ciara Paige |
| Ualani Ho` opai |  |
| Jasmine DeGuzman Lacsamana |  |
| Community Advisory Board members |  |
| Lolini Vaimaona | Albert Van Meter |
| Tamara Tavai | Sione Holakeituai |
| Nuuausala Gafa | Tina Holakeituai |
| Peka Petaia | Katalina Fehoko |
| Nerisa Laufili Time | Laulile Fehoko |
| Christina Dorame | Akanesi Fehoko |
| Viola Johnson | Setaleki Fehoko |
| Paua Manuatu (Tuisoso) |  |
| Semisi Uhi Joe Vaivao |  |
| Faleiva Seti Pauliasi Taufa |  |

California State University, Fullerton
Sora Park Tanjasiri
Jie Weiss
Ciara Paige
Ualani Ho` opai
Jasmine DeGuzman Lacsamana
Community Advisory Board members

Lolini Vaimaona
Tamara Tavai
Nuuausala Gafa
Peka Petaia
Nerisa Laufili Time
Christina Dorame
Viola Johnson

Semisi Uhi Joe Vaivao
Faleiva Seti Pauliasi Taufa

ocapica

# COMMUNITY-UNIVERSITY CANCER CBPR JOURNEY 

OCAPICA,
FiGH, UPAC,
Stonesoup
and UCLA get
together to
plan CBPR
project
Community and
researchers meet
and decide to
promote BC
education in the
Hmong
community

In Hmong woman dies in Long Beach from breast cancer (BC) (1995)



RWJ ACCT
OCAPICA, CSUF and UCLA receive CDC REACH 2010 grant to build larger coalition with seven Asian $\longrightarrow$ and Pacific Islander communities (1999-2005)

OCAPICA and UCLA receive CA BCRP grants to develop and test $B C$ materials and education (19992002)

Community and researchers meet and decide to promote BC Hmong community

OCAPICA, CSUF, and UCLA receive CDC CEED grant to disseminate best practices across the U.S.
(2005-2010)
$\qquad$
OCAPICA and CSUF receive NIH WINCART grant to promote education, research and training for Pacific Islanders (20052016)

## CDC REACH 2010

## OMH Men's Health

TCE PI Health

Komen

SOW Pap

## Thank you \& Questions

Sora Park Tanjasiri, DrPH, MPH
Professor, UCI Department of Epidemiology Associate Director, Cancer Health Disparities \& Community Engagement UCI Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center
tanjasir@uci.edu


[^0]:    American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) Cancer Progress Report 2018

