

Examining Diagnostic Disparities in Cardiovascular Disease

Session 2: Considering Diagnostic Disparities Across Clinical Conditions
Advancing Equity in Diagnostic Excellence to Reduce Health Disparities

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 - AHA/DDCF 24DECCAEG1258968

How It Started



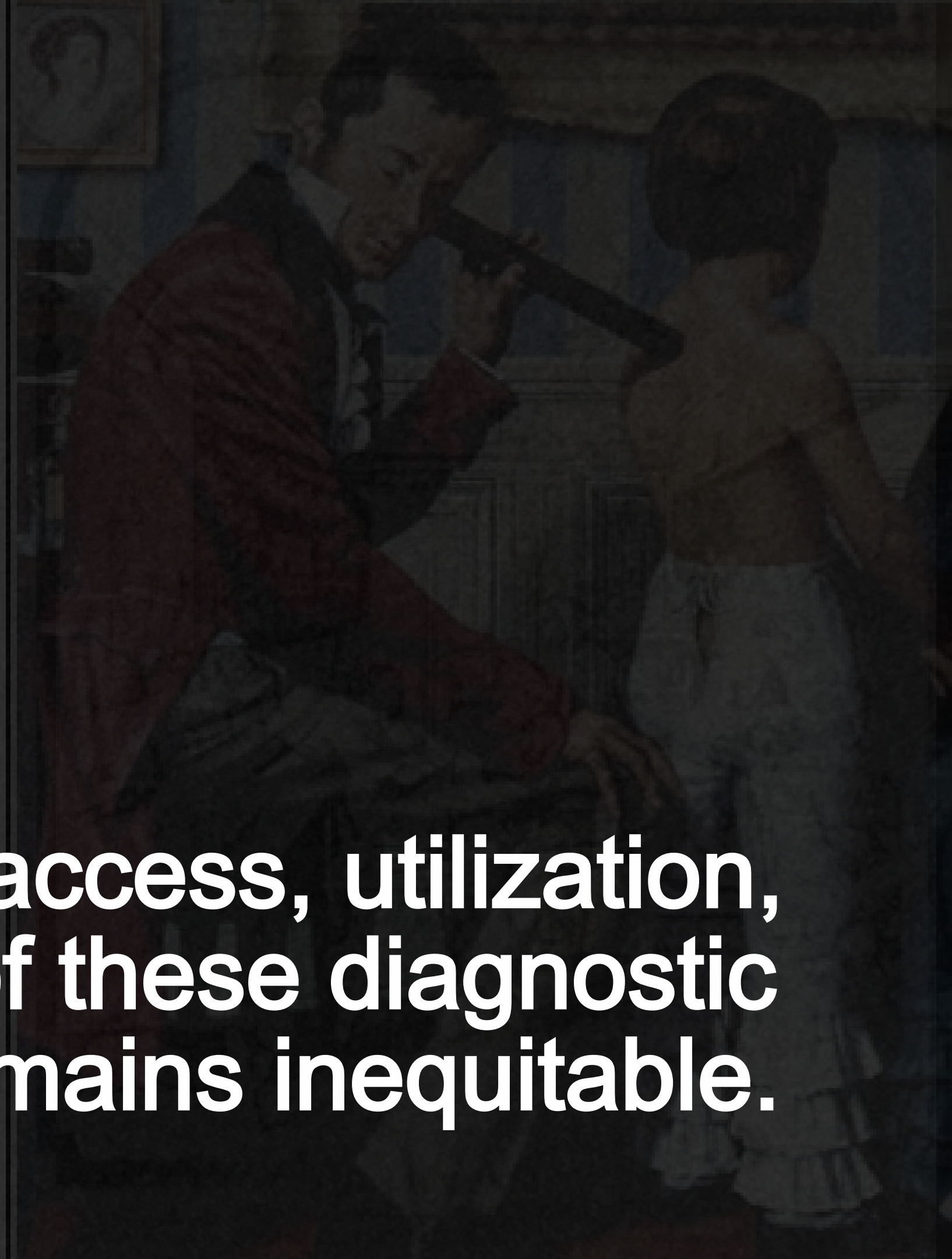


←

How It's Going

**We have made remarkable
advances in our diagnostic
toolbox for CVD...**

**However, access, utilization,
and cost of these diagnostic
tools remains inequitable.**



Objectives



1

Burden of and disparities in CVD in the US

2

Structural barriers to equitable diagnosis of CVD

3

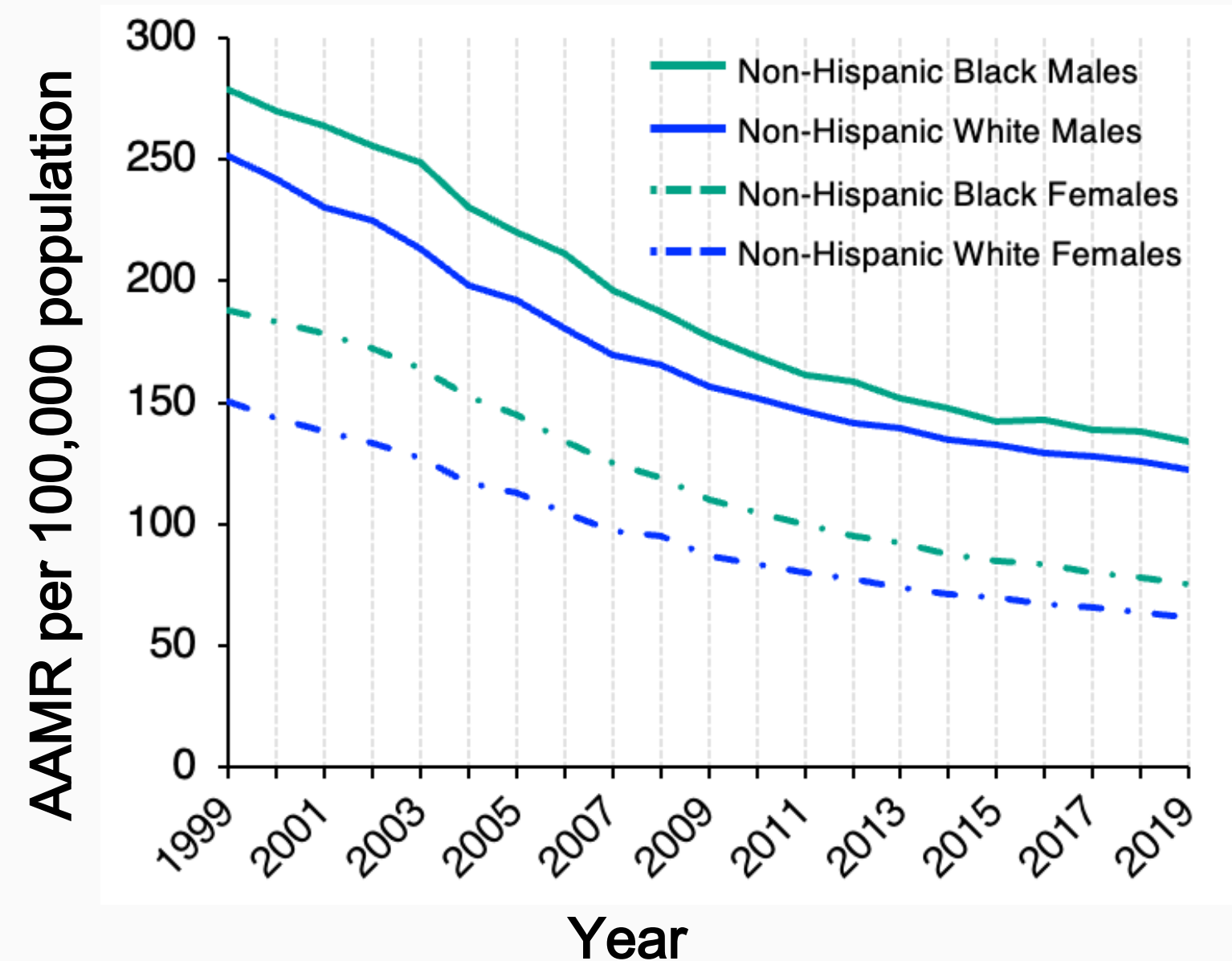
Clinician bias in equitable diagnosis of CVD

4

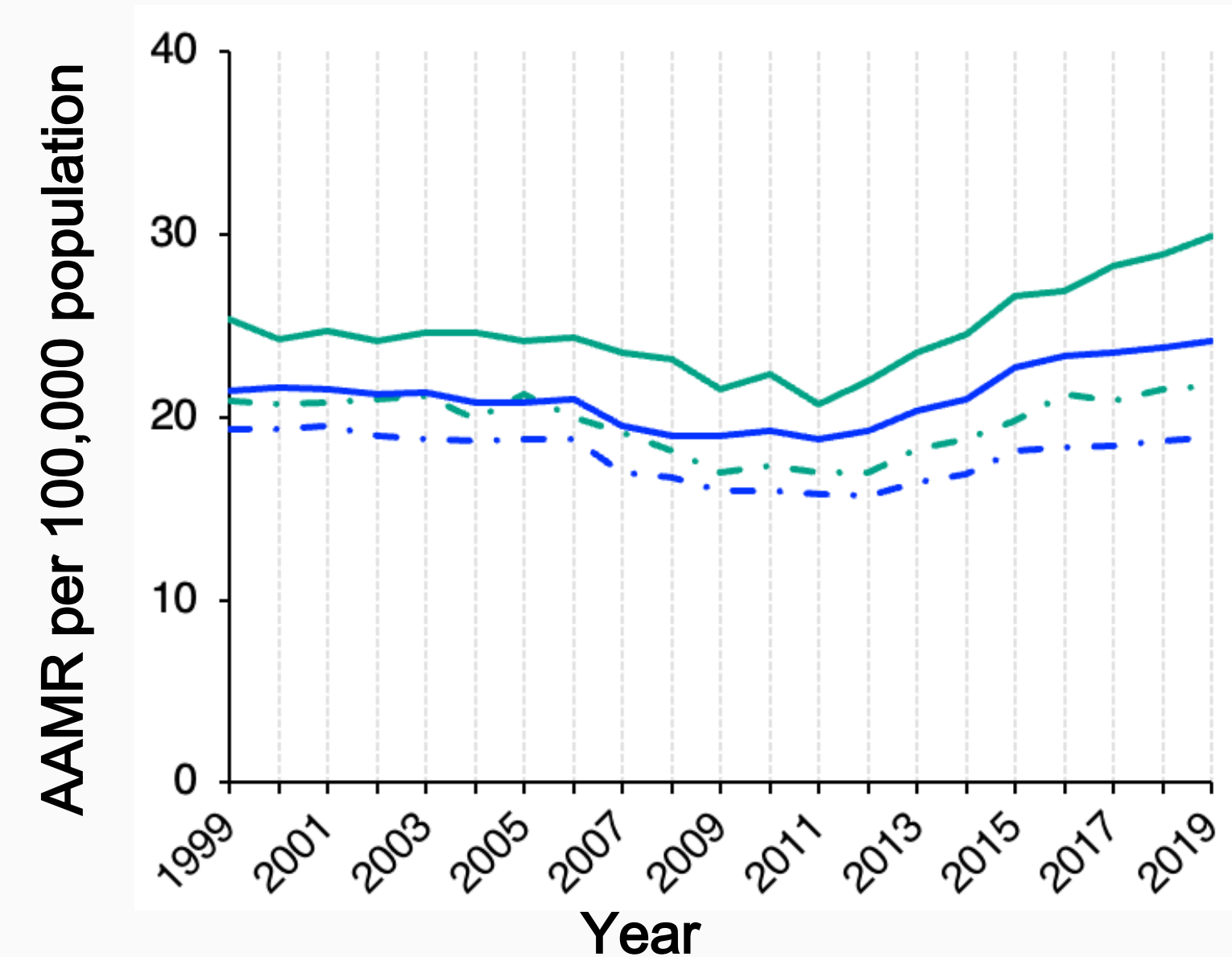
Future directions for diagnostic equity in CVD

Racial and Ethnic Disparities in CVD Mortality

Age-Adjusted Mortality Rates for Ischemic HD in US by Race and Ethnicity: 1999 -2019



Age-Adjusted Mortality Rates for HF in US by Race and Ethnicity: 1999 -2019



Sex and Gender Disparities in CVD

The *Lancet* women and cardiovascular disease Commission: reducing the global burden by 2030



Birgit Vogel, Monica Acevedo, Yolande Appelman, C Noel Bairey Merz, Alaide Chieffo, Gemma A Figtree, Mayra Guerrero, Vijay Kunadian, Carolyn S P Lam, Angela H E M Maas, Anastasia S Mihailidou, Agnieszka Olszanecka, Jeanne E Poole, Clara Saldarriaga, Jacqueline Saw, Liesl Zühlke, Roxana Mehran

Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death in women. Decades of grassroots campaigns have helped to raise awareness about the impact of cardiovascular disease in women, and positive changes affecting women and their health have gained momentum. Despite these efforts, there has been stagnation in the overall reduction of cardiovascular disease burden for women in the past decade. Cardiovascular disease in women remains understudied, under-recognised, underdiagnosed, and undertreated. This Commission summarises existing evidence and identifies knowledge gaps in research, prevention, treatment, and access to care for women. Recommendations from an international team of experts and leaders in the field have been generated with a clear focus to reduce the global burden of cardiovascular disease in women by 2030. This Commission represents the first effort of its kind to connect stakeholders, to ignite global awareness of sex-related and gender-related disparities in cardiovascular disease, and to provide a springboard for future research.

Lancet 2021; 397: 2385–438

Published Online
May 16, 2021

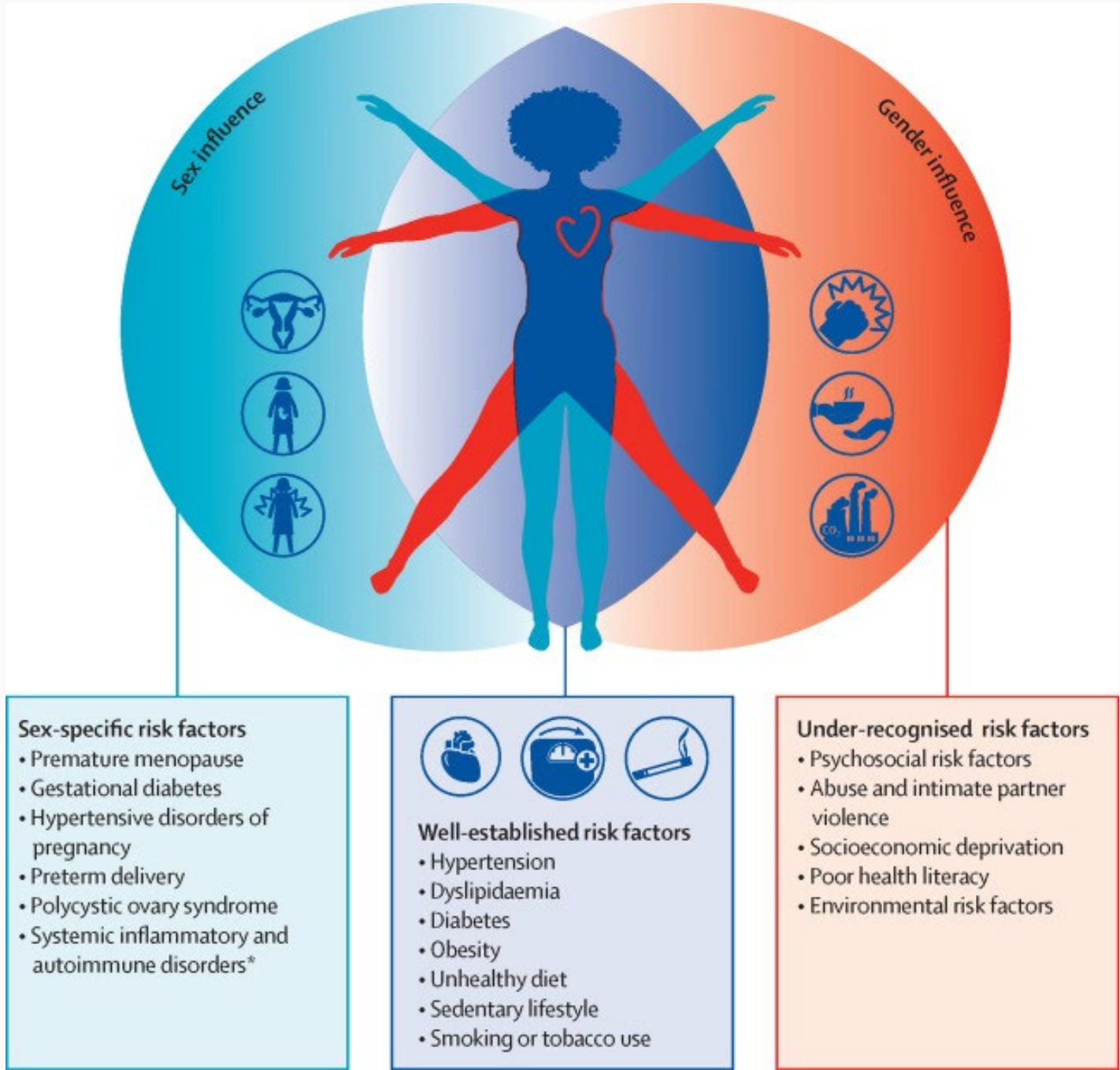
[https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(21\)00684-X](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(21)00684-X)

See [Comment](#) page 2315

See [Perspectives](#) page 2326

Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, NY, USA (B Vogel MD, Prof R Mehran MD); División de

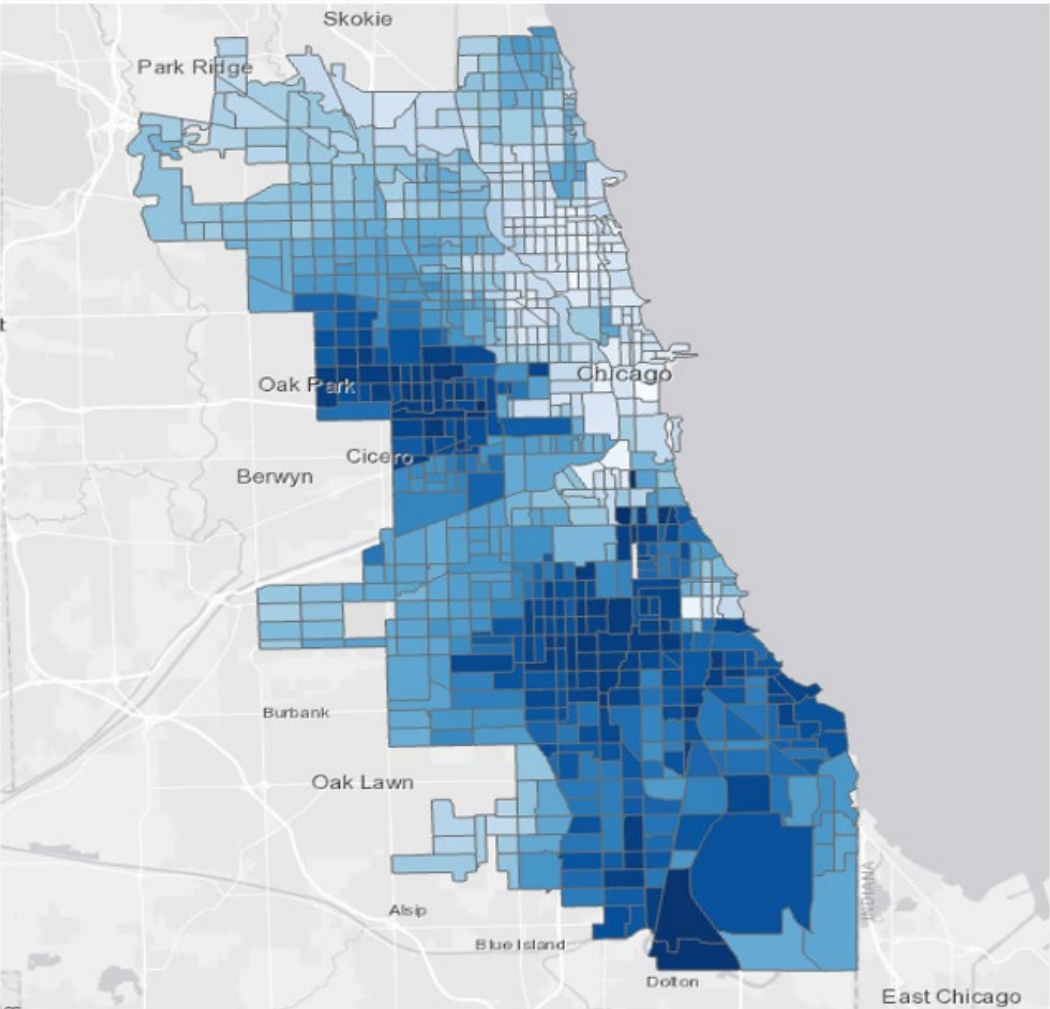
Cardiovascular disease in women remains understudied, under-recognized, underdiagnosed, and undertreated



Place-Based Disparities in CVD

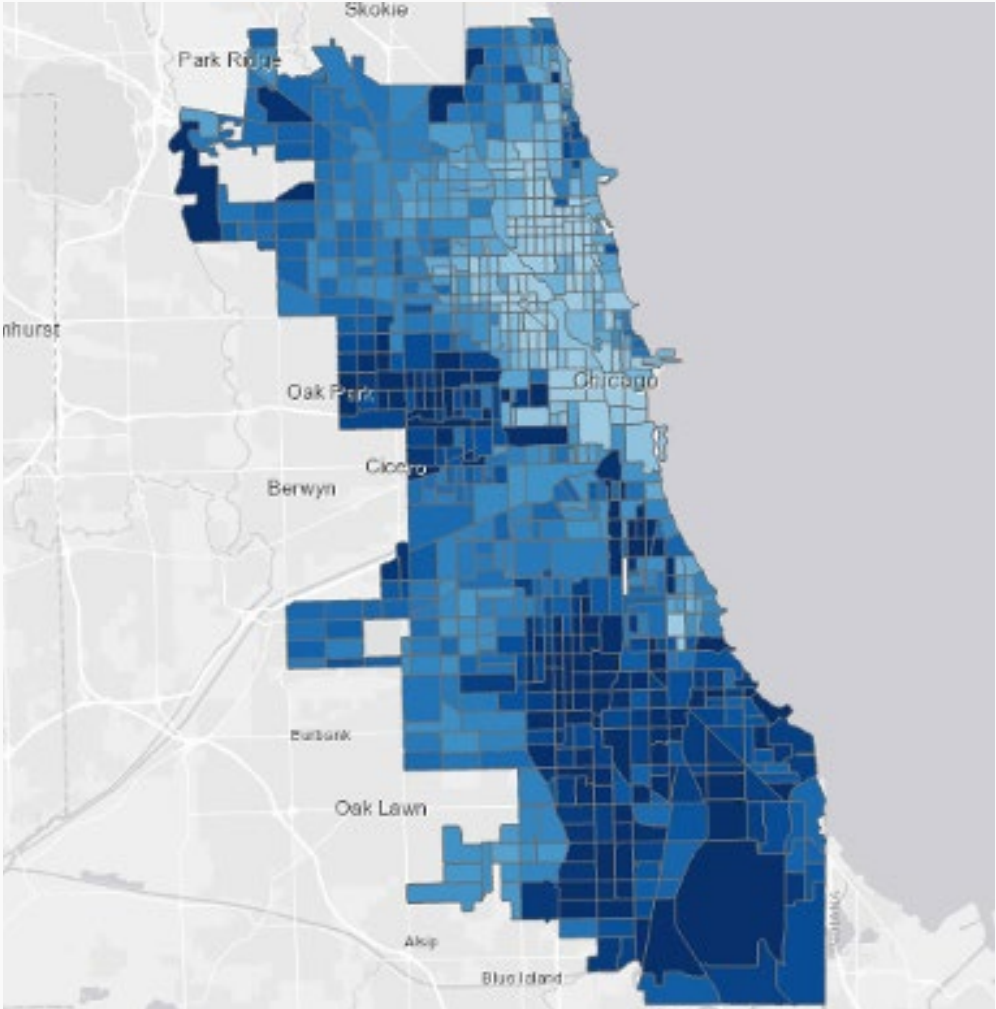


Age-Standardized
Prevalence of Obesity



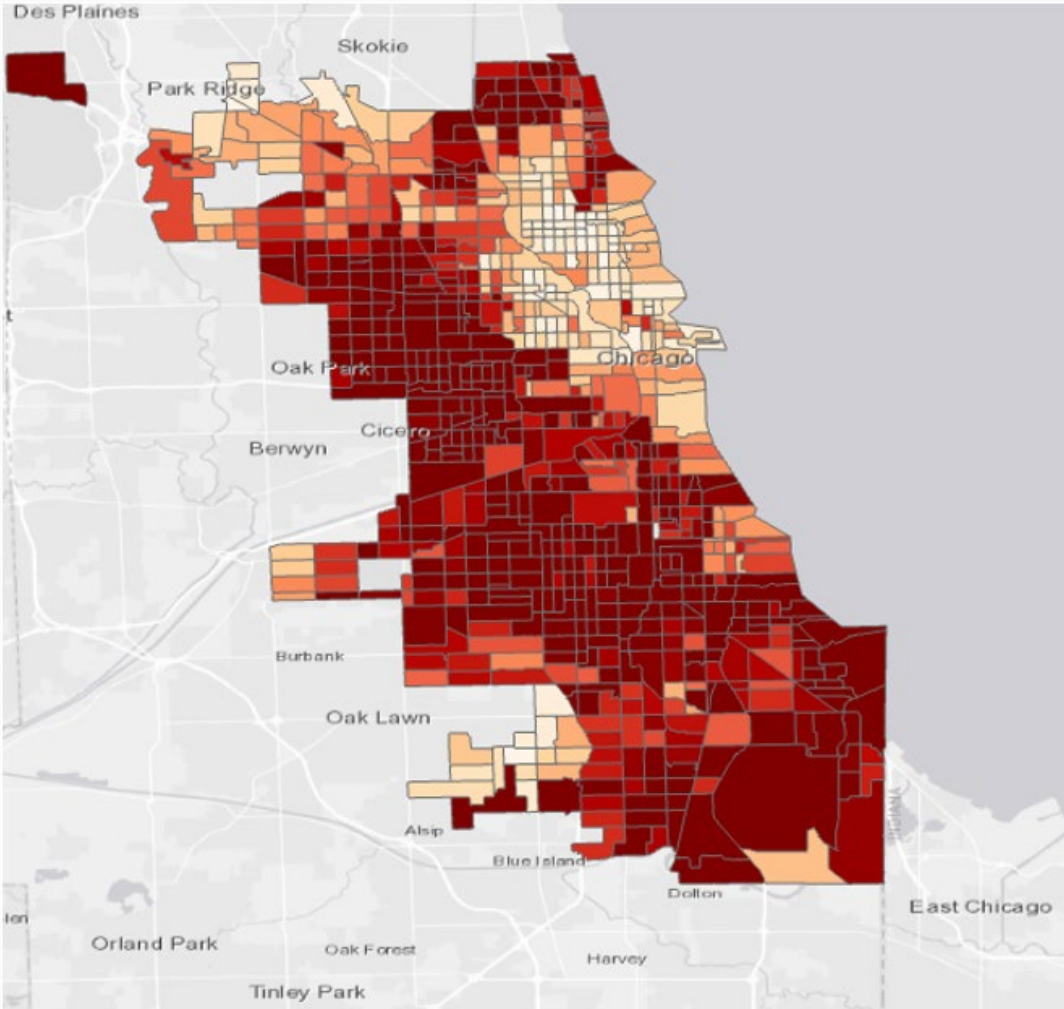
9.6 56.0/100,000

Age-Standardized
Prevalence of CHD



1.0 36.0/100,000

Social Vulnerability Index



0 1.0

61%

of US adults will
have obesity by
2050

26.8%

of US adults will have
diabetes by 2050

\$1.8tr

projected healthcare
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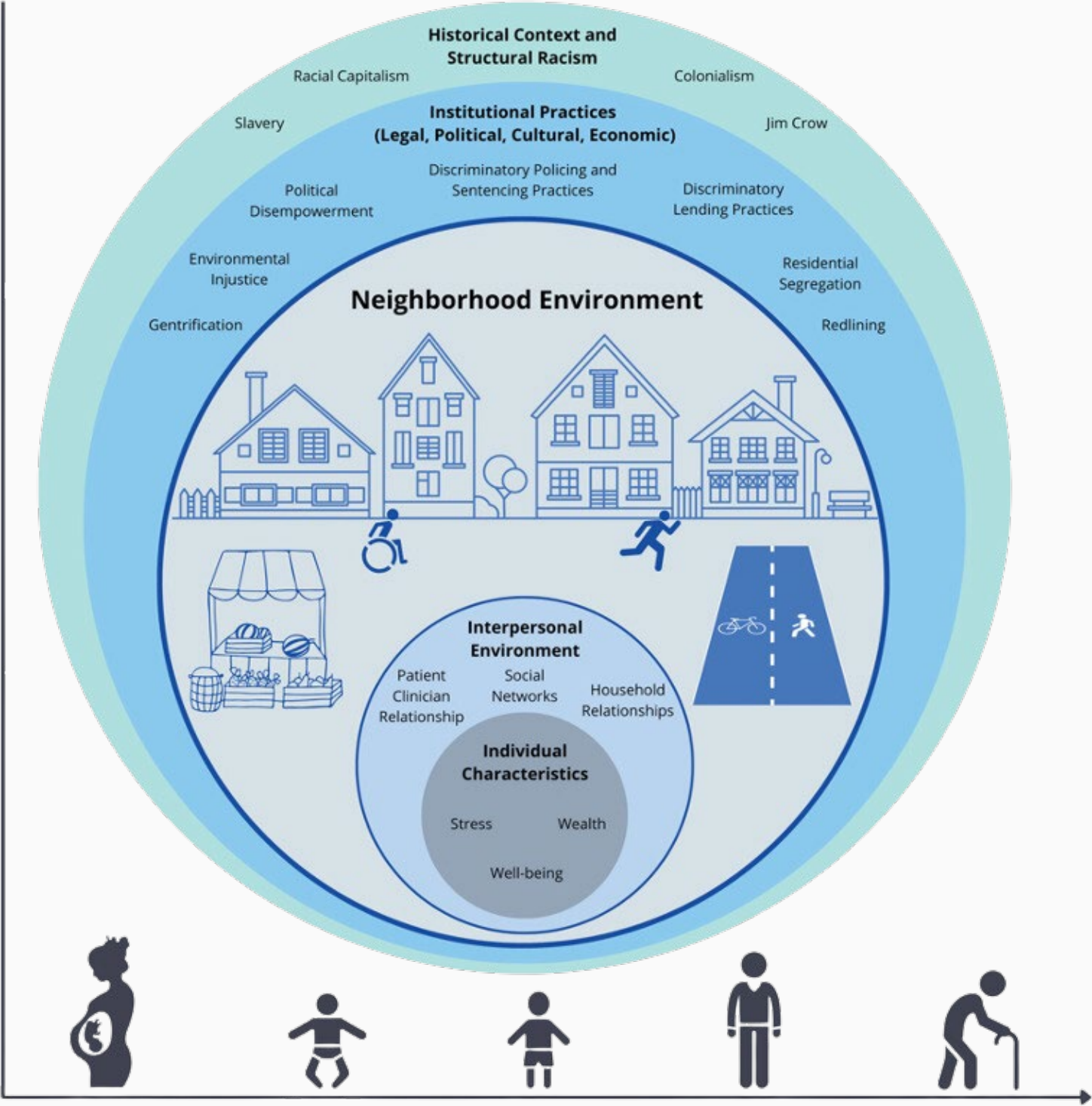
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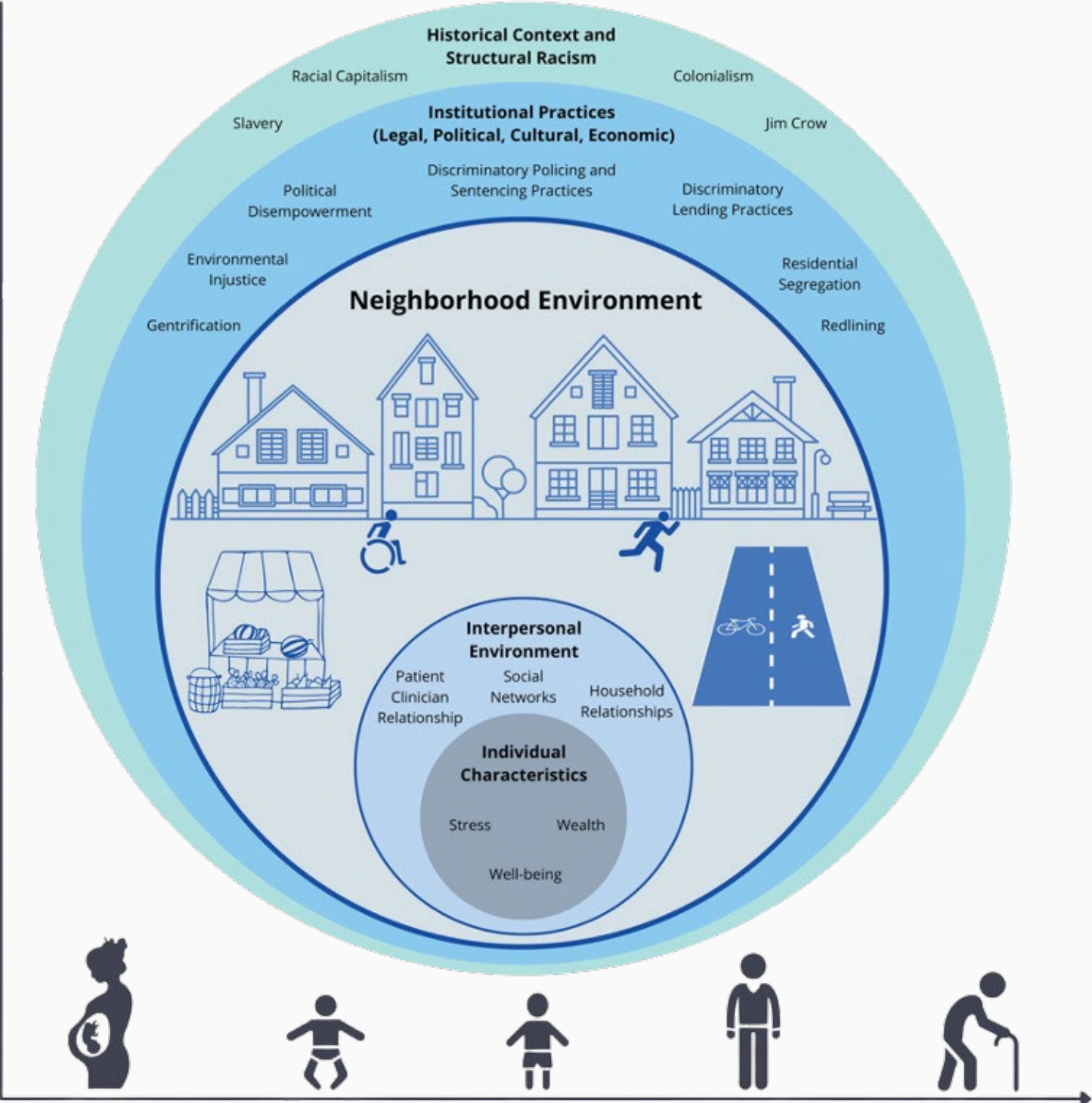
\$1.8tr

projected healthcare
spending by 2050

Multi-Level Risk Factors for CVD



Multi-Level Drivers of Diagnostic Disparities



Implicit bias among clinicians

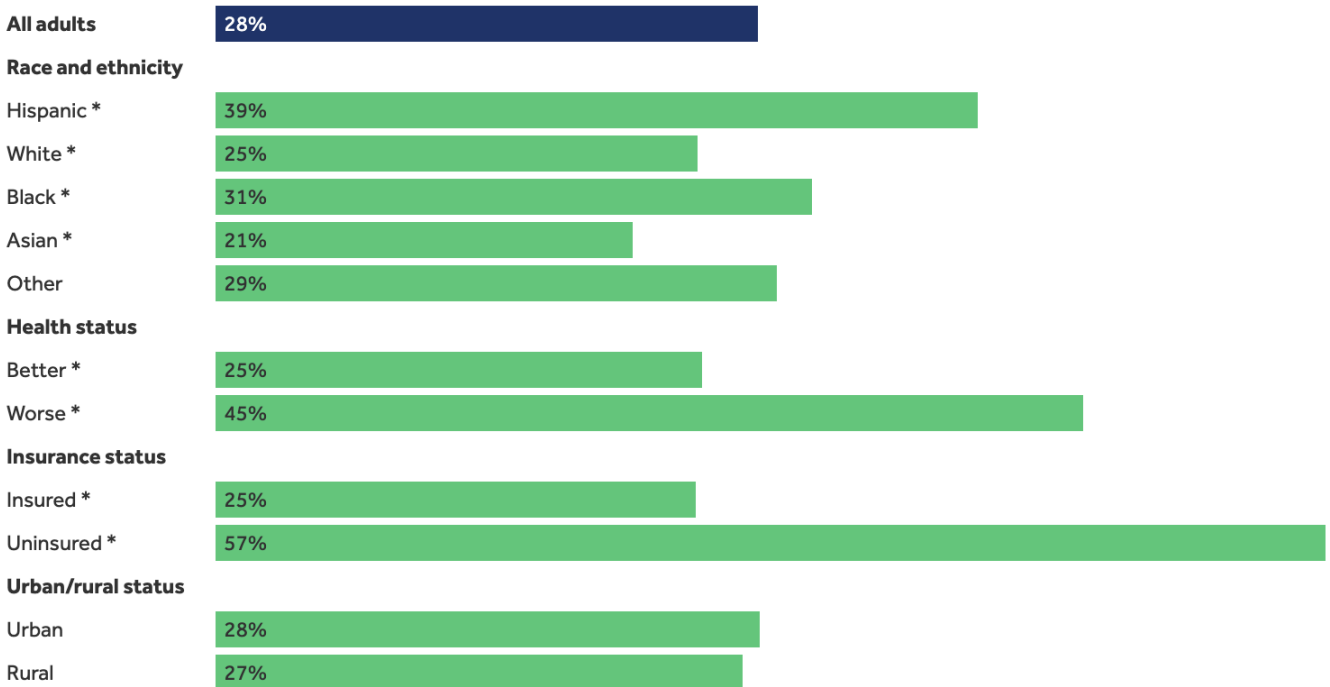
Barriers to timely and accurate diagnosis

Awareness in symptom recognition

Health care access for diagnostic testing, screening, and risk assessment

Delays and Denials in Health Care are Ubiquitous

Percent of adults who delayed or did not get health or dental care due to cost, by selected demographics, 2022

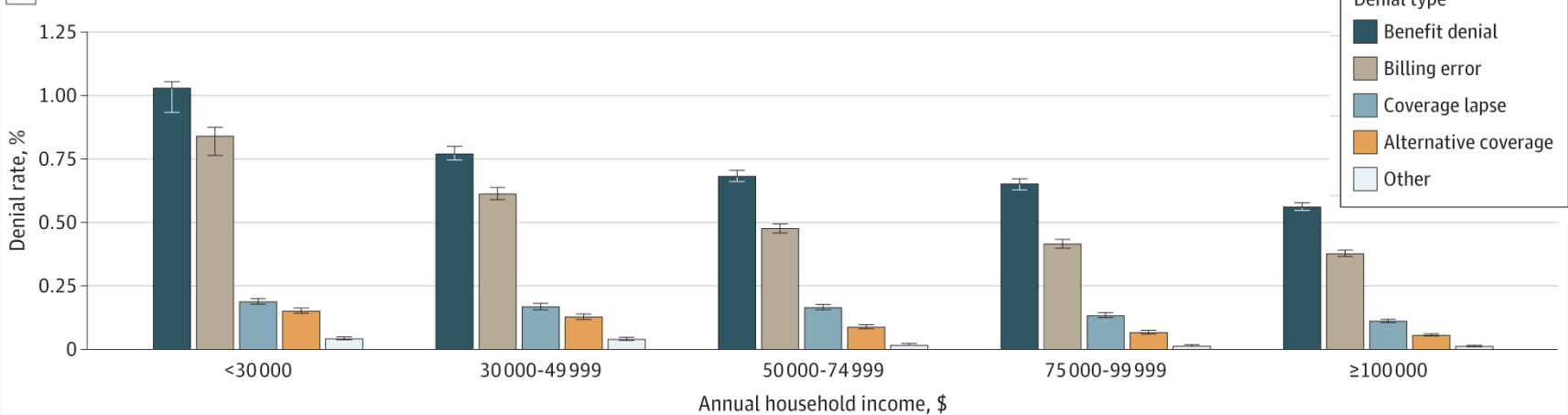


Note: *Estimate for this group is statistically different from the estimates for all others ($p < 0.05$). Hispanic could be any race. All other groups are non-Hispanic. "Other" groups people of any race or ethnicity not stated due to small sample sizes. This chart includes adults reporting not getting or delaying medical, mental health, or dental care due to cost and those reporting not getting, delaying, skipping, or taking fewer prescription drugs due to cost.

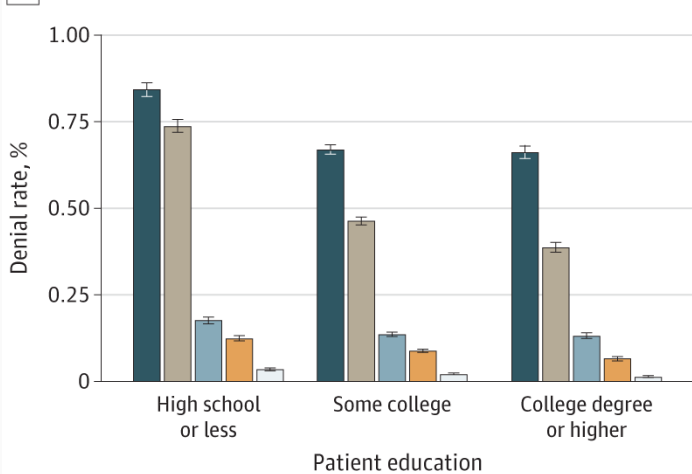
Source: KFF analysis of National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) data • [Get the data](#) • [PNG](#)

Peterson-KFF
Health System Tracker

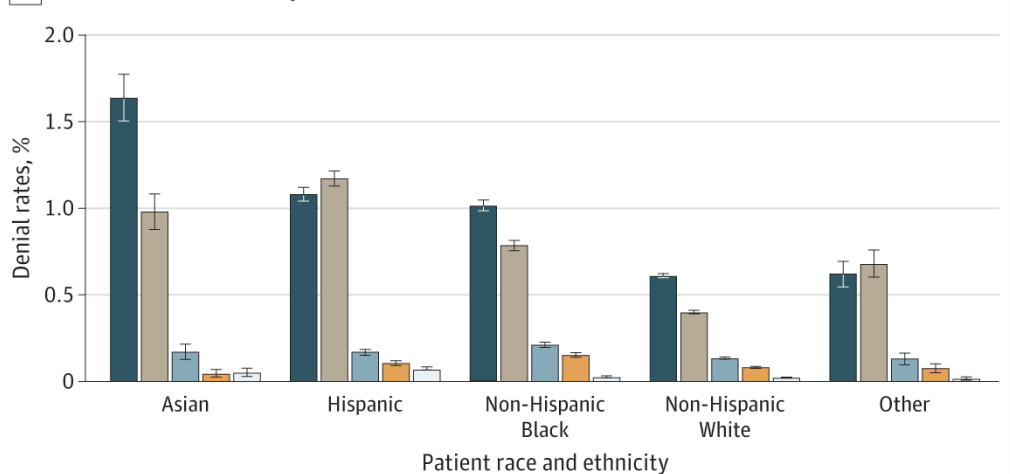
B Patient income



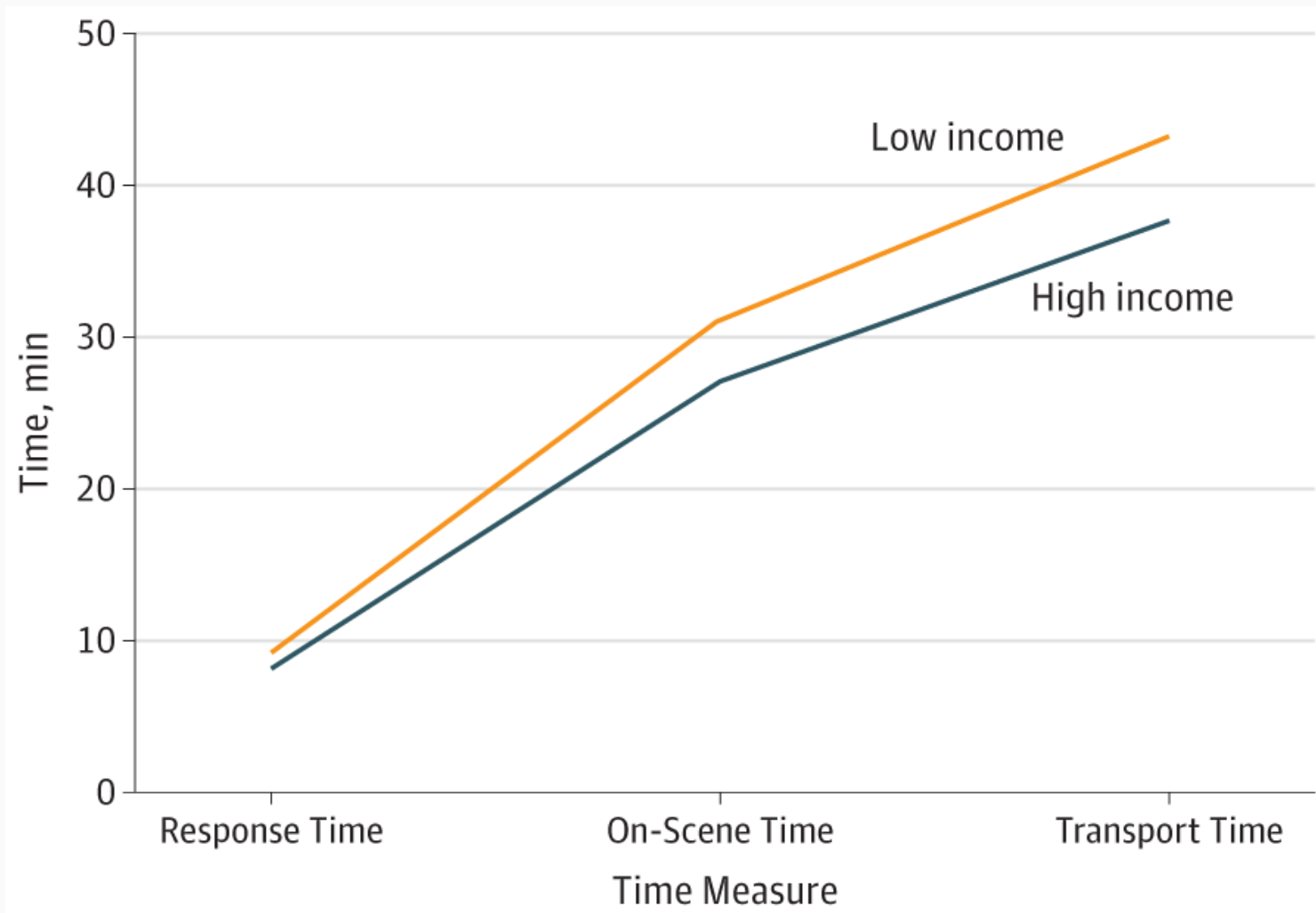
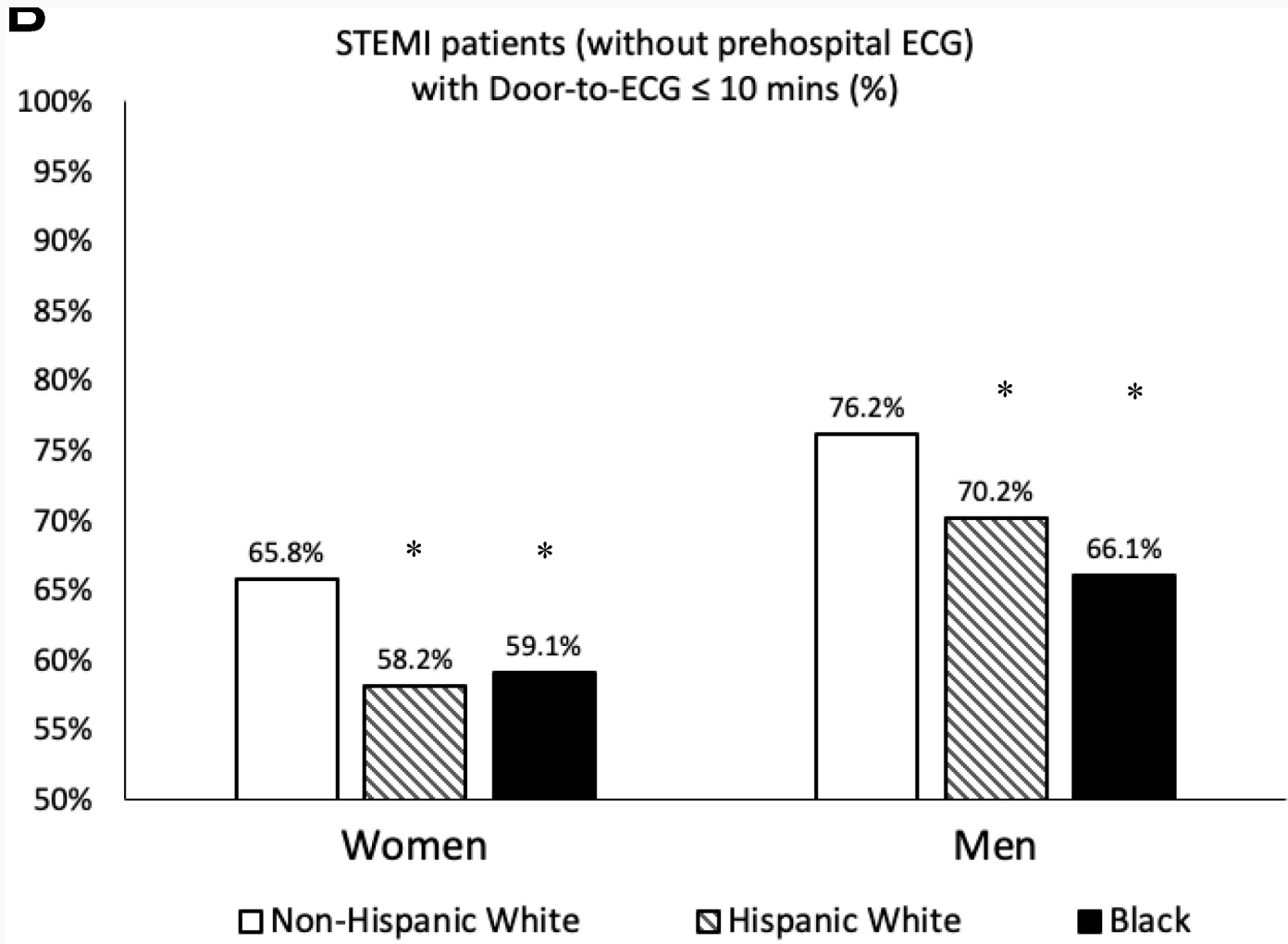
C Patient education



D Patient race and ethnicity



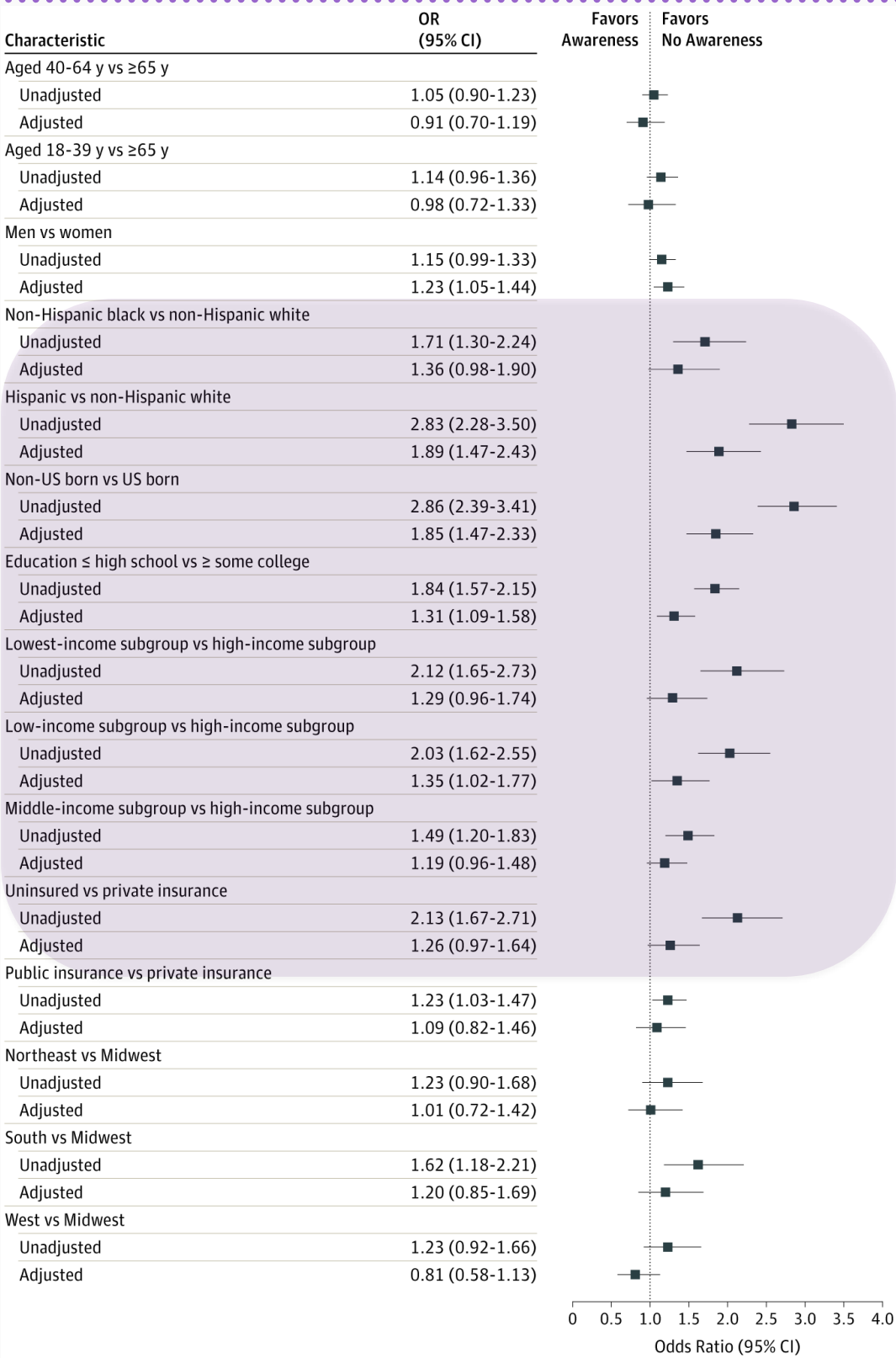
Structural Barriers to Timely and Accurate Diagnosis



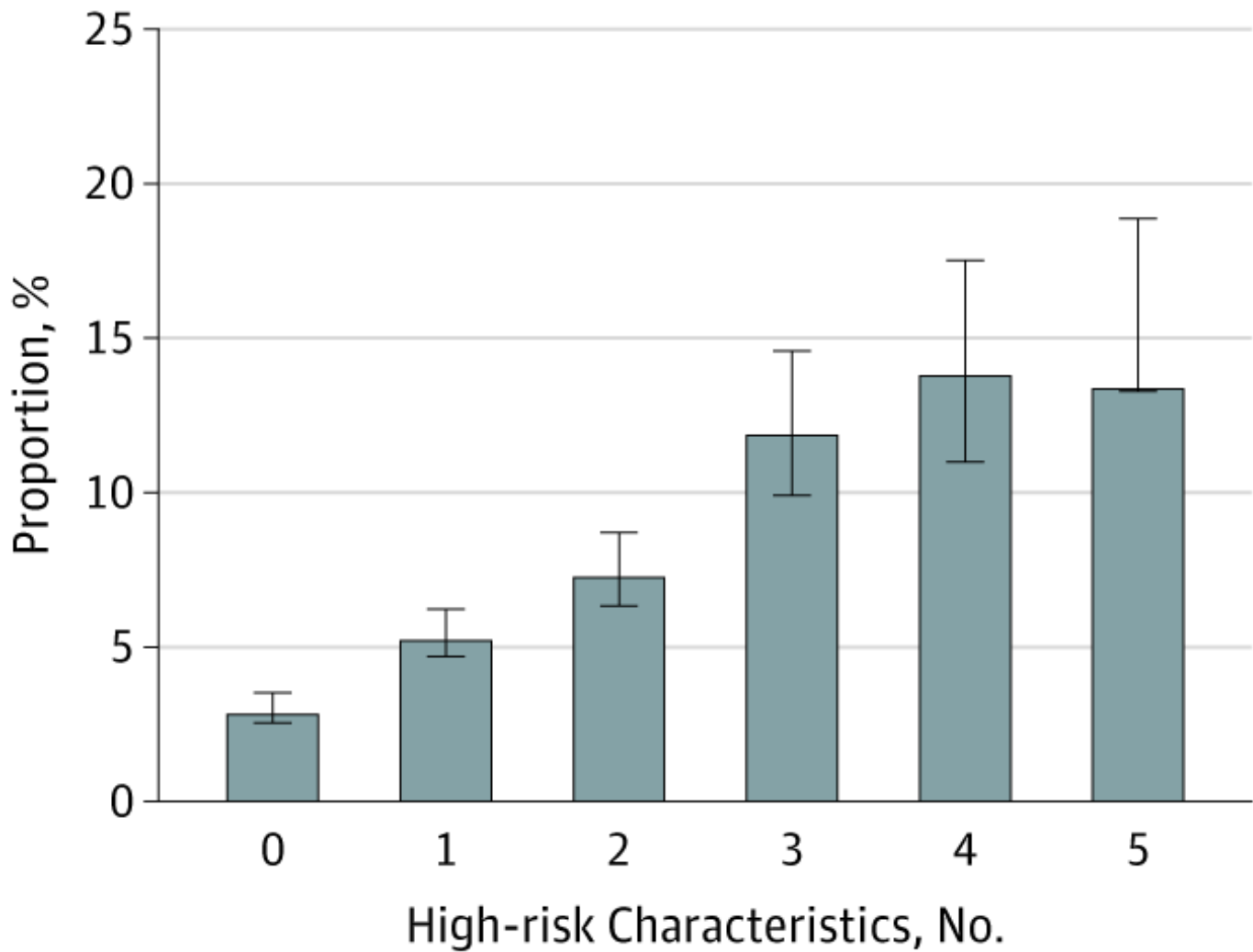
Disproportionate Delays due to Fragmented Patient Care



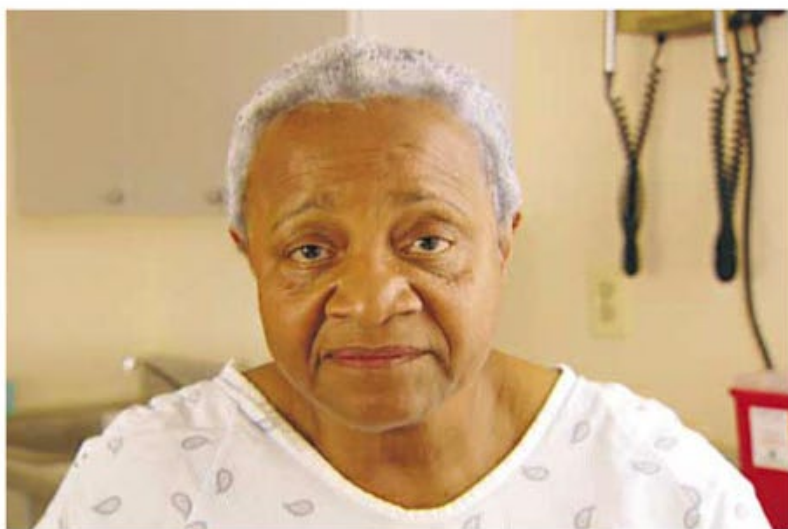
Significant Gaps in CVD Symptom Awareness



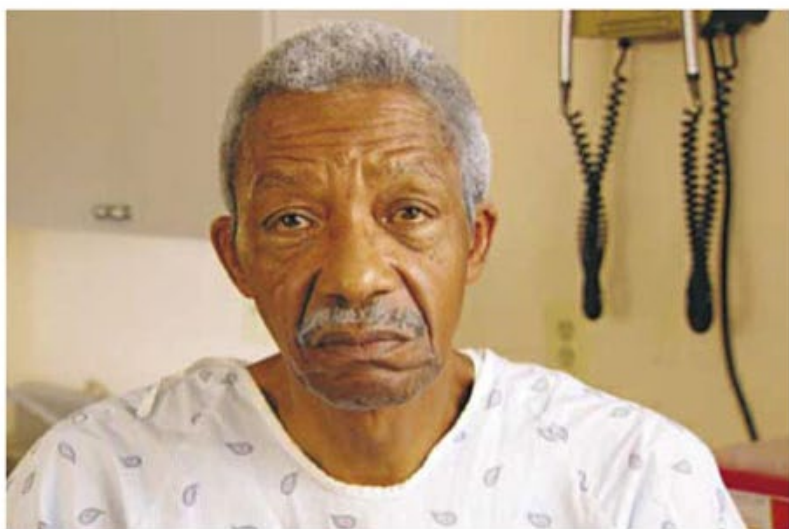
C Aware of 1 to 2 symptoms of myocardial infarction



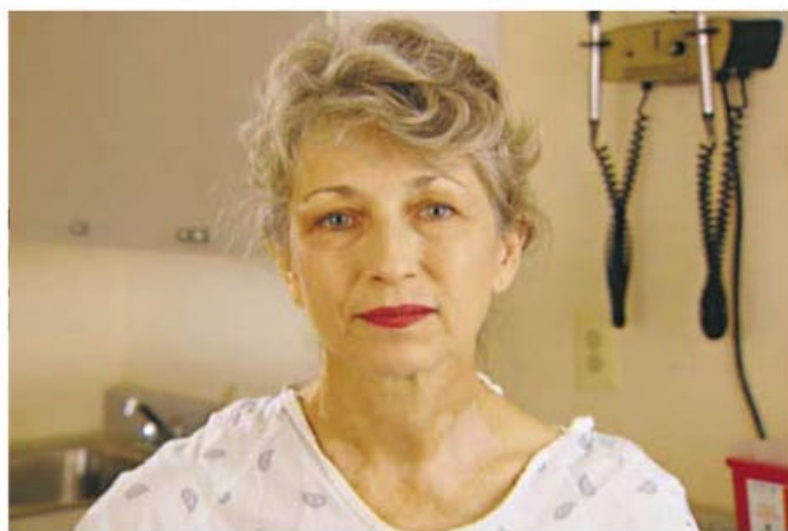
Implicit Bias in Acute Management of Chest Pain



C



D



E



F

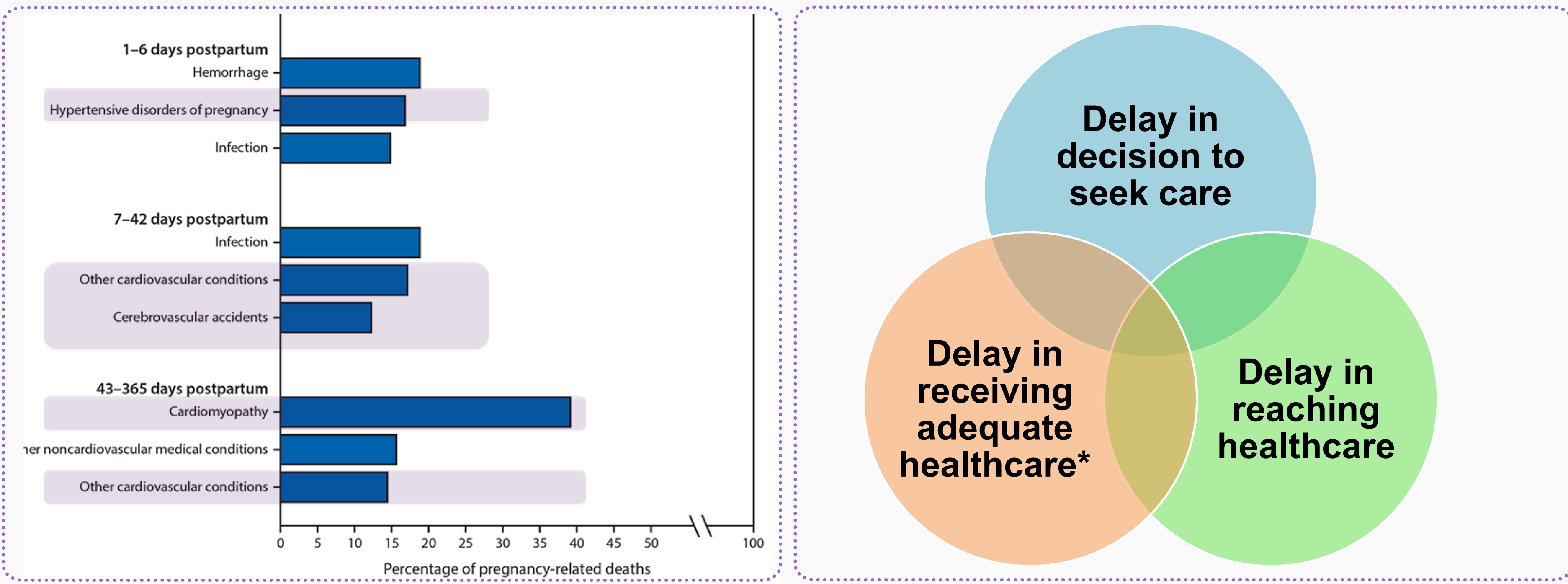
TABLE 5. PREDICTORS OF REFERRAL FOR CARDIAC CATHETERIZATION.*

MODEL AND VARIABLE	ODDS RATIO (95% CI)†	P VALUE
Race and sex as separate factors		
Sex		
Male	1.0	
Female	0.6 (0.4–0.9)	0.02
Race		
White	1.0	
Black	0.6 (0.4–0.9)	0.02
Interaction of race and sex		
White male	1.0	
Black male	1.0 (0.5–2.1)	0.99
White female	1.0 (0.5–2.1)	>0.99
Black female	0.4 (0.2–0.7)	0.004

*Both models included all experimental factors as covariates, as well as the probability of coronary artery disease as estimated after the results of the stress tests were known. The first analysis included only the main effects. The second analysis explored a race–sex interaction.

†CI denotes confidence interval.

Diagnostic Inequities Contribute to CVD in MMM



Multi-Level Opportunities for Diagnostic Equity



Implicit bias training among clinicians
and development of diverse workforce

Assess and address SDOH

Increased public awareness of CVD risk

Increased access to patient -centered,
holistic preventive care

Key Takeaways for Diagnostic Equity in CVD



- 1 Burden of cardiovascular disease is **substantial** and **increasing** with **significant disparities**, due to individual, interpersonal and structural drivers
- 2 Structural barriers to optimal **diagnostic testing, screening, and risk assessment** for CVD exist across the life course, particularly postpartum
- 3 **Clinician bias** (implicit and explicit) contributes to delays in diagnosis and misdiagnosis for minoritized populations
- 4 Future directions should include improved **access** to preventive care, increase **public awareness** of CVD as LCOD, systematic **assessment** and management of SDOH, and **bias training** for clinicians and health system administrators

An aerial photograph of a city skyline, featuring several tall skyscrapers and a body of water in the background. A large, semi-transparent grey rectangle is overlaid in the center of the image, serving as a background for the text.

Thank you!

Questions?