

National Cancer Forum
Roundtable on Health Literacy

Health Literacy and Communication Strategies in Oncology

Two Sides of a Coin: Cancer Prevention at a Urban Hospital in Washington, DC

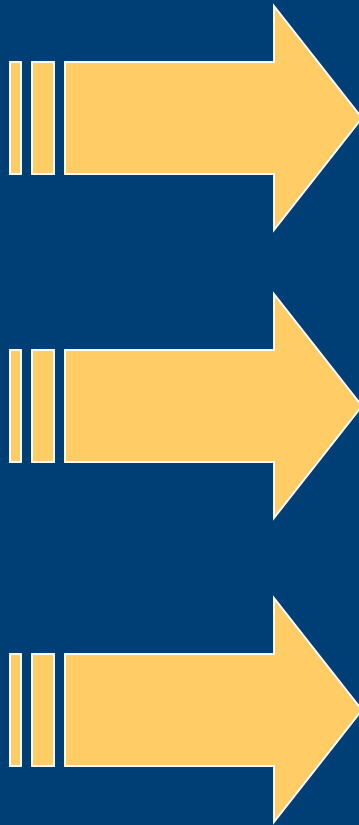
Washington, DC
July 15, 2019

Elmer E. Huerta, MD, MPH

THE REALITY



People waiting for
symptoms to appear



Extremely
busy, illness-
loaded,
primary care
system

They often use
the emergency
room...

**People living
without a disease**

**People living with
a disease**

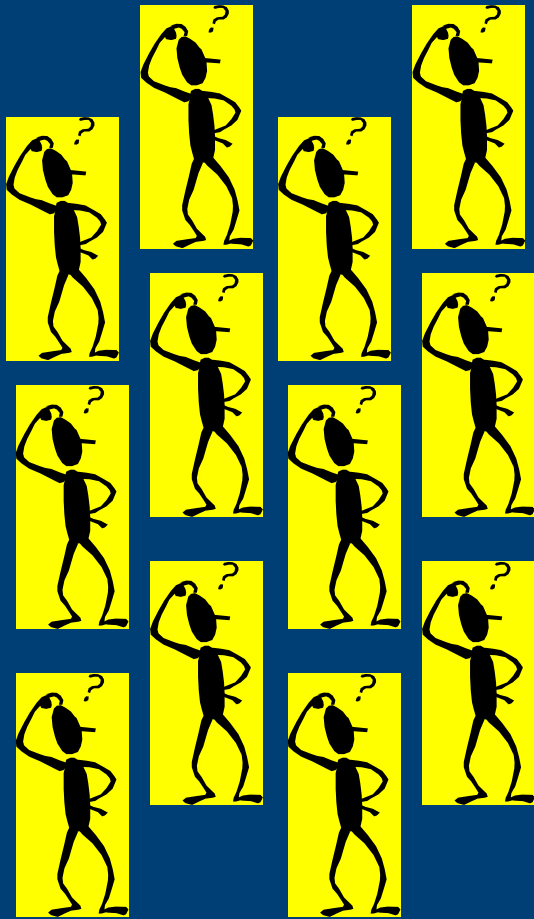
3.1%

96.9%

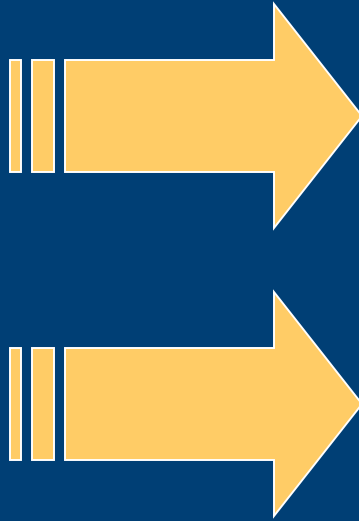
In 2009, according to NHEA*, 3.1 percent of the nation's nearly \$2.5 trillion spent on health, or \$77.2 billion, was spent on government public health activities

*Office of the Actuary National Health Expenditure Accounts

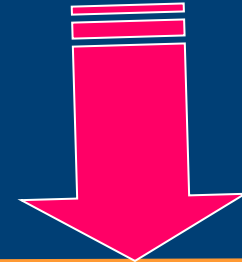
Changing the Paradigm



How to convince
people to seek
medical care when
asymptomatic?

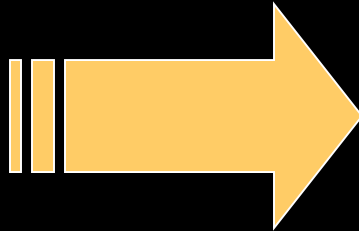
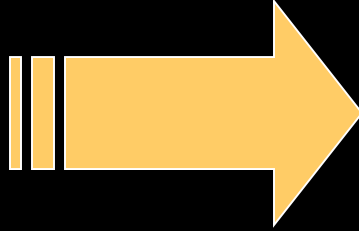


To develop a
health
promotion/disease
prevention-based
system



To develop a less
illness-loaded
primary care
system

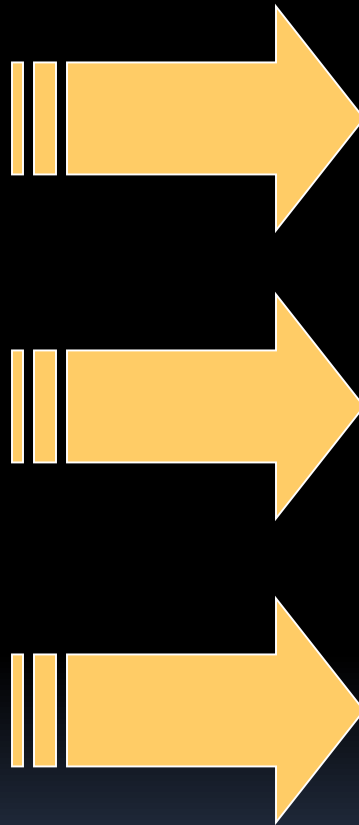
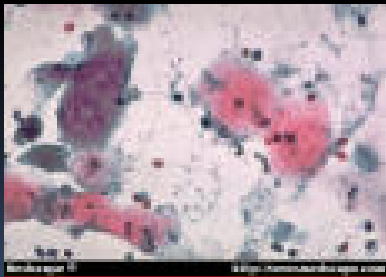
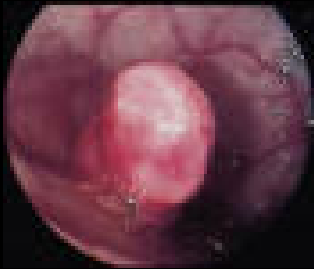
How to go from...



That saturates
a cancer health
system with
incurable,
advanced cases

Advanced
disease

to...



A cancer
health system
more focused
on the care of
early disease
cases

Early disease

In order for that change to occur, one should understand that the frequency of cancer in a locality, not only depends on the biology of the tumor, but also on:

- ❖ Cancer control programs
- ❖ Laws
- ❖ Health policies
- ❖ Community health programs, and
- ❖ Individual behavior

Cancer Prevention & Early Detection Facts and Figures 2005

In other words...

We should not concentrate only on the study of the tumor ...

**Thyrosine-
kinase**

EGF

p53



Apoptosis

Angiogenesis

Oncogenes

But also on the person with the tumor...



Language

Poverty

Fears

Fatalism



Lack of
medical
insurance

False beliefs

Lack of information

Knowledge

Attitude

Behavior

How can we convince
people that an ounce of
prevention is worth a
pound of cure?

I am convinced that
coherent, consistent, media-
based, public education
programs need to be created

An ethnically-sensitive,
culturally-relevant, media-based
community outreach program
was progressively developed
since 1989 following four basic
principles:

Our Media Principles...

1. Use the media **CONSISTENTLY**
2. Develop **COMPREHENSIVE** health education programs
3. Use **ALL MEDIA CHANNELS** available **TO** the community
4. Be a **TRUSTED MESSENGER**

Media Tools

A. RADIO

1. The Community Clinic of The Air. Daily, one-hour talk show. Radio América. Washington, DC
2. Encendidos. Columnist. Monday-Wednesday- Friday. Two-hour program to Peru. RPP Noticias
3. Cuidando tu Salud. Saturday, 90-minute program to Peru. RPP Noticias
4. Rotativa Informativa. Daily five-minute segment to Peru. RPP Noticias



July 15, 2019

Knowledge and Compassion **Focused on You**



July 15, 2019

Knowledge and Compassion **Focused on You**



July 15, 2019

Knowledge and Compassion **Focused on You**



Broadcasting live from the Ciudad de Guatemala International Airport

July 15, 2019

Knowledge and Compassion **Focused on You**

B. TELEVISION

Medical correspondent for CNN en Espanol

Directo a la Salud. Weekly 5-minute segment

Encuentro con la Salud. Weekly 5-minute segment

Breaking News. 24/7 availability



July 15, 2019

23

Media Tools

Twitter: @drhuerta



July 15, 2019

Knowledge and Compassion **Focused on You**

Media Tools

Blog “Cuida tu Salud” www.elcomercio.pe

The screenshot shows the top of the El Comercio website with a yellow header. Below it is a navigation bar with links like 'Lo último', 'Opinión', 'Política', 'Perú', 'Lima', 'Mundo', 'Economía', 'Luces', 'DT', 'TV', 'Ver Más', and a 'Club El Comercio' button. The main banner for 'Cuida tu salud' is blue with white text and a person doing a handstand. Below the banner is the article title 'Los pies también necesitan cuidados' by Elmer Huerta. To the right is a 'SOBRE EL AUTOR' section with a photo of Elmer Huerta and his bio. The bio states he is the Director of the Preventorio del Instituto de Cáncer at MedStar Washington Hospital Center, has 30 years of medical experience, and specializes in internal medicine, oncology, cancer prevention, and public health. The article content includes a sub-header '¿Cómo reducir el riesgo en la salud?' and two sections: 'Ortopedia' (Orthopedics) discussing shoe fit and orthopedic shoes, and 'Sandalias' (Sandals) discussing the risk of infection from public sandals. Social media sharing icons are visible.

HOY ◀ VENEZUELA NEYMAR HUELGA ▶

INGRESA REGÍSTRATE f t G+ Q

El Comercio

Lo último • Opinión • Política • Perú • Lima • Mundo • Economía • Luces • DT • TV • Ver Más • Club El Comercio

Cuida tu
salud

Por Elmer Huerta

Los pies también necesitan cuidados

Redacción. 07.31.2017 / 05:24PM

f t c +

¿Cómo reducir el riesgo en la salud?

Ortopedia
Zapatos ajustados pueden generar ciertas deformaciones. Es recomendable el uso de zapatos ortopédicos.

Sandalias
El uso de este tipo de prendas en lugares públicos evita el riesgo de infección por hongos.

SOBRE EL AUTOR

ELMER HUERTA

El Dr. Elmer Huerta es Director del Preventorio del Instituto de Cáncer del MedStar Washington Hospital Center en Washington, DC y tiene una obsesión: traducir para las grandes mayorías la complicada información médica, expresándola en términos sencillos y de utilidad para el público. Con casi 30 años de trabajo médico y cuatro especialidades (medicina interna, oncología médica, prevención del cáncer y salud pública), el Dr. Huerta atiende pacientes en el hospital y es investigador de cáncer. A través de su

July 15, 2019

25

SALUD

ELMER
HUERTA

Especialista en salud pública



Dos problemas de salud que siguen sin solución

Un aumento en los casos de anemia en el país y el destape de productos alimenticios con publicidad engañosa resaltaron en los medios la semana pasada.

Dos importantes noticias de salud y nutrición se dieron a conocer la semana pasada en el Perú. La primera, los resultados de la Encuesta Demográfica y de Salud Familiar (Endes) 2016. La segunda –originada en Panamá–, la suspensión de la importación del producto Pura Vida, del grupo Gloria, por vender como leche evaporada una mezcla alquímica de agua, ingredientes lácteos, soya, aceites vegetales y sustancias químicas.

—Endes 2016—
Con relación a los resultados de la Endes, se revela que en el 2016 el 13,1% de la población menor de 5 años sufrió desnutrición crónica, en la que –por falta de una alimentación adecuada– el niño no crece en armonía con su edad cronológica. Ese porcentaje representa a 373.000 niños peruanos que no tendrán el más brillante de los futuros. La distribución de la desnutrición crónica difiere de acuerdo al lugar en que se vive: afecta al 7,9% de niños en áreas urbanas (155 mil) y al 26,5% de niños en áreas rurales (218 mil). Sabiendo que el 75,9% de los peruanos vive en las ciudades y solo el 24,1% lo hace en zonas rurales, se ve

claramente que la prevalencia de desnutrición crónica infantil golpea desproporcionadamente a los niños de zonas rurales, desdibujando la existencia de los dos Perús: el abandonado y el muy abandonado. Si bien es cierto que la desnutrición crónica infantil se ha reducido en 1,3 puntos porcentuales con respecto al 2015, es importante decir que ha disminuido en 6,4 puntos porcentuales en los últimos cinco años (2011-2016).

En el caso de la anemia, las cifras son más desmorralizadoras, al haberse revelado que el 43,6% de niños peruanos entre 6 y 35 meses de edad tuvo anemia en el 2016, y haberse documentado nuevamente que es mayor en el área rural (53,4%) que en el área urbana (39,9%).

Más perturbador es que la anemia aumentó en 2,0 puntos porcentuales con respecto al 2015. Los más anémicos son los niños de Puno (75,9%), Loreto (60,7%), Pasco (60,6%), Huancavelica (58,1%) y Ucayali (57,1%).

Los datos de la encuesta Endes son, por tanto, muy claros: la sociedad peruana está descuidando la alimentación de sus niños y las consecuencias de ese descuido se van a manifestar en las próximas décadas.

—El caso de la leche—
Es importante entender que el nombre 'leche' solo puede ser aplicado al producto líquido secretado por las glándulas mamarias de una hembra de la clase de animales mamíferos.

Debido a que el 87% del contenido de la leche de vaca es agua y que antes de la refrigeración era difícil mantenerla en condiciones saludables, el norteamericano Gail Borden inventó el proceso industrial de evaporación en 1856. Gracias a esto, se obtienen leche evaporada (con 67% menos de agua), leche condensada (mucha menos agua y azúcar) y leche en polvo (que no tiene absolutamente nada de agua).

Note, amable lector, que esos tres productos tienen todos los nutrientes de la leche completa, excepto el agua. Por lo tanto, llamar leche –como lo están haciendo las denunciadas grupo Gloria y Nestlé– a un producto que se le parece por su aspecto o por tener algunos constituyentes de la leche mezclados con otros elementos es una falsedad, de la cual ya la Defensoría del Pueblo y la Asociación Peruana de Consumidores y Usuarios (Aspec) han tomado nota. Se pide que los fabricantes de Pura Vida (grupo Gloria) y Reina del Campo (Nestlé) sean sancionados, eliminen la palabra 'leche' de la etiqueta del producto y las imágenes de vacas, pauto y niños saludables.

Sin duda que debido a que Pura Vida tiene soya, grasa artificial de palma y saborizantes, y Reina del Campo contiene suero dulce de leche y aceite de palma, el haberlas vendido como leche evaporada significa que a los peruanos les han estado dando 'gato por leche'.

—Convulsario—
A pesar de que no hay ninguna duda de que la alimentación de los niños peruanos merece una atención especial por parte del Estado Peruano, llama la atención que el único esfuerzo serio, científico, avalado por la Organización Mundial de la Salud (OMS) y aprobado por el Congreso de la República, sigue sin tener un reglamento oficial. Nos estamos refiriendo a la Ley 30021, de Alimentación Saludable de Niños y Adolescentes, que corrige ambos elementos de la nota de hoy: la deficiente alimentación y la publicidad engañosa de alimentos procesados.

“En el 2016, el 13,1% de la población menor de 5 años sufrió desnutrición crónica”.

“Los más anémicos son los niños de Puno (75,9%), Loreto (60,7%), Pasco (60,6%), Huancavelica (58,1%) y Ucayali (57,1%)”.

El reglamento de la ley, que debió haberse publicado en octubre del 2016, ha sido ya redactado por el Ministerio de Salud y ha sido elevado a la oficina del primer ministro Fernando Zavala, donde ha quedado estacionado. Coincidentemente, y sin duda ante la presión del lobby de la industria de alimentos procesados y bebidas azucaradas, el congresista de Peruanos por el Cambio Salvador Heresi ha presentado un sesgado proyecto de ley que busca neutralizar la ley original y nos devuelve al pasado.

Debido a que Chile entendió que un desarrollo sostenible depende de tener una niñez saludable, aprobó en junio del 2015 una avanzada ley de alimentación saludable, que incluye un sistema muy claro de etiquetas para el consumidor y que cuenta con el apoyo del 92,4% de los chilenos. Sin duda que esa política de Estado explica en parte el desarrollo de nuestro vecino del sur, el cual se expresa en el reciente Reporte de Competitividad Global del Fórum Económico Mundial en que Chile ocupa el puesto 33 entre 138 naciones, mientras que el Perú está en el puesto 67. Nuestros gobernantes deben entender que la protección de la niñez debe estar por encima de cualquier interés comercial.



ILUSTRACIÓN: RINALDO RODRIGUEZ

Weekly column El Comercio (Peru)

26



MedStar Washington
Hospital Center

After the public has
been convinced to take
preventive steps...

They need a
place to go...

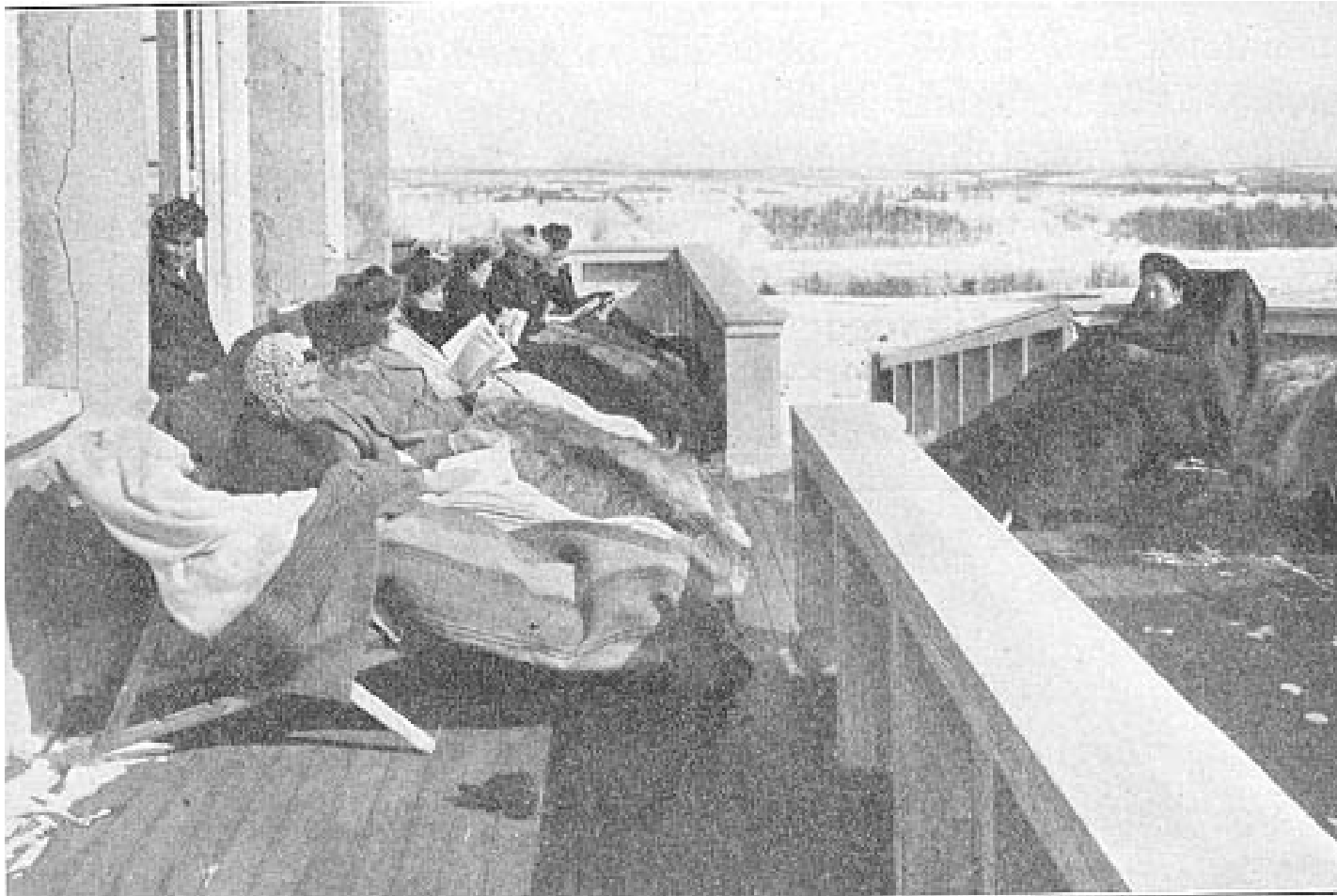
Creation of the Cancer Preventorium

SANATORIUM

NOUN: 1. An institution for the treatment of chronic diseases or for medically supervised recuperation. 2. A resort for improvement or maintenance of health, especially for convalescents. Also called sanitarium.

ETYMOLOGY: From neuter of Late Latin *sanatorius*, curative, from Latin *sanatus* past participle of *sanare*, to heal, from *sanus*, healthy.

The American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language: Fourth Edition. 2000



In 1884 in New York, "Little Red", the first TB Sanatorium in the country was opened.



Interior view of “Little Red” New York 1884

PREVENTORIUM

A non-existent word in the dictionary

PREVENTORIUM

NOUN: 1. An institution for the prevention and early detection of chronic diseases or for medically supervised patient education. 2. A resort for maintenance of health, especially for people without evident illness.

Our proposed definition

...people of the future will visit
“preventories” to receive health
education, undergone cancer
screening tests, and even engage in
community activism...

Michael Shimkin, MD
ASCO Founding Member
Preventive Medicine, June 1975

The Preventorium has two main goals:

- ✓ To find and treat early asymptomatic conditions (cancer, diabetes, high blood pressure)
- ✓ To find and manage risk factors for those chronic conditions

The Washington Cancer Institute at MedStar Washington Hospital Center

Cancer Preventorium

✓ **Date Started: July 27, 1994**

✓ **Patients Seen
(as of 4/17/19): 37,174**

The Washington Cancer Institute at MedStar Washington Hospital Center

Cancer Preventorium

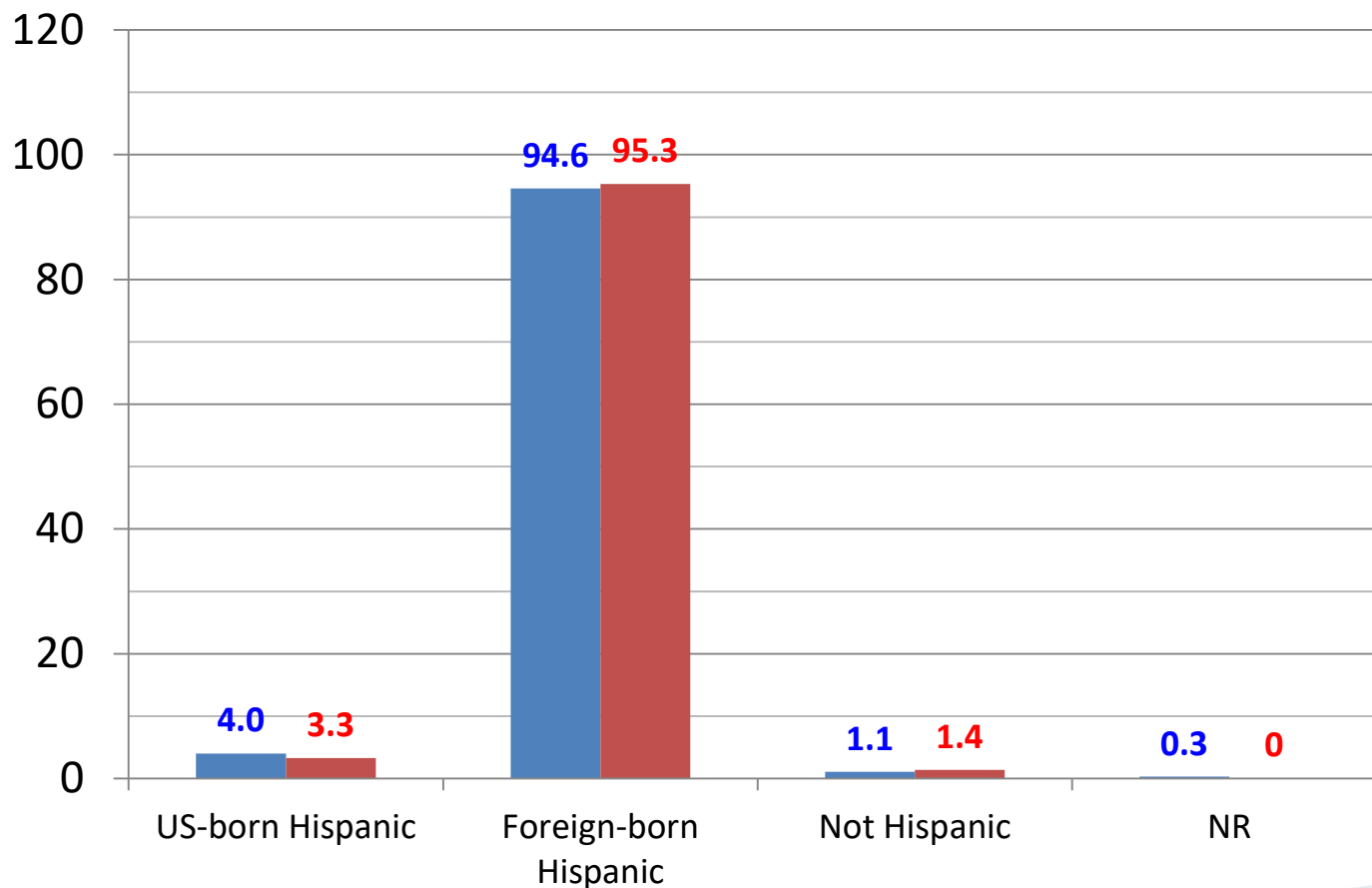
GENDER:

Male: 11,435 (30%)

Female: 25,739 (70%)

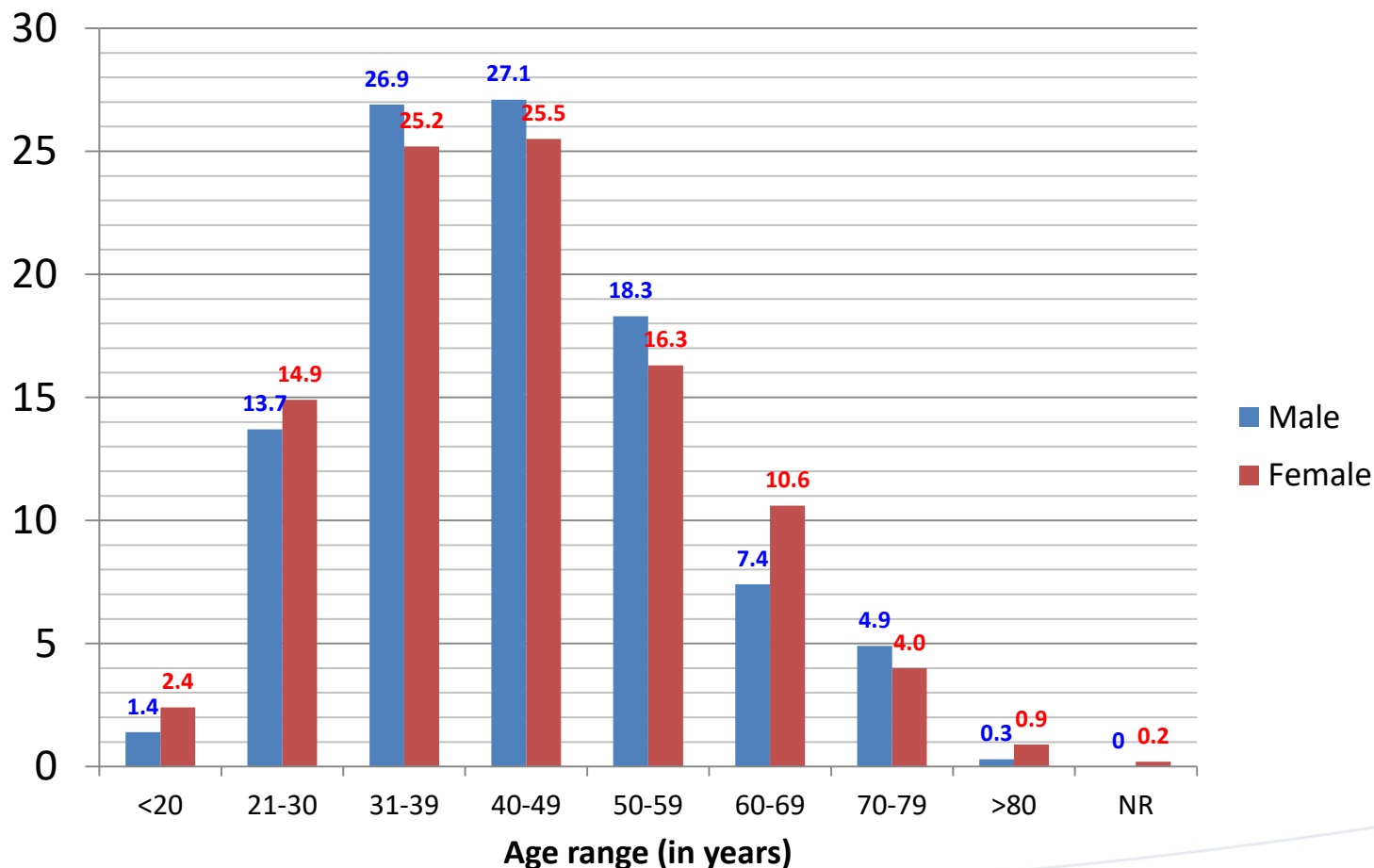
WCI Cancer Preventorium New Patients. February 2013 – March 10, 2015
Total 774 patients . Male 350 (45.2%) Female 424 (54.8%)

Ethnic group, new patients. Percent



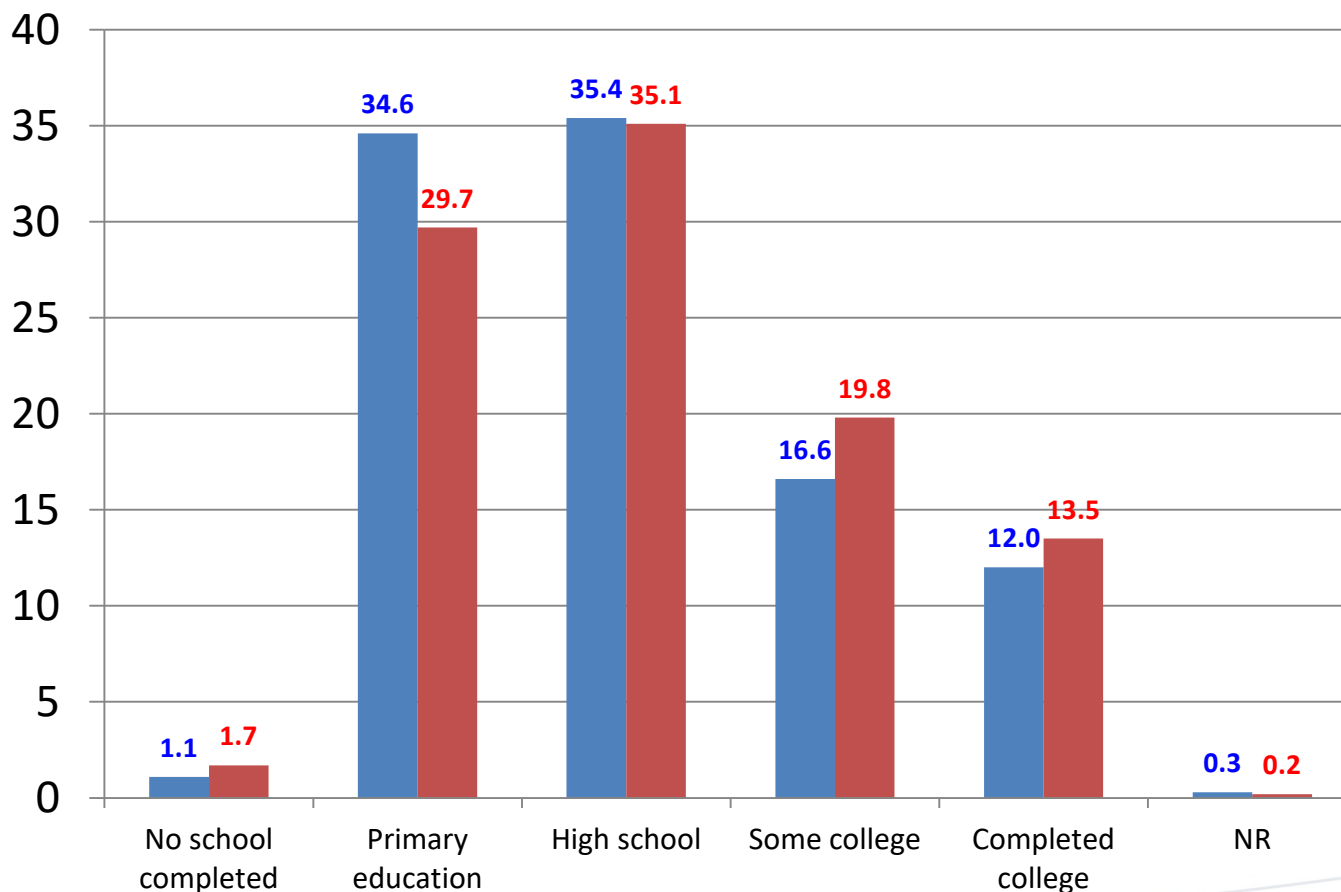
WCI Cancer Preventorium New Patients. February 2013 – March 10, 2015
Total 774 patients . Male 350 (45.2%) Female 424 (54.8%)

Age Range, New Patients. Percent



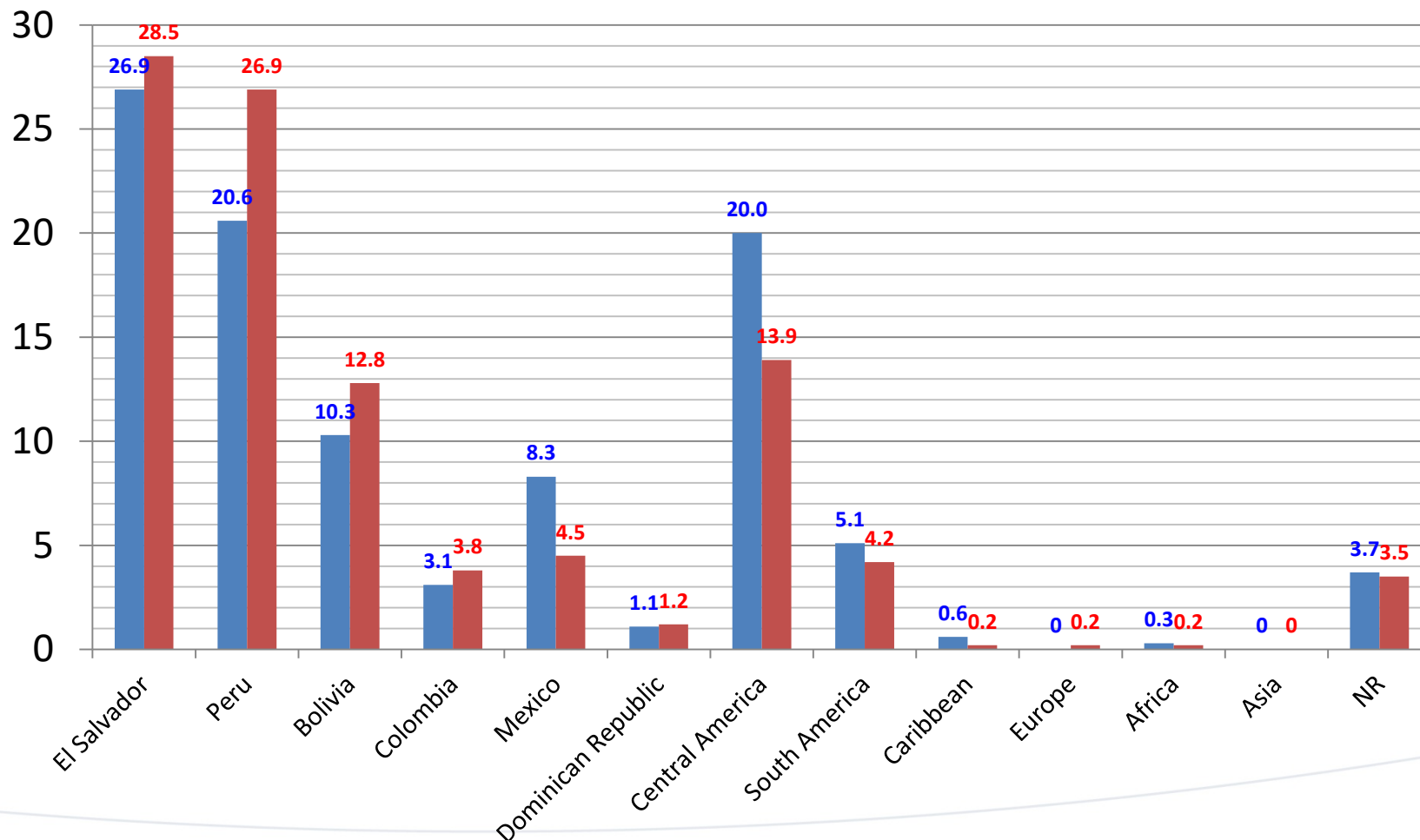
WCI Cancer Preventorium New Patients. February 2013 – March 10, 2015
Total 774 patients . Male 350 (45.2%) Female 424 (54.8%)

Educational Attainment Level, New Patients. Percent

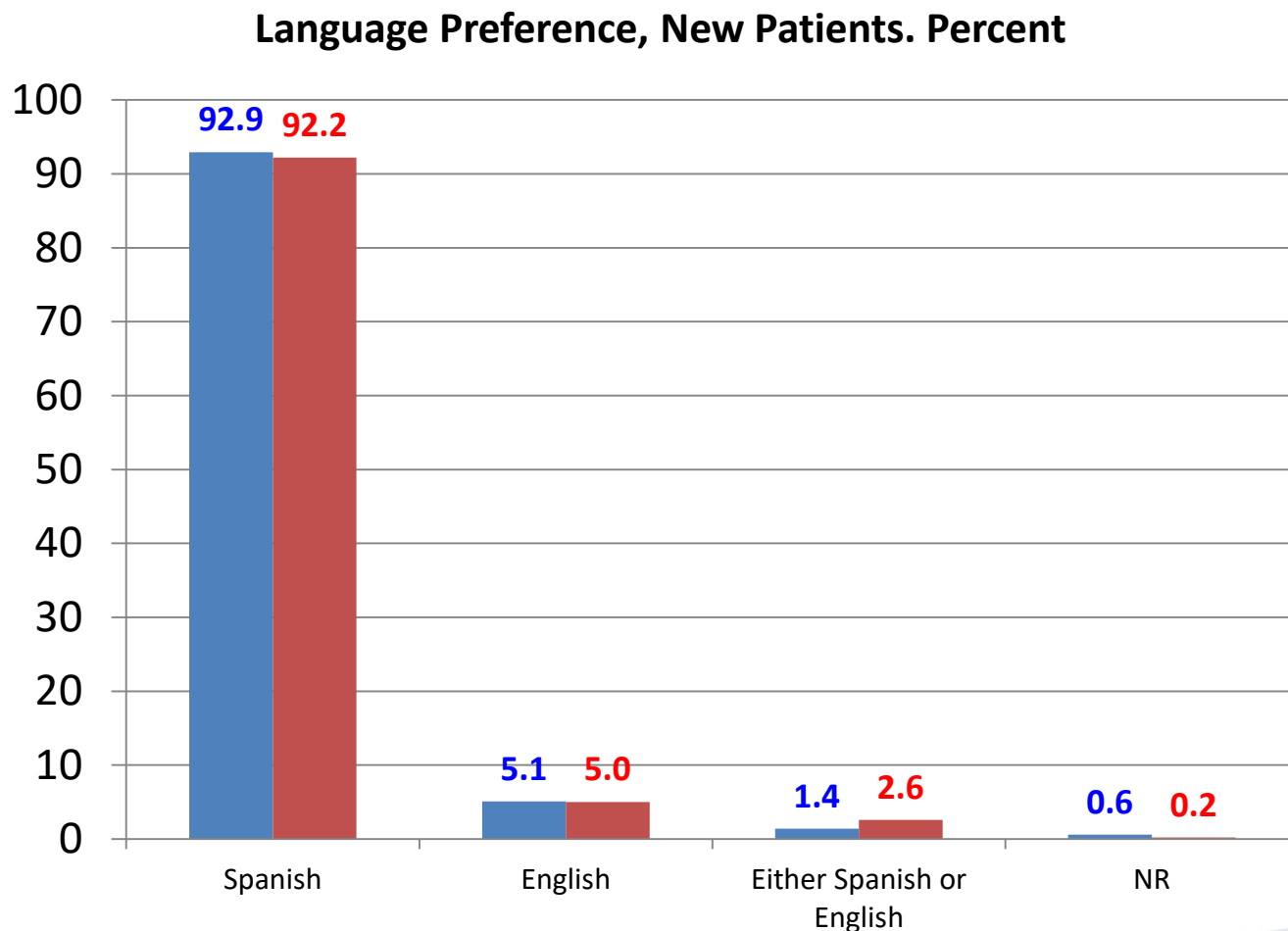


WCI Cancer Preventorium New Patients. February 2013 – March 10, 2015
Total 774 patients . Male 350 (45.2%) Female 424 (54.8%)

Country of Origin, New Patients. Percent



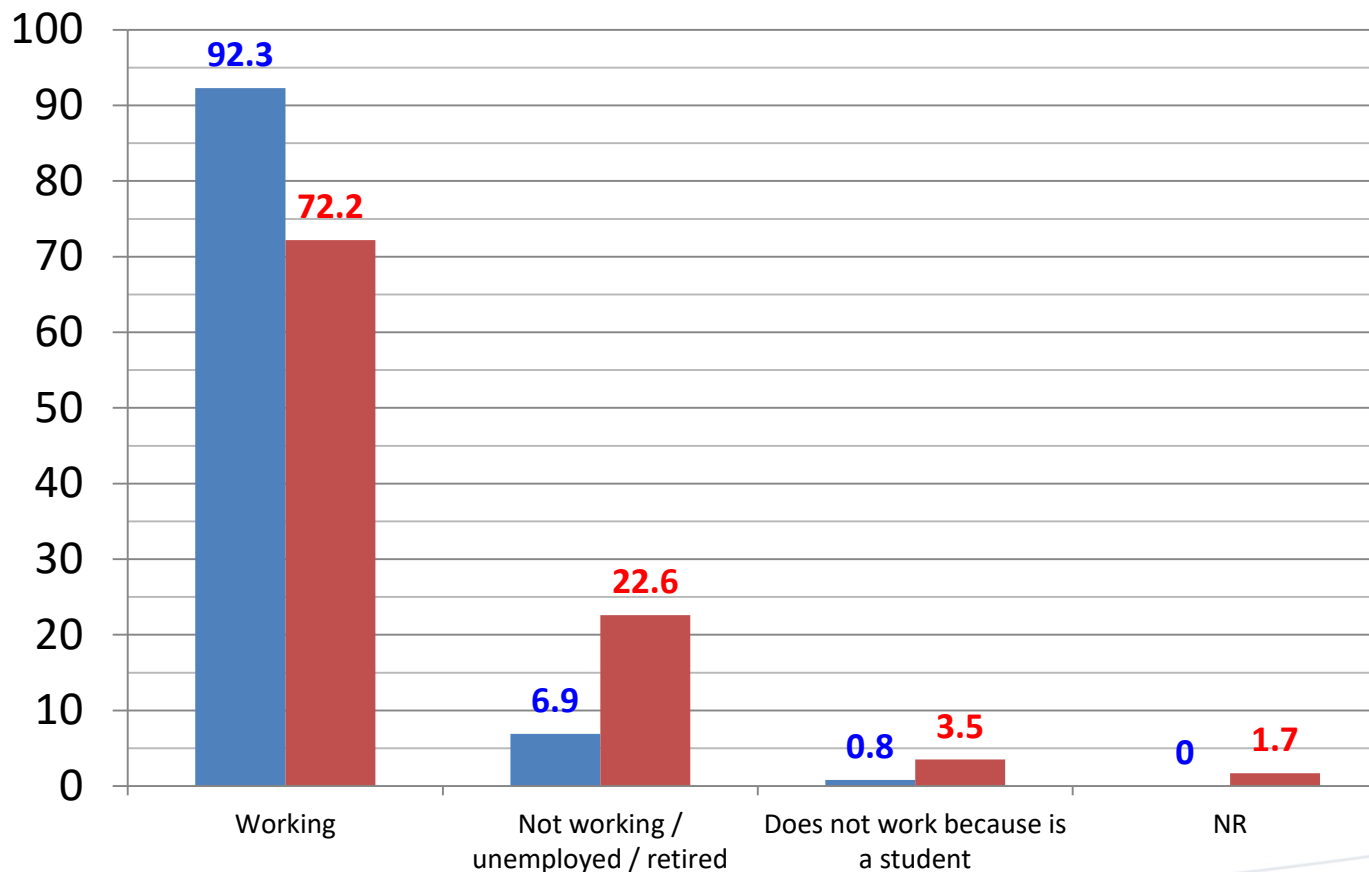
WCI Cancer Preventorium New Patients. February 2013 – March 10, 2015
Total 774 patients . Male 350 (45.2%) Female 424 (54.8%)



WCI Cancer Preventorium New Patients. February 2013 – March 10, 2015

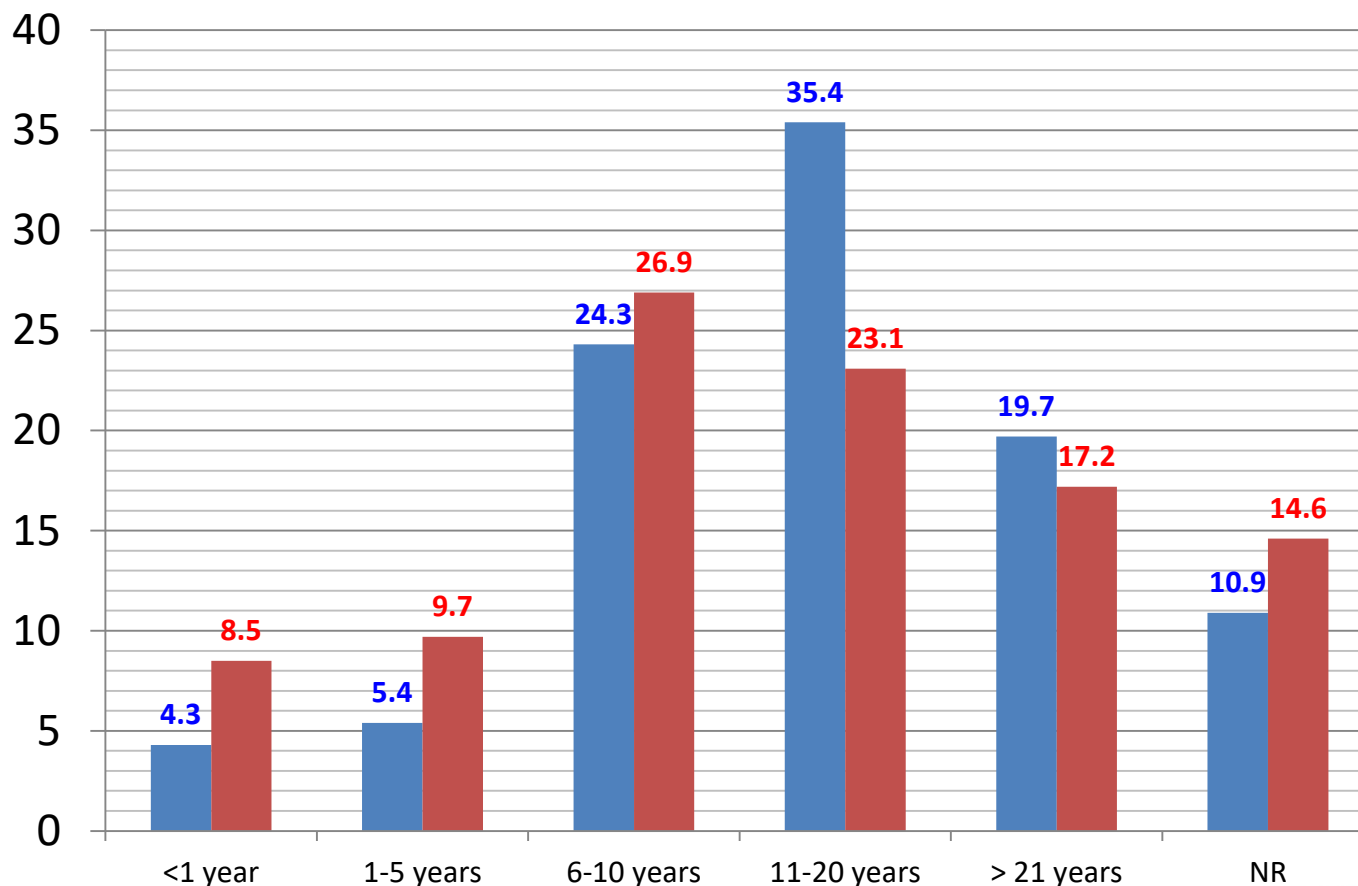
Total 774 patients . Male 350 (45.2%) Female 424 (54.8%)

Employment During the Week Prior to Coming to the Clinic,
New Patients. Percent



WCI Cancer Preventorium New Patients. February 2013 – March 10, 2015
Total 774 patients . Male 350 (45.2%) Female 424 (54.8%)

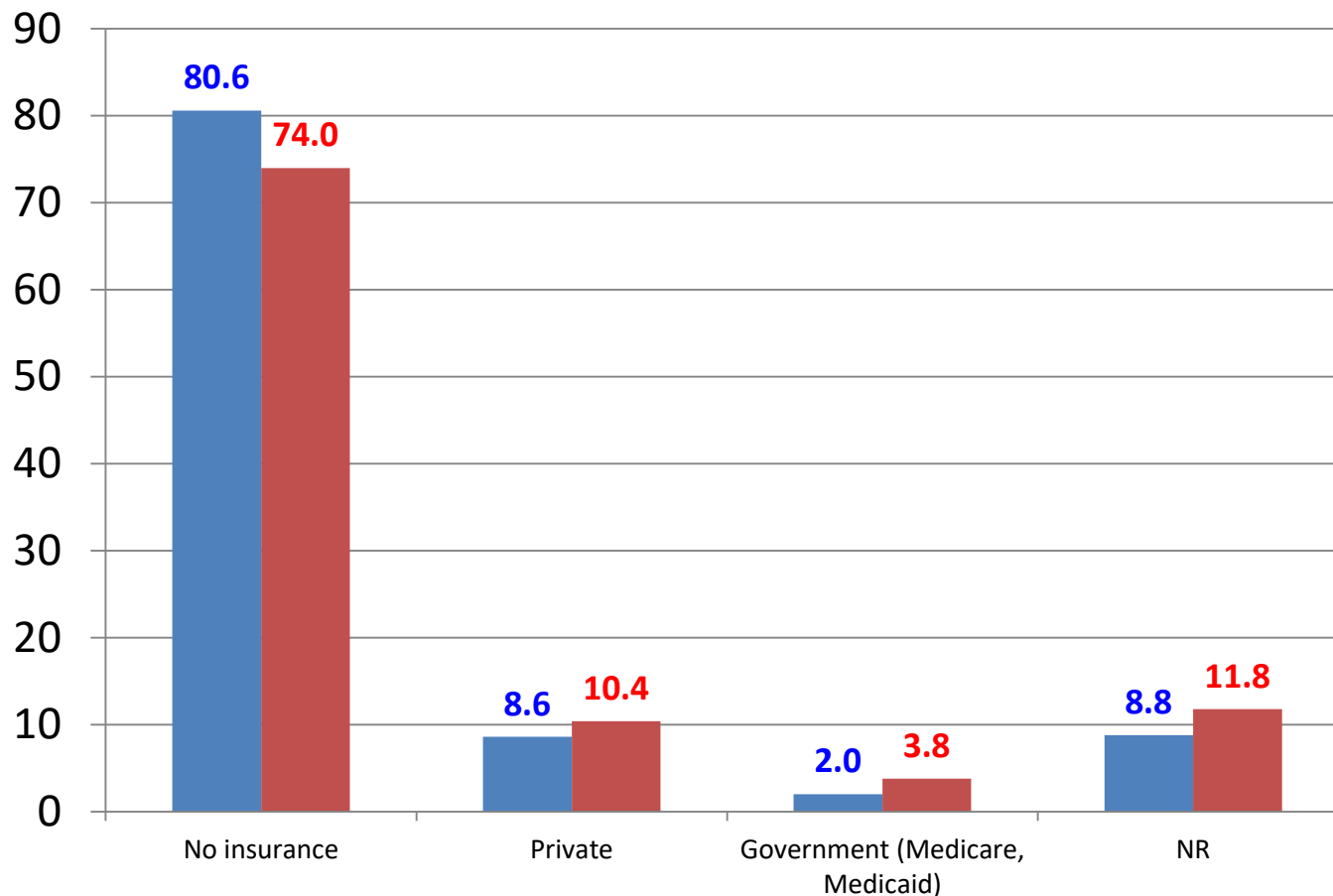
Years Living in the USA, New Patients. Percent



WCI Cancer Preventorium New Patients. February 2013 – March 10, 2015

Total 774 patients . Male 350 (45.2%) Female 424 (54.8%)

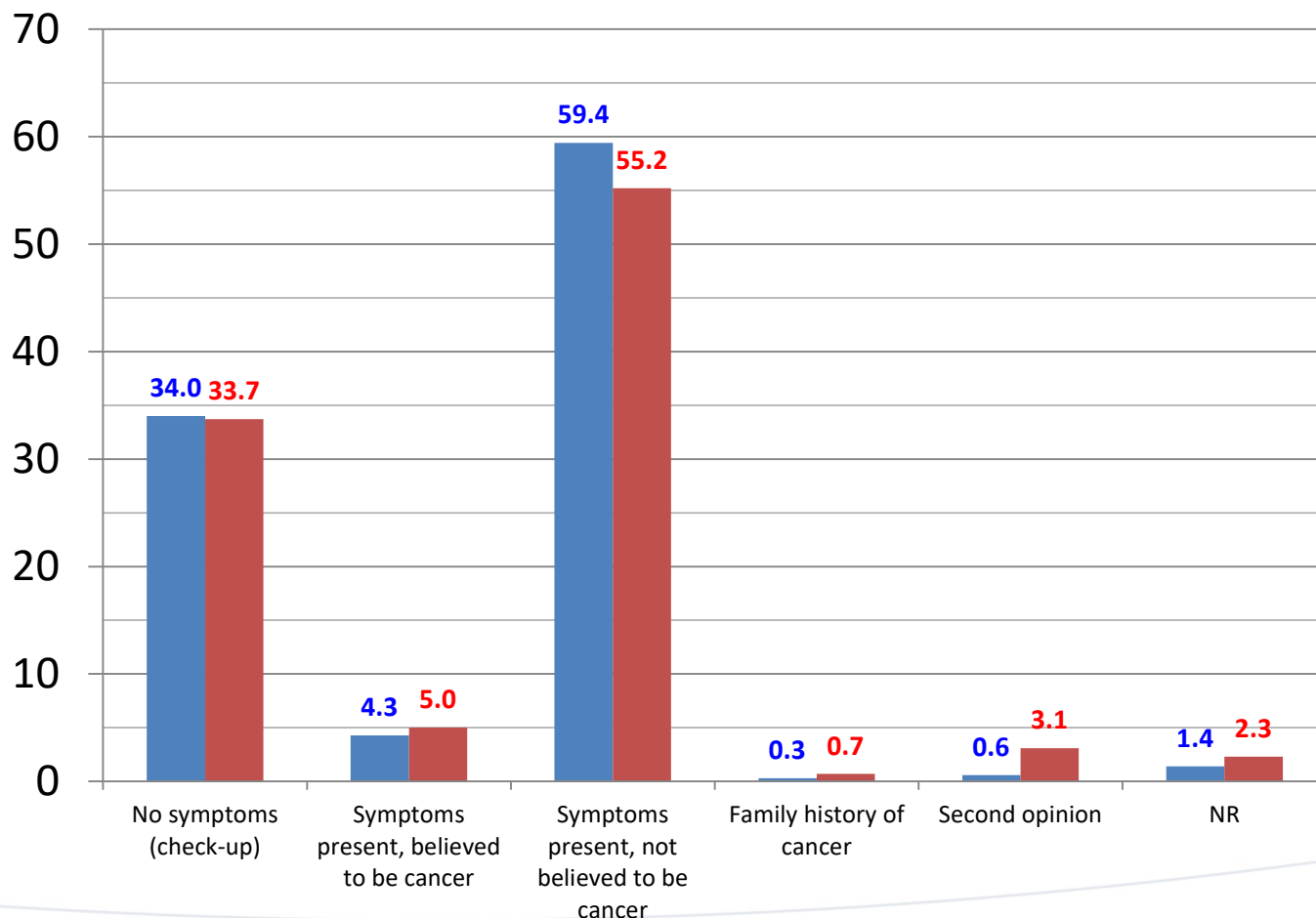
Insurance, New Patients. Percent



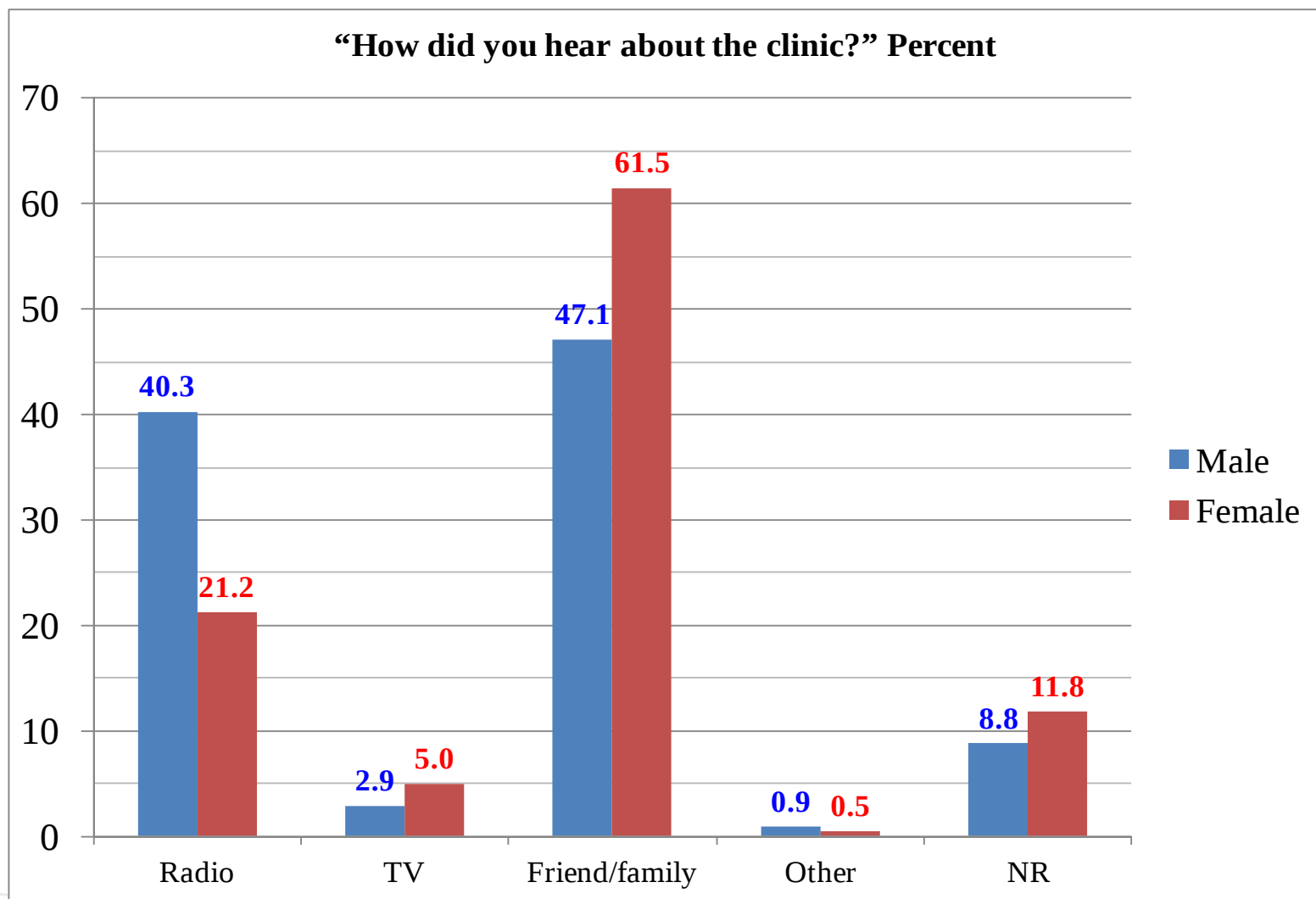
WCI Cancer Preventorium New Patients. February 2013 – March 10, 2015

Total 774 patients . Male 350 (45.2%) Female 424 (54.8%)

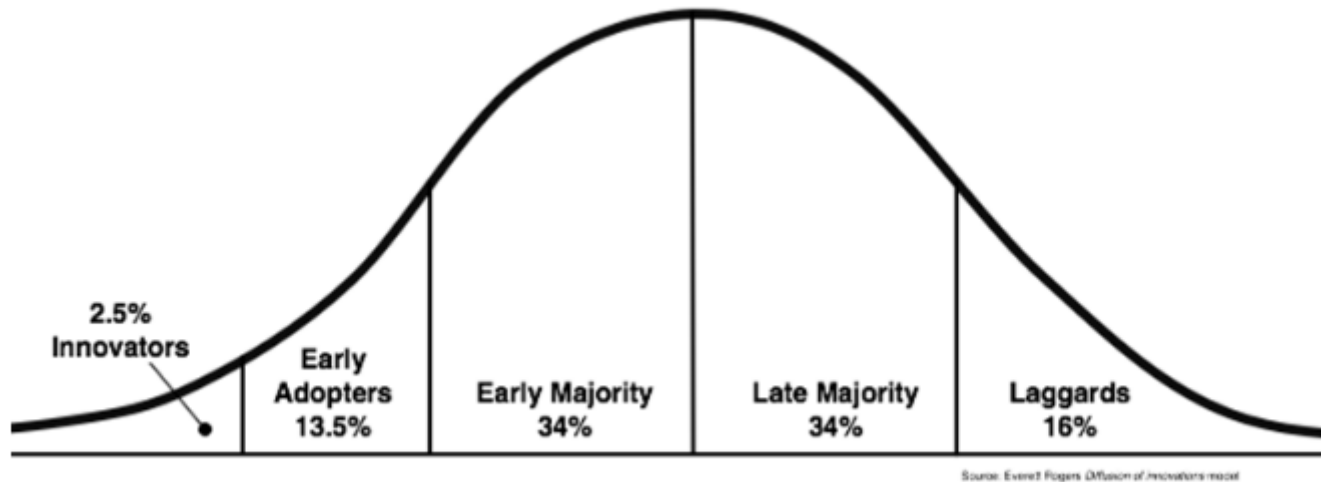
Reasons for Visiting the Clinic, New Patients.



WCI Cancer Preventorium New Patients. February 2013 – March 10, 2015
Total 774 patients . Male 350 (45.2%) Female 424 (54.8%)



Theoretical framework: Diffusion of Innovation Model



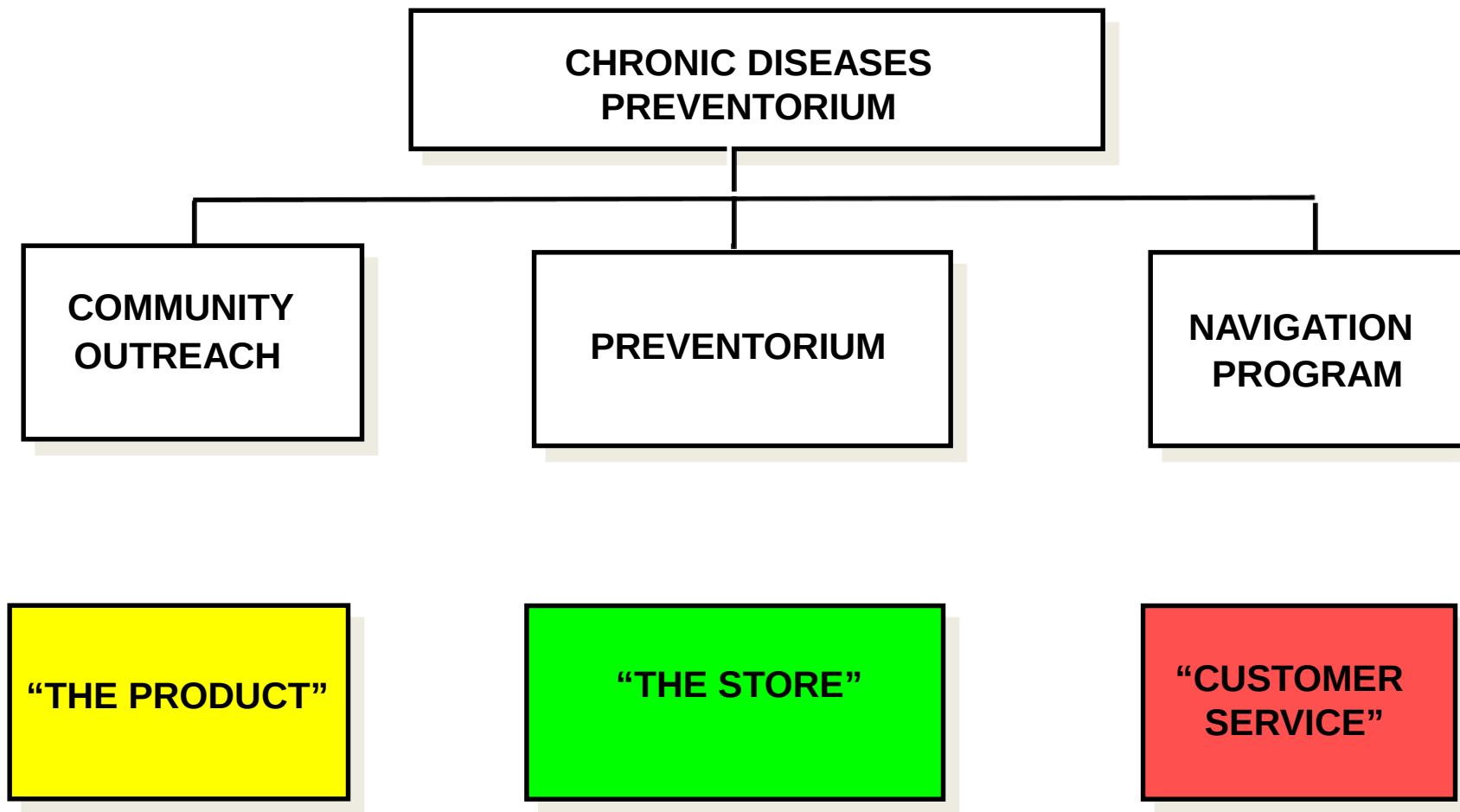
Everett Rogers, PhD

The Washington Cancer Institute at
Washington Hospital Center
Cancer Preventorium

Number of cases of cancer found, 1994-2017

Organ	Number	N = 89
Breast	45	
Cervix	13	
Prostate	5	
Colon	6	
Other	20	

Preventorium Model



DIVISION OF CANCER PREVENTION

Cancer Prevention Fellowship Program

**2018 Summer Curriculum
in
Cancer Prevention**

**PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE
OF
CANCER PREVENTION AND CONTROL COURSE**

JULY 9 - AUGUST 3, 2018

July 15, 2019

Knowledge and Compassion **Focused on You**



**MedStar Washington
Hospital Center**

MODULE 11: THE CANCER PREVENTORIUM

Friday, August 3

9:00 am - 10:15 am	Cancer Prevention in the 21 st Century: The Cancer Preventorium Idea	Elmer Huerta, MD, MPH
10:15 am - 10:30 am	<i>Break</i>	
10:30 am - 11:45 am	Closing Remarks: Awards & Take Home Message	Hala Azzam, PhD, MPH, CPH, CPLP
12:00 pm - 3:30 pm	Tour of the Cancer Preventorium; MedStar Washington Hospital Center, Washington, DC (<i>Optional Activity – Limited to 10 Participants</i>)	Elmer Huerta, MD, MPH

July 15, 2019

Knowledge and Compassion **Focused on You**

One side of the coin is then...



Convincing
thousands of people
who are poor and
uninsured to pay an
out-of-pocket fee
for a preventative
medical service...

The other side of the coin is...

Finding that 99%
of patients with
advanced breast
cancer seen at an
urban hospital do
have health
insurance...



“Stage III-IV Breast Cancer in the Neighborhood”

All Breast Cancer Cases seen at MWHC by Stage. 2006-2015

Stage	Number	MWHC Data (percent)	National Data (percent) *
I-II	1621	74.7	77.5%
III-IV	494	22.7	10.5
Unknown	54	2.6	12
TOTAL	2169	100%	100%

WCI-MWHC Information Management Office

* Descriptive Statistics for Incident Tumor Characteristics Among Women With Invasive Breast Cancer in SEER's 9 Registry Database (1990-2003)

<http://jco.ascopubs.org/content/25/13/1683/T1.expansion.html>

“Stage III-IV Breast Cancer in the Neighborhood”

Stage III-IV Cases by State of Residence. 2006-2015 (N=494)

State	Number	Percent
DC	269	54.5
MD	202	40.9
VA	17	3.4
Other	6	1.2
Total	494	100

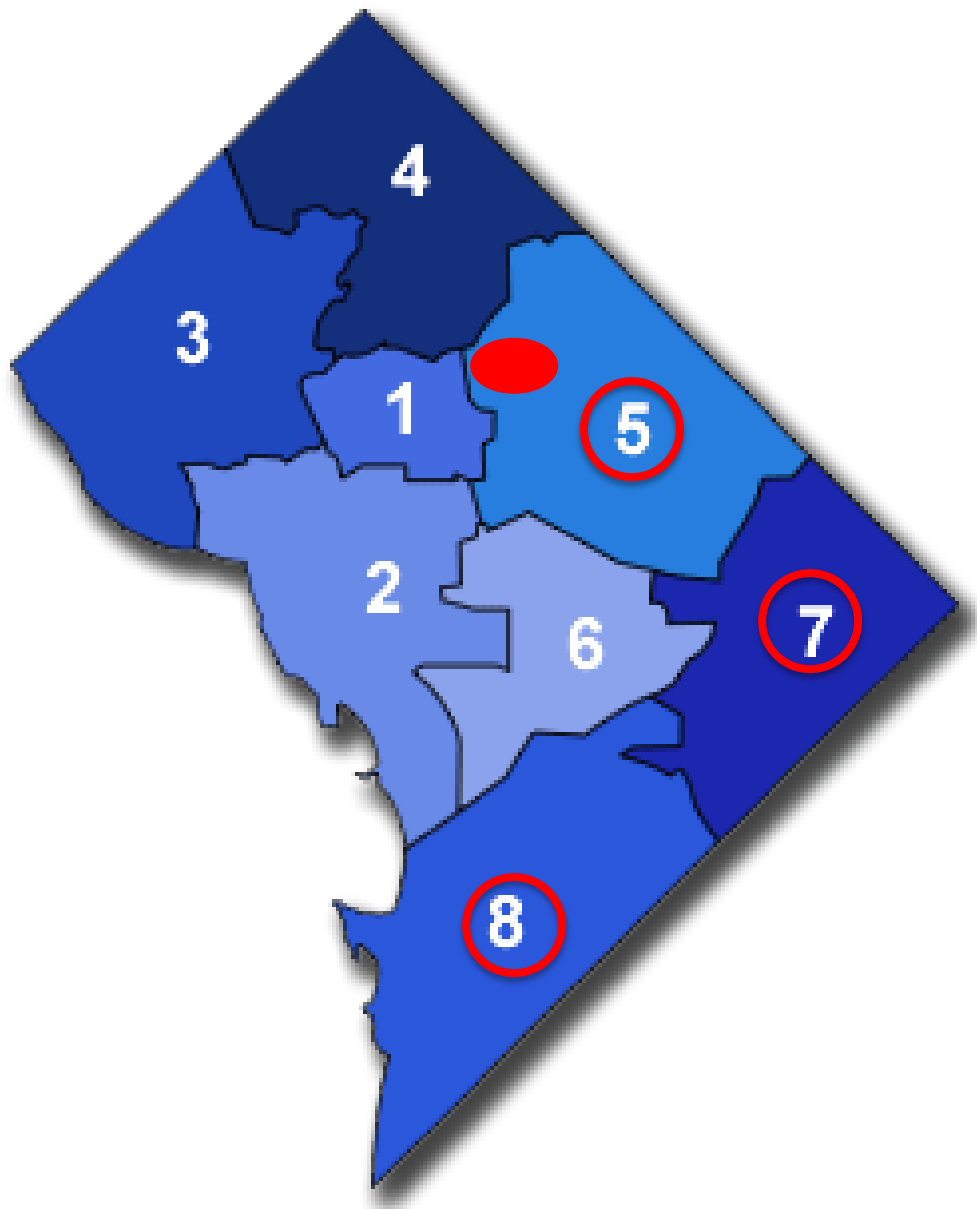
“Stage III-IV Breast Cancer in the Neighborhood”

Stage III-IV Cases by Ward of Residence in Washington, DC.
2006-2015 (N=269)

Ward	Number	Percent
Ward 5*	71	26.4
Ward 7	47	17.5
Ward 8	48	17.9
Other Wards	103	38.2
Total	269	100

62% of patients
(166/269) with
Stage III-IV
breast cancer
seen at MWHC
live in Wards
5-7-8

* Based on location and need, MedStar Washington Hospital Center and the MedStar Health Corporate Community Health Department defined Ward 5 as the target area for Community Health Outreach Programs.



Knowledge and Compassion **Focused on You**

“Stage III-IV Breast Cancer in the Neighborhood”

Stage III-IV Cases in Wards 5-7-8 by Health Insurance Coverage.
2006-2015 (N=166)

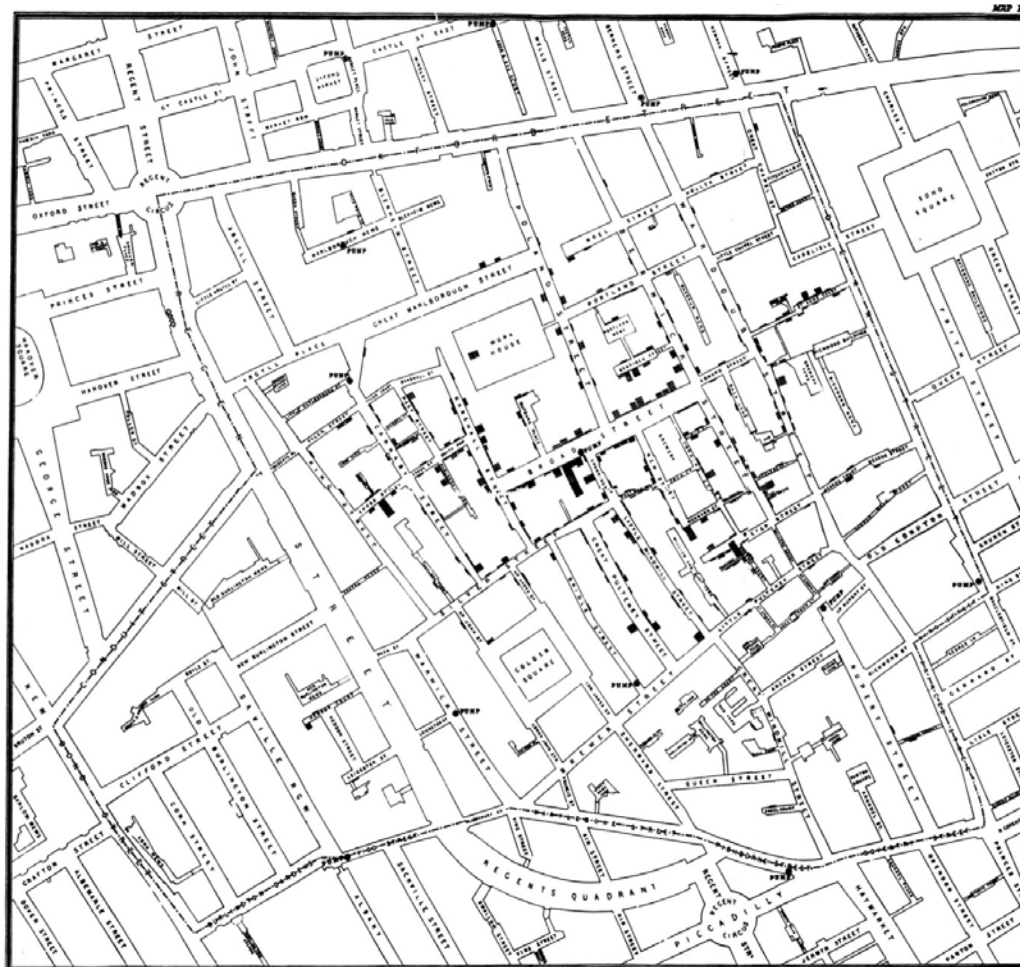
Type of Insurance	Number	Percent
Medicaid	32	19
Medicare	68	41
Private	56	34
Not specified	9	5
Uninsured	1	1
TOTAL	166	100

99% of patients with advanced breast cancer living in Wards 5-7-8 do have health insurance

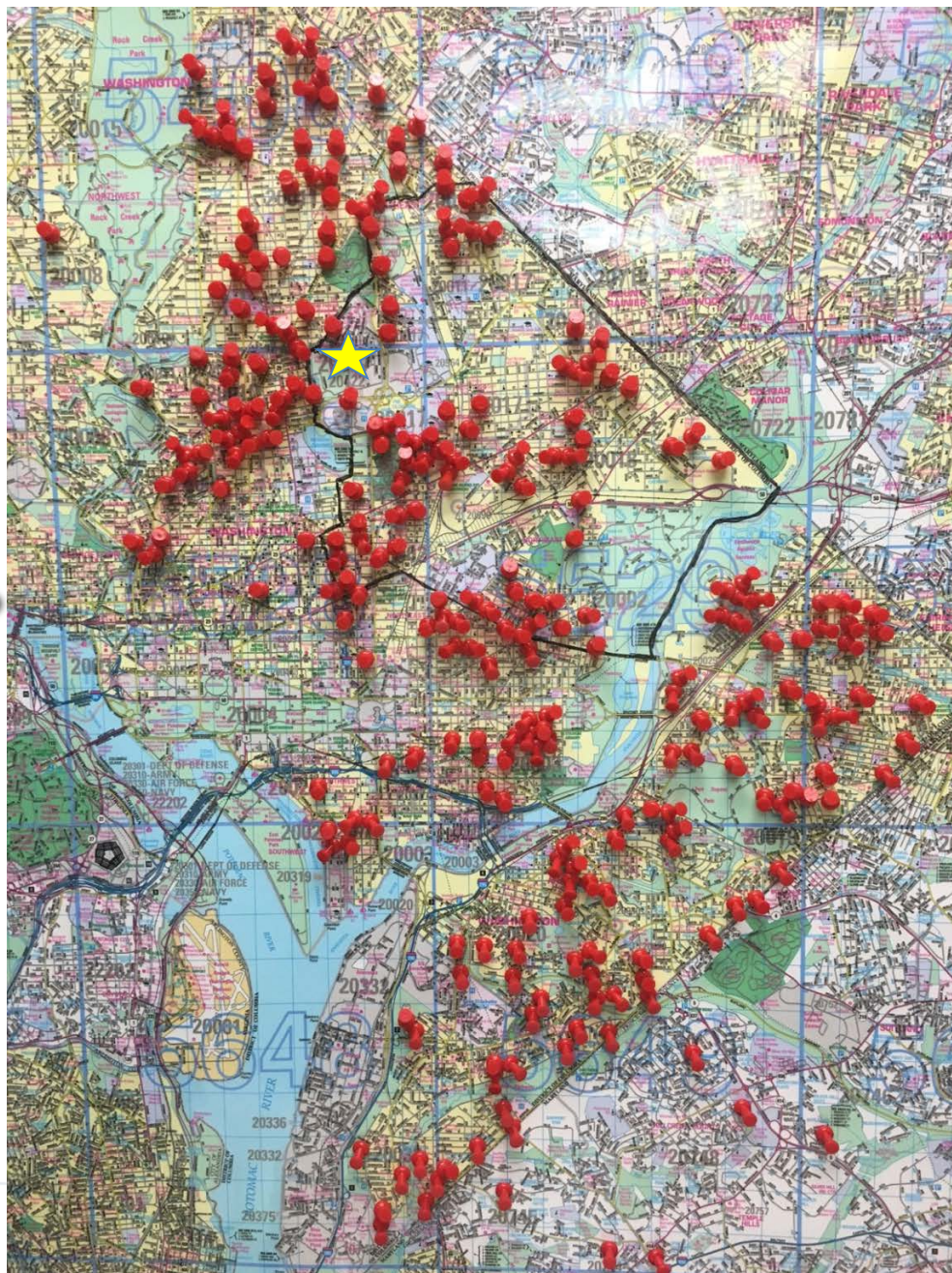
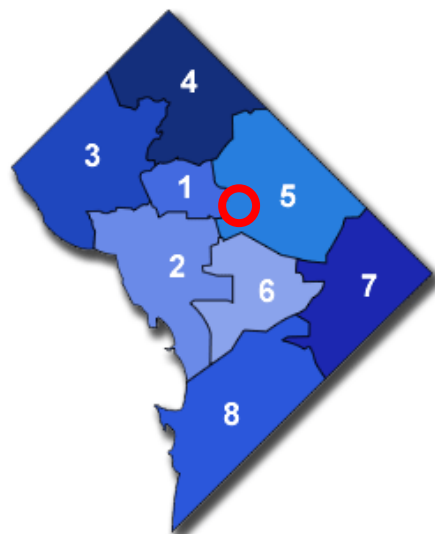
“Stage III-IV Breast Cancer in the Neighborhood”

Stage III-IV Cases in Ward 5-7-8 by Race. 2006-2015 (N=166)

Ward	Number	Percent
African American	156	94
White	7	4
Other	3	2
Total	166	100



Original map by John Snow showing the clusters of cholera cases in the London epidemic of 1854



Every pin represents a woman living in Washington DC, who was diagnosed with Stage III-IV breast cancer

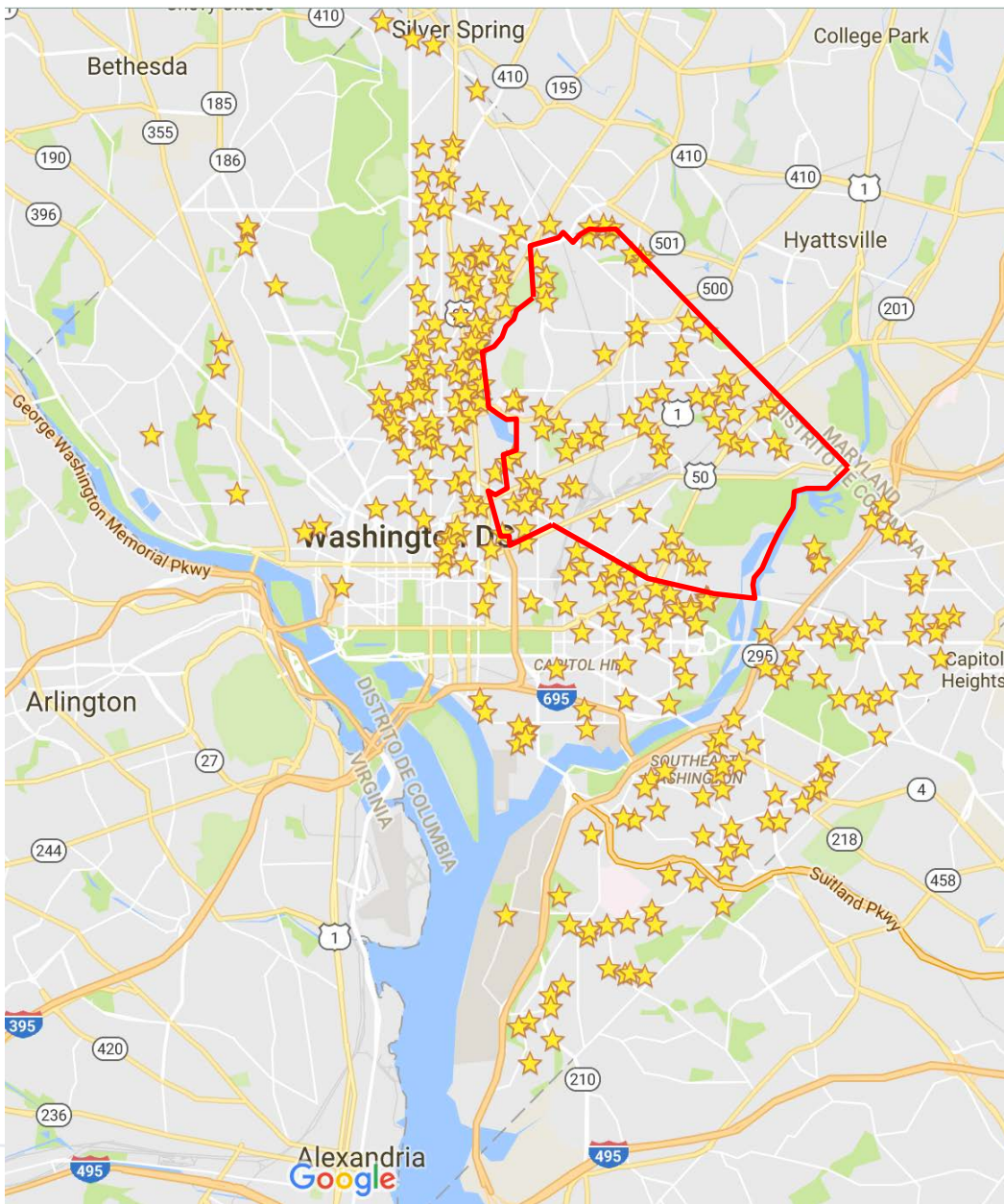
July 15, 2019

Knowledge and Compassion **Focused on You**

 MedStar Washington
Hospital Center

Colorectal Cancer Stage II-IV 2006-2015

610 cases

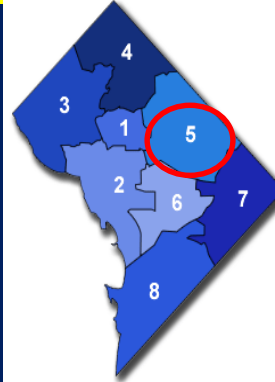


July 15, 2019

Knowledge and Compassion **Focused on You**

MWHC Get2 Breast CARE Program

Cancer
Awareness &
Resource
Education in
Ward 5

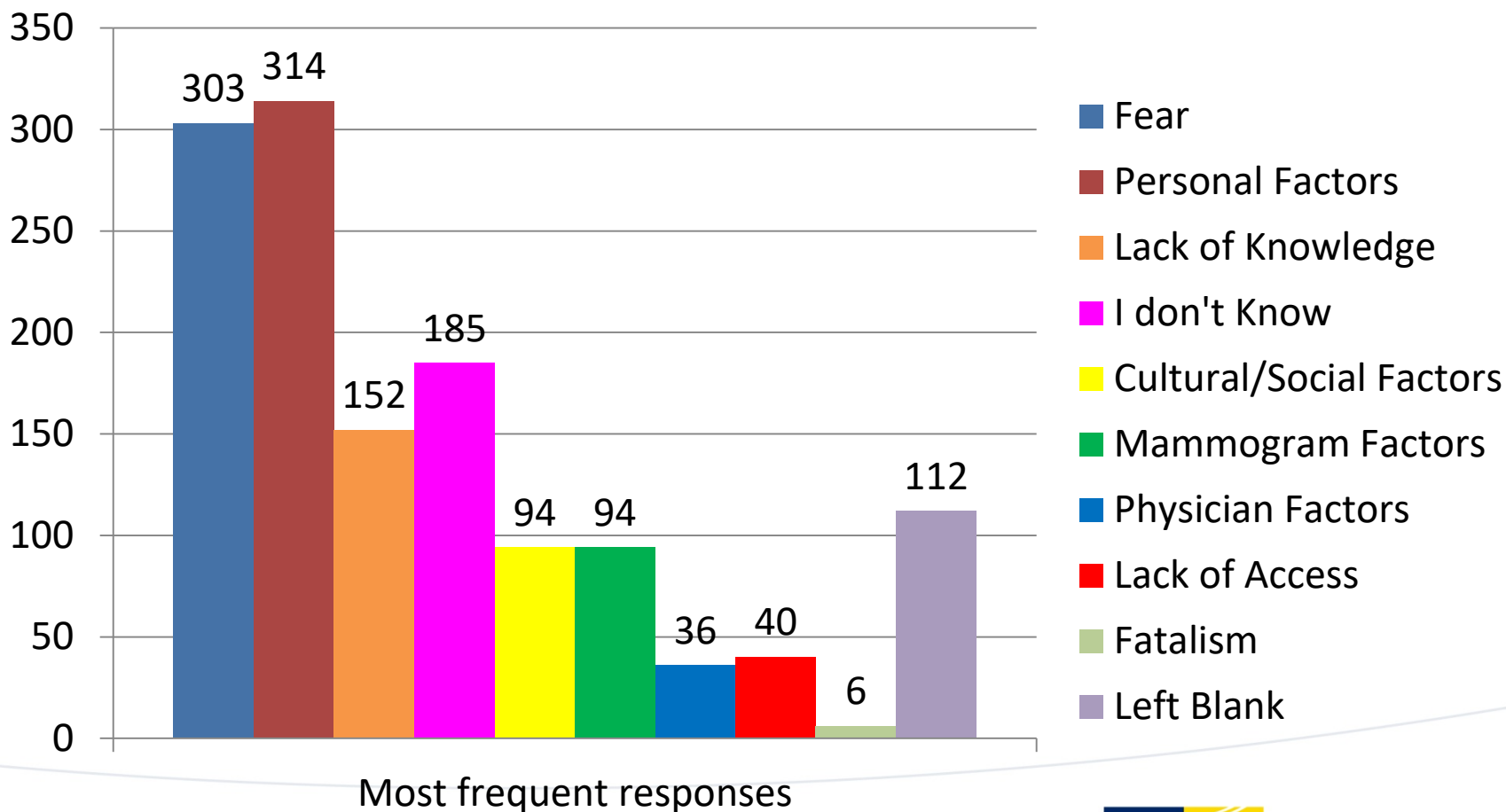


Breast Cancer Prevention in the Neighborhood: Phase I

**To explore possible reasons that explain why women who live
in Ward 5 are suffering from late stage/advanced breast
cancer even though they have health insurance**

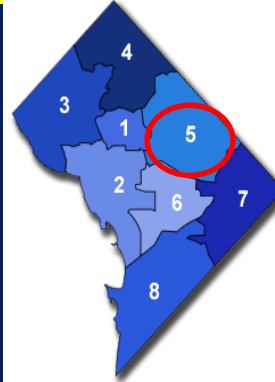
Why do you feel that women who live in Ward 5 are suffering from late stage/advanced breast cancer even though they have health insurance?

1091 questionnaires / 1336 quotes



MWHC Get2 Breast CARE Program

Cancer
Awareness &
Resource
Education in
Ward 5

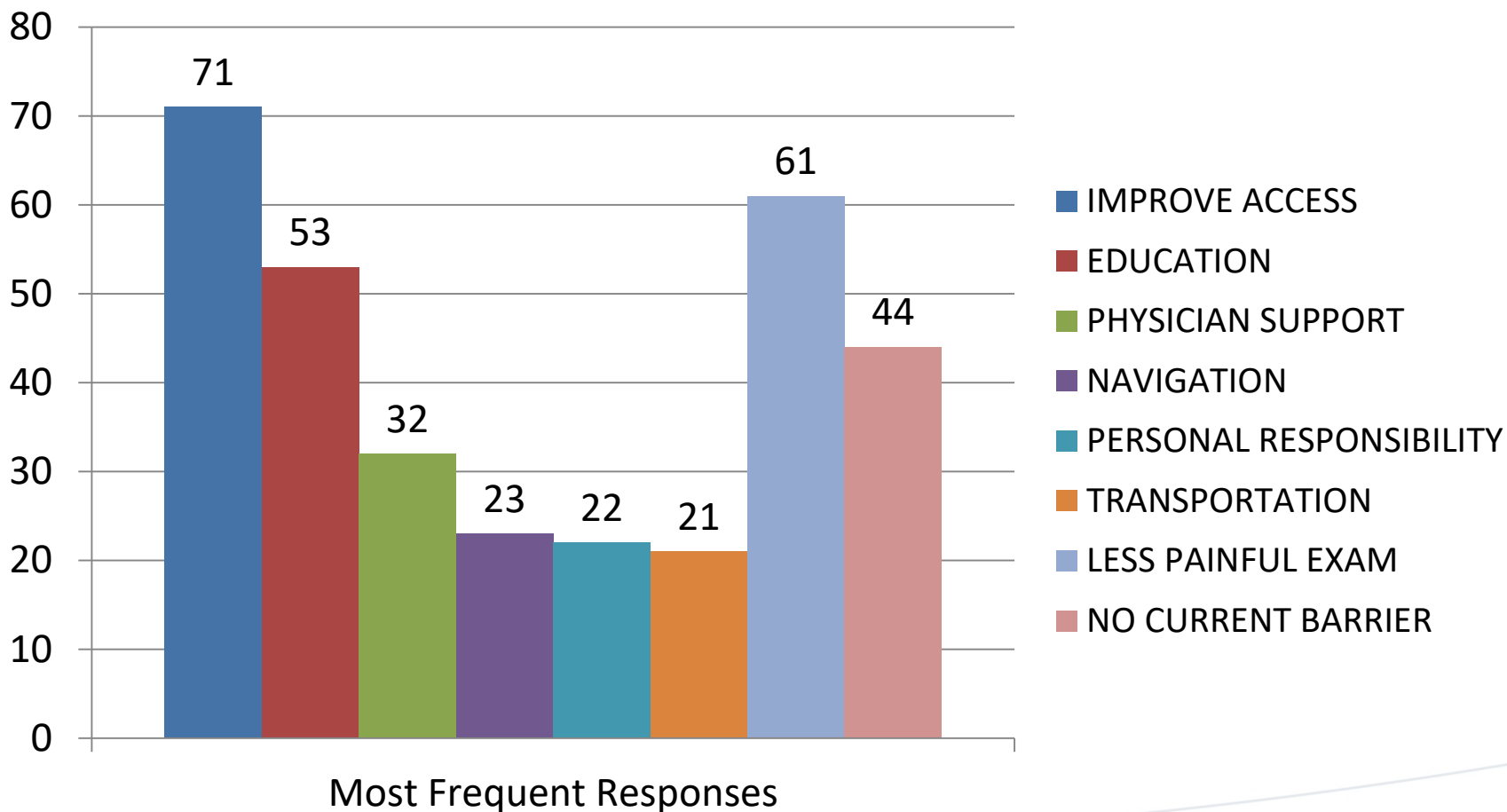


Breast Cancer Prevention in the Neighborhood: Phase II

An educational intervention in the community with messages based on
Phase I study findings

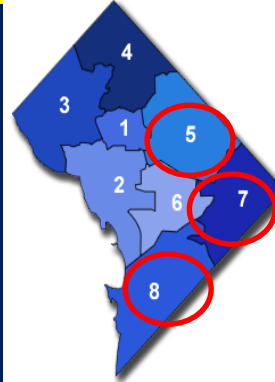
What would make getting a mammogram easier for you?

397 questionnaires. 327 quotes



MWHC Get2 Breast CARE Program

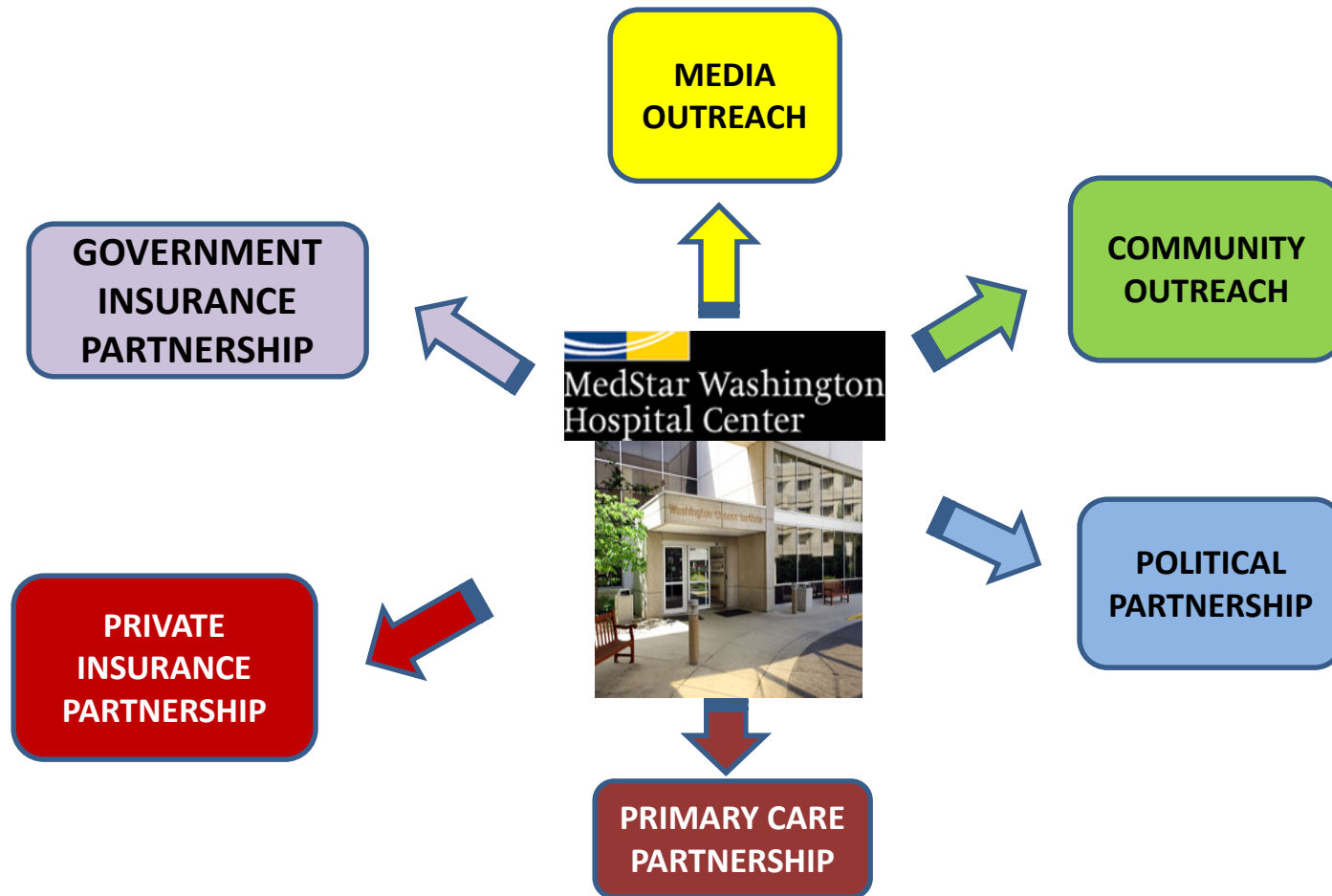
Cancer
Awareness &
Resource
Education in
Ward 5



Breast Cancer Prevention in the Neighborhood: Phase III-IV (ongoing)

Expanding Educational Interventions to Wards 7 and 8

Colon Cancer Prevention in the Neighborhood



Latinos



28 years
exposure to a
daily media-
based health
education
program

Common characteristics

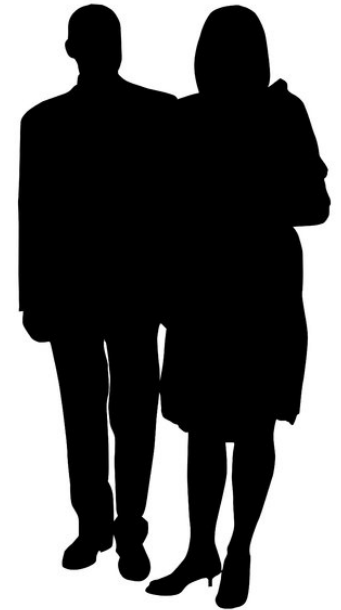
Poverty
Fear
Fatalism

Differential characteristics

Culture
Language

Immigration status
Health insurance coverage

Ward 5 African American



No
consistent
educational
programs

July 15, 2019

Knowledge and Compassion **Focused on You**



MedStar Washington
Hospital Center

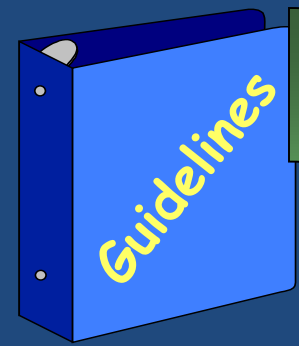
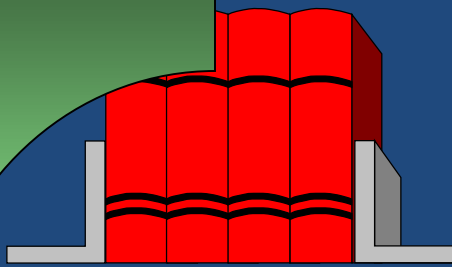
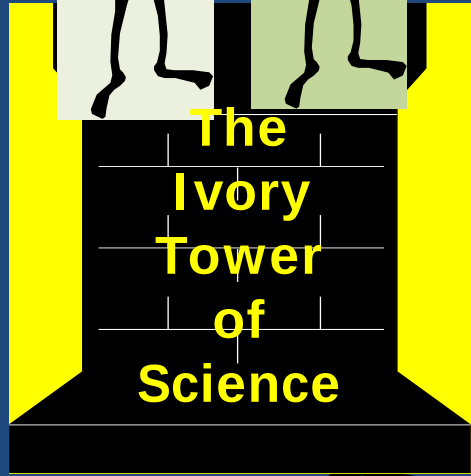
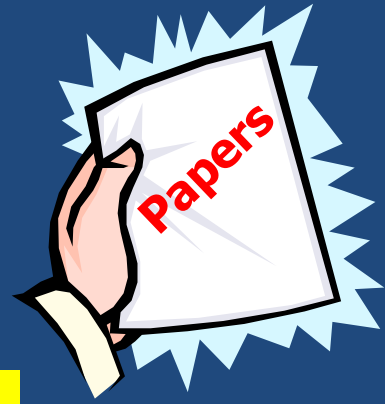
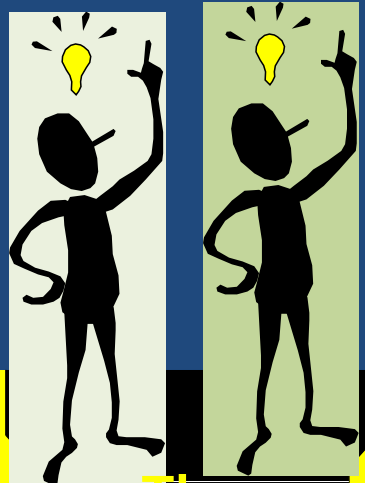
I still consider good
information to be the best
medicine

Michael E. DeBakey, MD
Inventor, Surgeon, Educator,
(1908-2008)

Knowledge exists in two forms
-lifeless, stored in books- and alive
in the consciousness of men

The second form... is the essential
one.

Albert Einstein



Thank you