### Historical Perspective of Patient Navigation and a Vision for the Future

National Cancer Policy Forum of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine

November 13, 2017 Washington, D.C.

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#### The "War on Cancer"

Signing of the National Cancer Act of 1971



The Discovery-Delivery Disconnect

**Discovery** 



**Delivery** 



**Critical Disconnect** 

This *discovery to delivery*"disconnect" is a key determinant of the unequal burden of cancer.

### **Causes of Health Disparities**

Poverty/
Low Economic
Status

**Social Injustice** 

**Culture** 

Possible Influence on Gene Environment Interaction

**Prevention** 

Early Detection

**Diagnosis** 

**Treatment** 

Post Treatment/ Quality of Life Support



Inadequate physical and social environment

Inadequate information and knowledge

Riskpromoting lifestyle, attitude, behavior

Diminished access to health care



## Report to the Nation on Cancer and the Poor

In 1989 the American Cancer Society conducted a series of hearings throughout the country to hear the testimony of poor Americans who had been diagnosed with cancer.

#### Report to the Nation on Cancer and the Poor

#### **Findings**

Poor people meet significant barriers when they attempt to seek diagnosis and treatment of cancer.

- Poor people often do not even seek care if they cannot pay for it.
- Poor people experience more pain and suffering because of late stage disease.

#### Report to the Nation on Cancer and the Poor, 1989

#### **Findings**

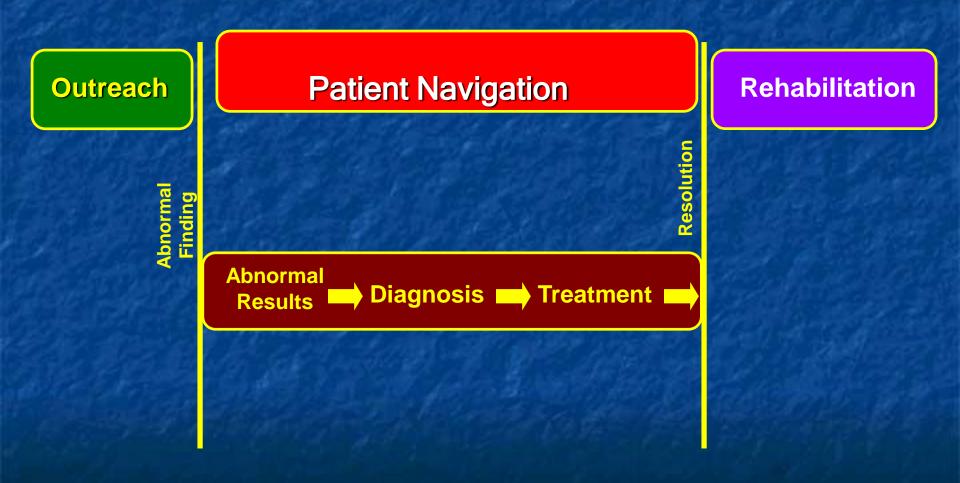
- Fatalism about cancer is prevalent among the poor and prevents them from seeking care.
- Poor people and their families must make extraordinary and personal sacrifices to obtain and pay for care.
- Current cancer education programs are culturally insensitive and irrelevant to many poor people.

# PRINICIPAL BARRIERS TO HEALTH CARE

- > Financial
- > Communication
- > Health Care System Barriers
- > Fear and Distrust

Related to these findings the first Patient Navigation program was conceived and initiated in 1990 at Harlem Hospital Center.

#### **Patient Navigation Model**

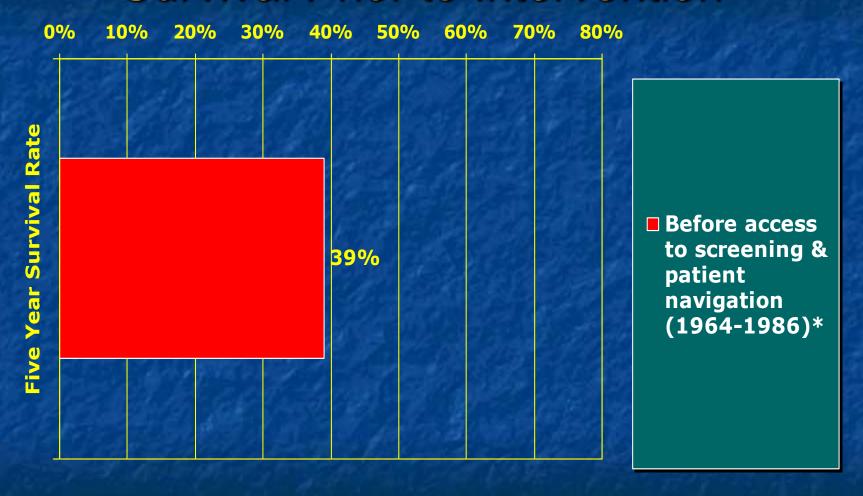


### Breast Cancer Stage of Disease Prior to Intervention (Harlem Hospital)

<u>1964</u>	<u>1964-1986</u>	
Stage 0	0%	
Stage I	6%	
Stage II	45%	
Stage III	39%	
Stage IV	10%	

<sup>\*</sup>Freeman HP, Wasfie TJ (1989). Cancer of the breast in poor black women. Cancer, 63(12), 2562 – 2569.

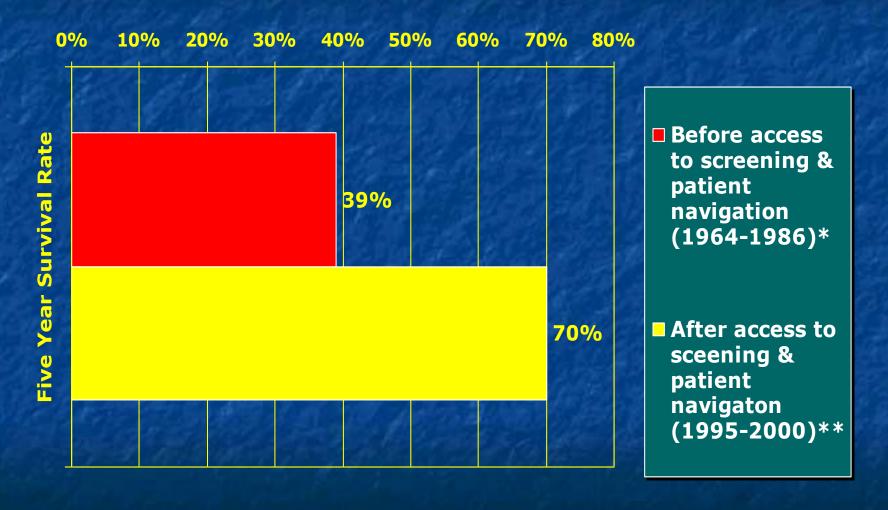
### Harlem Hospital Center Breast Cancer Survival Prior to Intervention



# Impact of Harlem Hospital Center Breast Cancer Screening/Navigation Program Comparison of Stage of Disease

	<u>1964-1986</u>	<u>1995-2000</u>
Stage 0	0%	12%
Stage I	6%	29%
Stage II	45%	38%
Stage III	39%	14%
Stage IV	10%	7%

### Impact of Screening & Patient Navigation on Breast Cancer 5-year Survival Rates Harlem Hospital

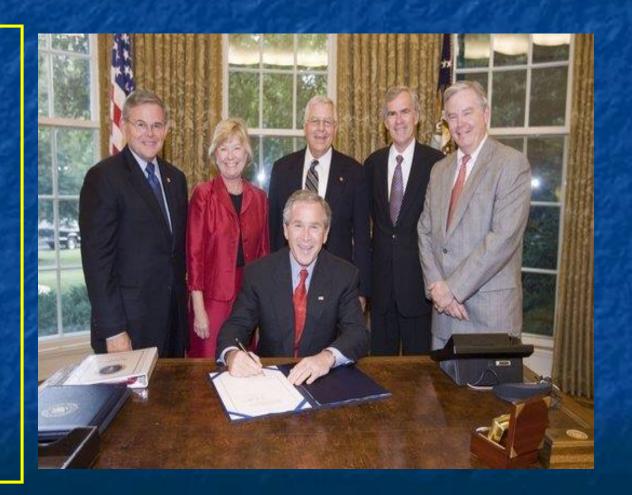


<sup>\*</sup>Freeman HP, Wasfie TJ (1989). Cancer of the breast in poor black women. *Cancer*, 63(12), 2562-2569. Oluwale/Freeman, Journal of American College of Surgeons, 2003

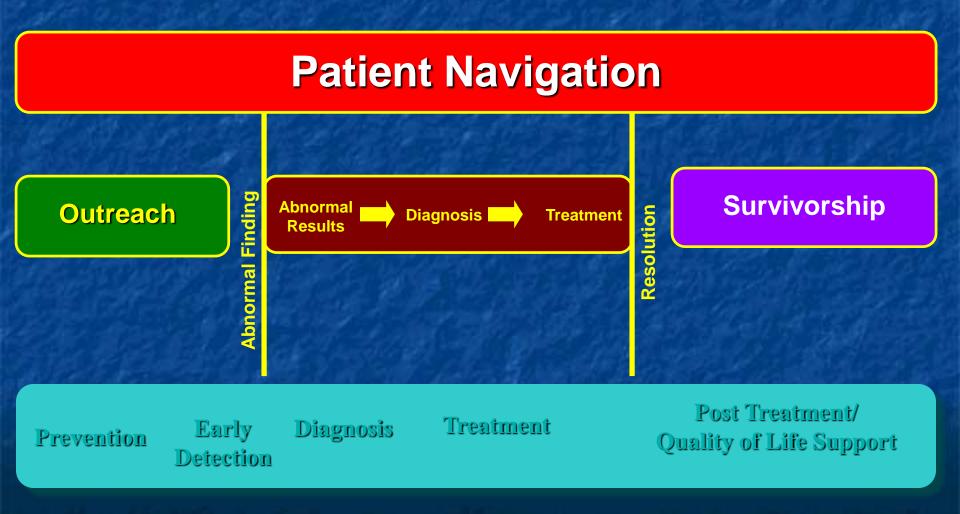
### National Legislation authorizing Patient Navigation Program

Signed into law June 29, 2005

"Patient
Navigator
Outreach and
Chronic Disease
Prevention Act of
2005"
P.L. 109-18



### Patient Navigation Across The Health Care Continuum



Freeman, 2006.

Navigation is a patient centered health care service delivery model.

The core function of navigation is the elimination of barriers to timely care across all phases of the health care continuum.

Patient navigation may serve to virtually integrate a fragmented healthcare system for the individual patient.

Patient Navigation should be defined with a clear scope of practice that distinguishes the role and responsibilities of the navigator from that of all other providers.

Delivery of navigation services should be cost effective and commensurate with the training and skills necessary to navigate an individual through a particular phase of the care continuum.

Who should navigate should be determined by the level of skills required in a given phase of navigation.

In a given system of care there is a need to define the point at which navigation begins and the point at which navigation ends.

Patient navigation can serve as the process that connects disconnected health care systems such as primary care and tertiary care sites.

Navigation systems require coordination. In larger systems of patient care this coordination is best carried out by assigning a navigation coordinator who is responsible for overseeing all phases of navigation activity within a given health care system.

### American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer

Cancer Program Standards 2012: Standard 3.1

American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer mandated that Patient Navigation is to be a standard of care to be met by cancer programs seeking approval beginning 2015

#### Affordable Care Act: 2010

The ACA requires that states utilize patient navigators to facilitate access to health insurance coverage for uninsured individuals.

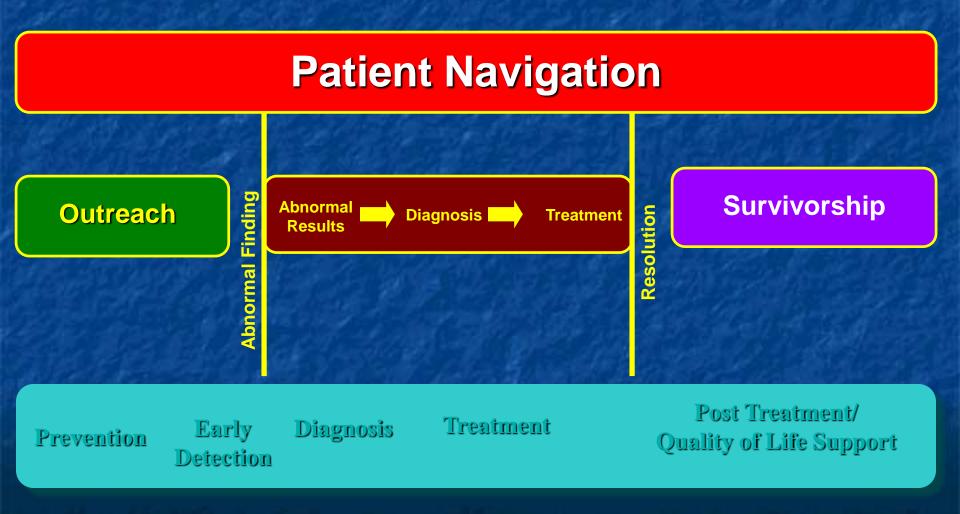
### Patient Navigation Timeline

- 1989 National Hearings on Cancer in the Poor
- 1990 Patient Navigator Program initiated at Harlem Hospital
- 1995 First publication on Patient Navigation:
  "Expanding Access to Cancer Screening and Clinical Follow-up Among the Medically Underserved", J. Cancer Practice. 1995 Freeman HP
- 2004 National Cancer Institute funded 9 Patient Navigator demonstration sites
- 2005 Patient Navigator Outreach and Chronic Disease Prevention Act Signed into Law by President Bush

### Patient Navigation Timeline

- **2006** Center for Medicare and Medicaid funded 6 demonstration sites
- Health Resources and Services Administration funded 6 demonstration sites (under the Patient Navigation Act)
- 2010 Affordable Care Act requires States to utilize Patient Navigators to facilitate access to health insurance
- 2012 American College of Surgeons, Commission on Cancer mandates that patient navigation is a standard of care for cancer center approval
- NCI Patient Navigation Research Program (PNRP): Report on the impact of Patient Navigation in eliminating economic disparities in cancer care

### Patient Navigation Across The Health Care Continuum



Freeman, 2006.

# Final Thoughts