## Examining Factors That Contribute to Diagnostic Inequities Among Black Women

Veronica Gillispie-Bell, MD, MAS, FACOG

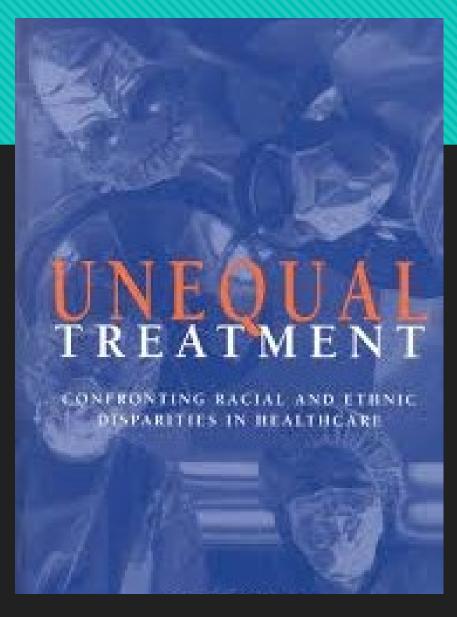
Associate Professor; Senior Site Lead/Section Head of Women's Services

Ochsner Health

Medical Director, Louisiana Perinatal Quality Collaborative and Pregnancy Associated Mortality Review

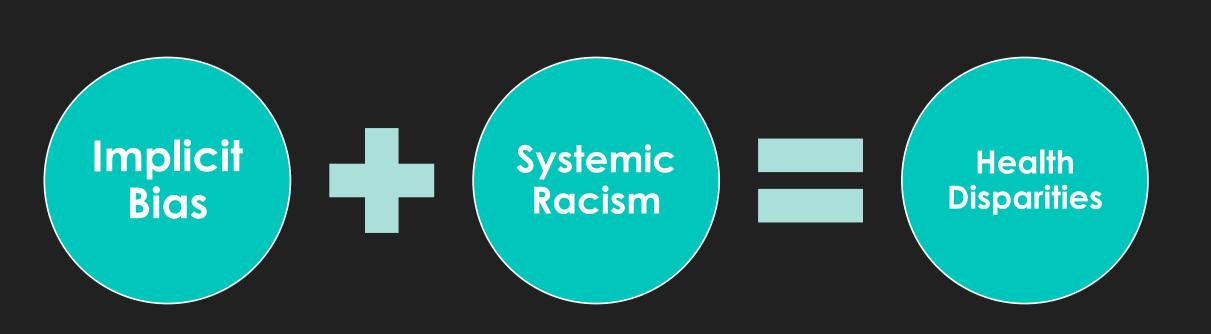
Louisiana Department of Health





- Published in 2003, Brief published in March 2002
- Even among the better-controlled studies, the vast majority of published research indicates that minorities are less likely than whites to receive needed services, including clinically necessary procedures, even after correcting for access-related factors, such as insurance status"

### Root of Health Disparities



#### Bias Beliefs about Race and Pain

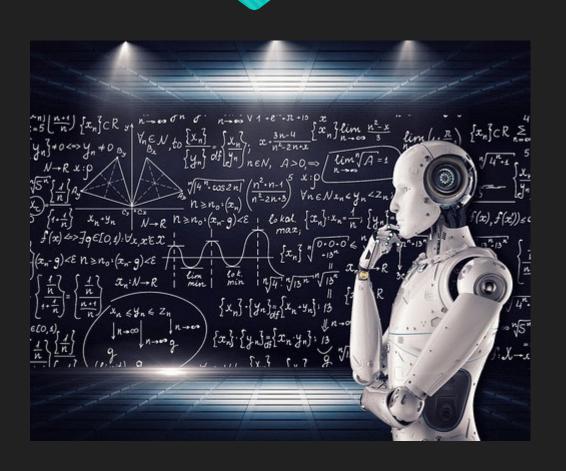
Racial bias in pain assessment and treatment recommendations, and false beliefs about biological differences between blacks and whites

Kelly M. Hoffman, a,1 Sophie Trawalter, Jordan R. Axt, a and M. Norman Oliverb,c

Author information - Copyright and License information <u>Disclaimer</u>

In a study of 222 white medical students and residents, about 50% believed Black people were biologically different than white people, including having nerve endings that are less sensitive than whites and having thicker skin than whites

### Healthcare Algorithms

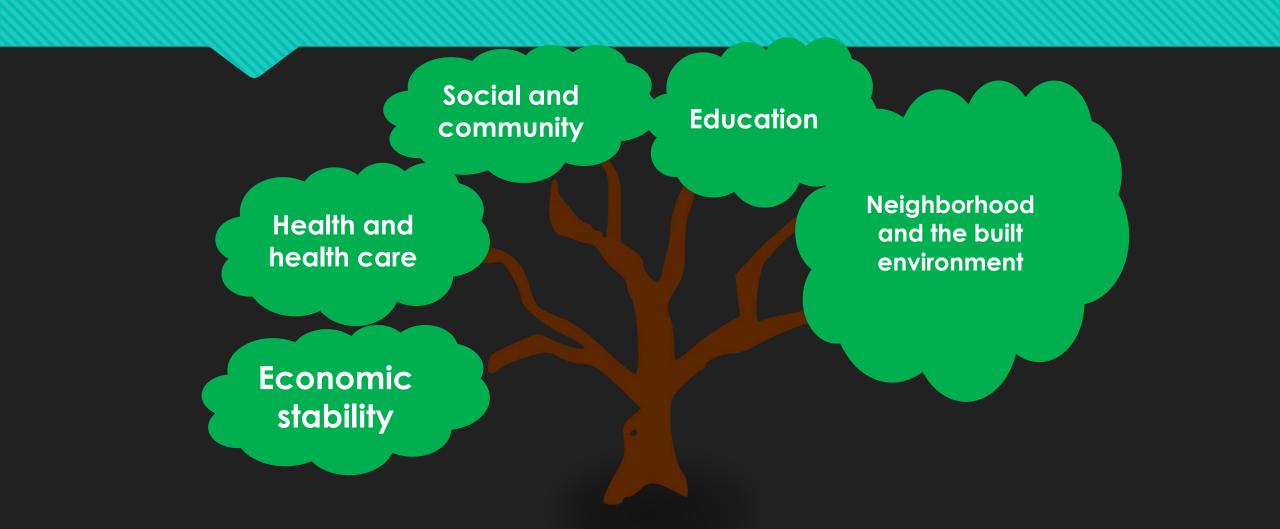


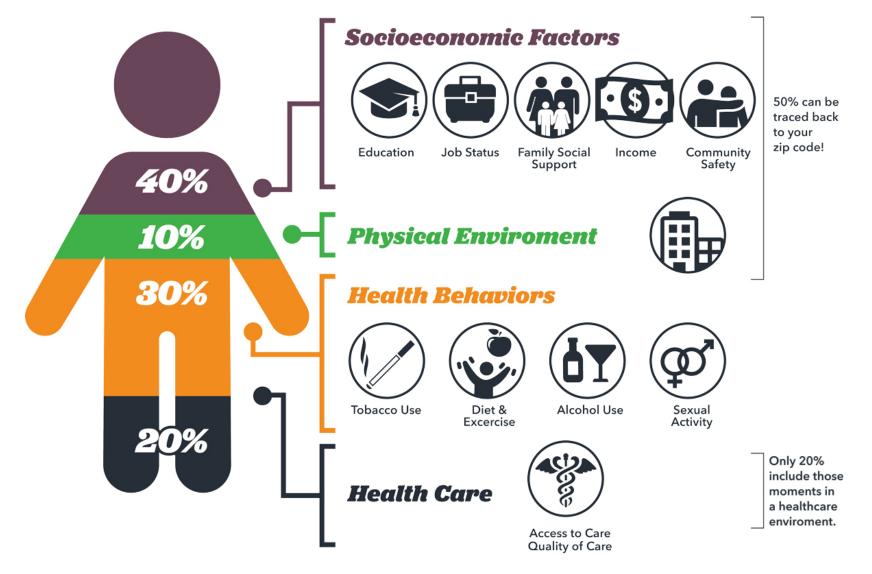
- O Three Biases
  - O Statistical Bias: algorithms based on studies where minorities were underrepresented giving a predictive risk that underestimates the true risk
  - Social Bias: inequitable healthcare delivery based on clinical practices
  - Statistical and Social Bias

# Structural racism impacts social determinants of health

O In 1906, W.E.B. DuBois stated that social conditions, not genetics, impacted the health of Blacks, causing racial disparities in health outcomes.

### Social Determinants of Health

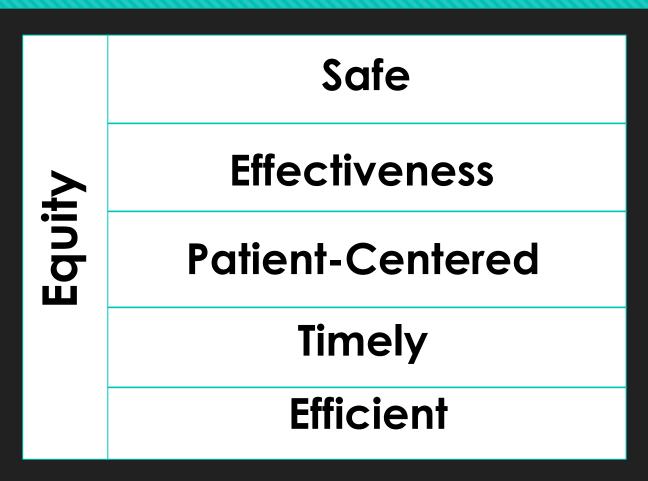




Source: Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement, Going Beyond Clinical Walls: Solving Complex Problems (October 2014)

### You Cannot Have Quality Without Equity

- O The Institute of Medicine defines quality as "the degree to which health services for individuals and populations increase the likelihood of desired health outcomes and are consistent with current professional knowledge"
- O To accomplish quality, we must acknowledge and address the implicit bias and stereotypes that prevent us from delivering equitable care



We must implement change through a Lens of Equity

### Thank you

Veronica Gillispie-Bell, MD, MAS, FACOG

Veronica.Gillispie@la.gov

vgillispie@ochsner.org

### References

- 1. Institute of Medicine (US) Committee on Understanding and Eliminating Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health Care; Smedley BD, Stith AY, Nelson AR, editors. Unequal Treatment: Confronting Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health Care. Washington (DC): National Academies Press (US); 2003. Available from: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK220358/ doi: 10.17226/12875
- Hoffman, K. M., Trawalter, S., Axt, J. R., & Oliver, M. N. (2016). Racial bias in pain assessment and treatment recommendations, and false beliefs about biological differences between blacks and whites. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America, 113(16), 4296–4301. https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1516047113
- 3. FitzGerald C, Hurst S. Implicit bias in healthcare professionals: a systematic review. BMC Med Ethics. 2017;18(1):19. Published 2017 Mar 1. doi:10.1186/s12910-017-0179-8
- 4. U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Labor Force Statistics from the Current Population Survey. Employed persons by detailed occupation, sex, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity. Published January 26, 2024. Employed persons by detailed occupation, sex, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (bls.gov). Retrieved September 21, 2024.
- 5. Ndugga N, et al. Key Data on Health and Health Care by Race and Ethnicity. Racial Equity and Health Policy. Kaiser Family Foundation. Published June 11, 2024. Introduction Key Data on Health and Health Care by Race and Ethnicity | KFF. Retrieved September 21, 2024.