



Public Health Opportunities to Accelerate Health Equity in Cancer Care

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I have no financial disclosures



Factors Driving Poor Health

Social Determinants of Health

Economic Stability	Neighborhood/ Physical Environment	Education	Community and Social Context	Health Care System
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Employment• Income• Expenses• Debt• Medical bills• Food insecurity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Housing• Transportation• Safety• Parks/Playgrounds• Food Access• Walkability• Zip Code/ Geography	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Literacy• Language• Early Childhood Education• Vocational Training• Higher Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Social integration• Support Systems• Community Engagement• Discrimination• Stress	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Health coverage• Provider availability• Linguistic and cultural barriers• Quality of care

Health outcomes: Mortality, morbidity, life expectancy, health care expenditures, health status, functional limitations

[Social Determinants of Health | CDC](#)

Despite Progress, Disparities Persist



Breast Cancer

African American women
2x as likely as white
women to be diagnosed
with and die from triple
negative breast cancer



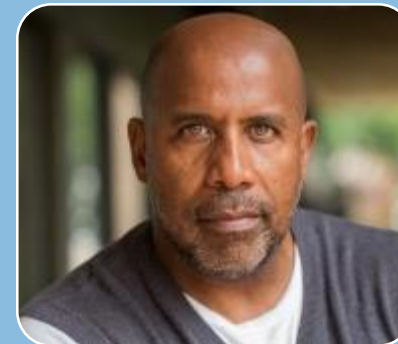
Cervical Cancer

Women in rural areas have
higher incidence of cervical
cancer than women in
metro areas



Liver Cancer

American Indian/Alaska
Natives rates of liver cancer
are higher than any other
racial/ethnic group



Prostate Cancer

African American men die
more often from prostate
cancer than any other
racial/ethnic group

The Role of Government in Addressing Disparities

Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government



“

By advancing equity across the Federal Government, we can create opportunities for the improvement of communities that have been historically underserved, which benefits everyone. For example, an analysis shows that closing racial gaps in wages, housing credit, lending opportunities, and access to higher education would amount to an...

”

Racism a 'Serious Public Health Threat'



Rochelle Walensky, MD, MPH
19th Director, Centers for Disease Control Prevention

“

...the pandemic illuminated inequities that have existed for generations and revealed for all of America a known, but often unaddressed, epidemic impacting public health: racism.

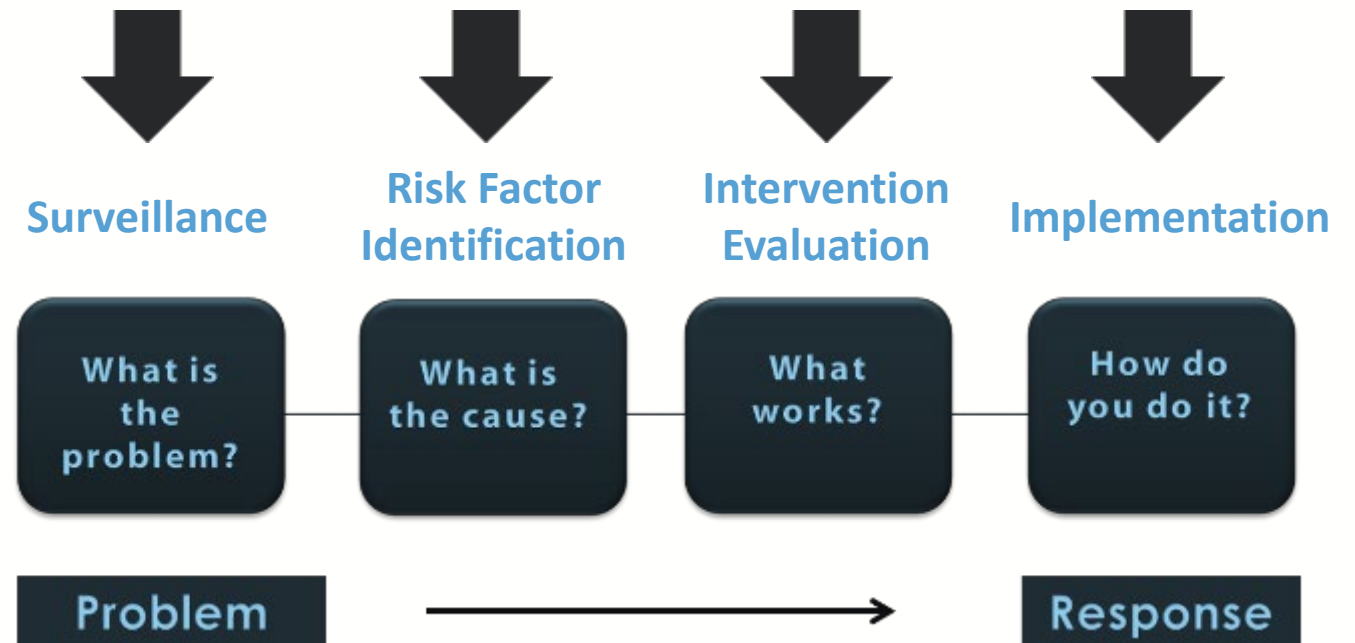
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Public health's role in addressing disparities

Ten Essential Roles of Public Health



Public Health Approach



Evidence-based Cancer Screening Programs



- National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program (NBCCEDP)
- Colorectal Cancer Control Program (CCCP)

cdc.gov/screenoutcancer/index.htm

NBCCEDP Eligibility



Celebrating 30 Years of Connecting Underserved Women with Vital Screening and Diagnostic Services in Their Communities



Age

40-64 years
(for breast cancer services)

21-64 years
(for cervical cancer services)



Income

**≤ 250% Federal
Poverty Level**

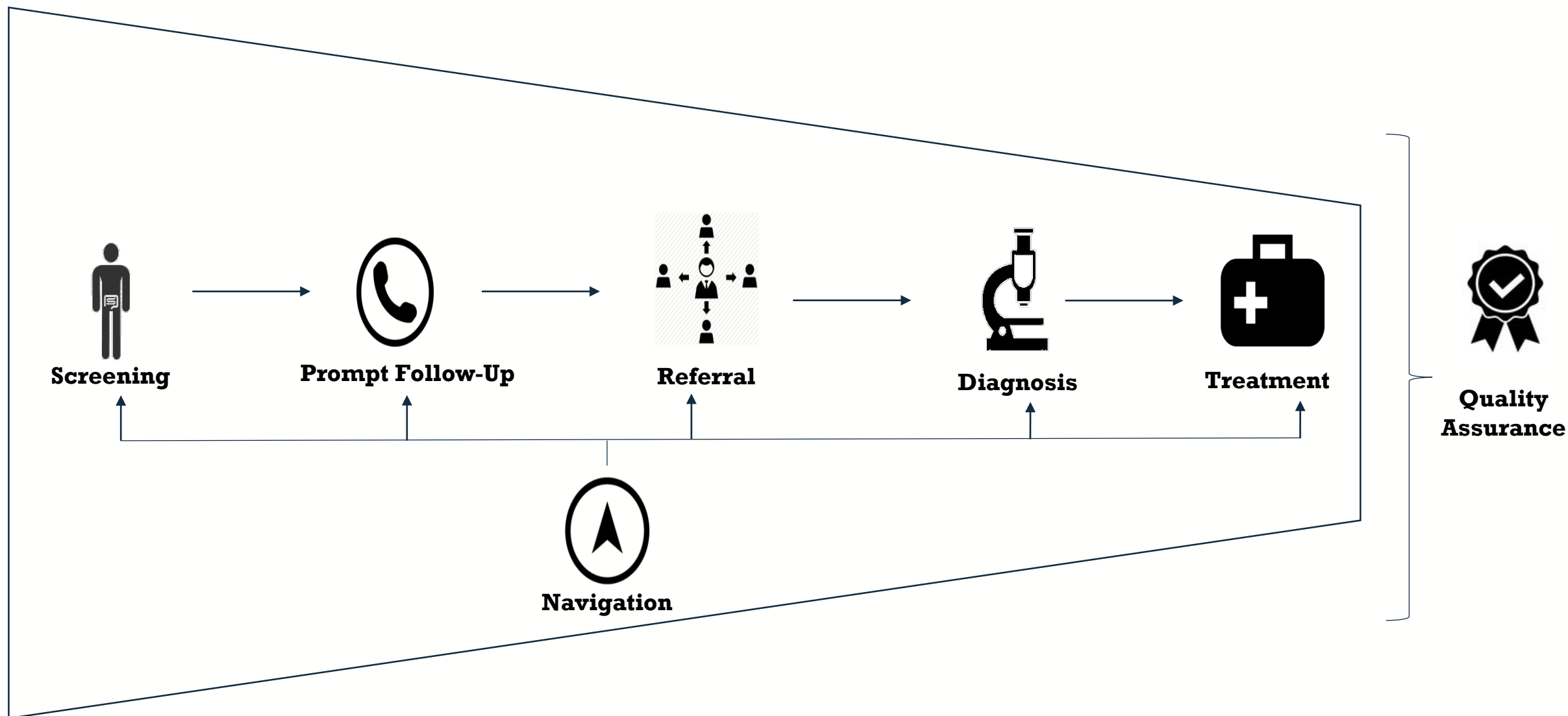


Insurance

Uninsured or underinsured

Source: cdc.gov/cancer/nbccedp/

Cancer Screening is More than a Test



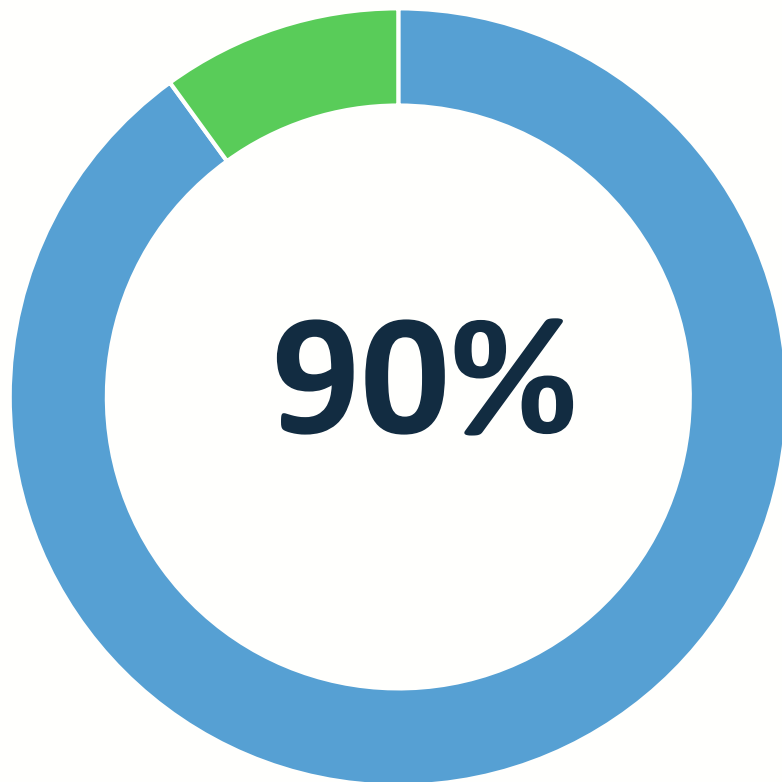
NBCCEDP Provides Critical Community Safety Net

Since **1991**:

- **5.8** million women served
- **15.2** million screenings
- **72,416** breast cancers
- **22,594** premalignant breast lesions
- **4,938** invasive cervical cancers
- **226,049** premalignant cervical lesions

October 2020 Minimum Data Elements submission

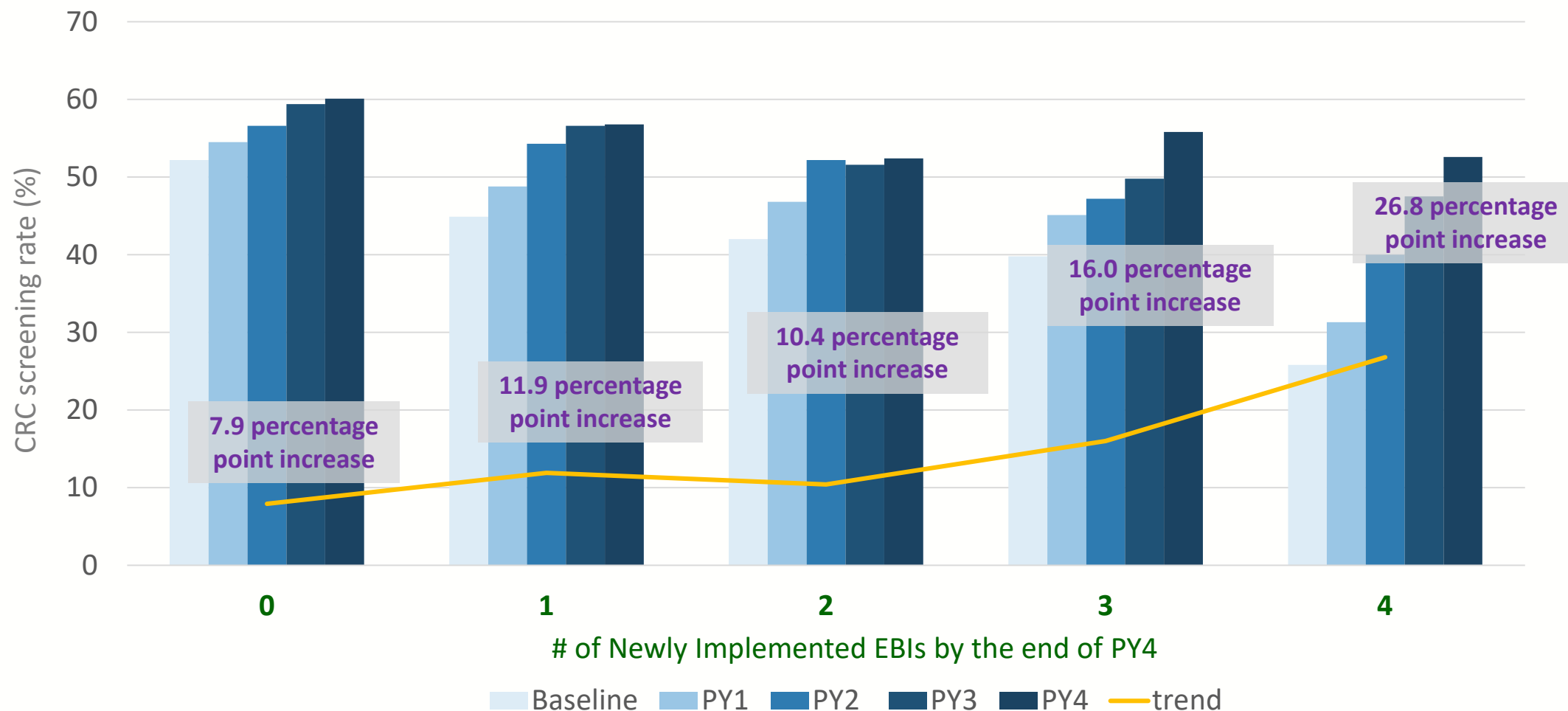




of colorectal cancers are
beatable if detected early
with proper screening and
follow-up

cdc.gov/chronicdisease/programs-impact/pop/colorectal-cancer.htm

More evidence-based interventions translate into greater screening rate increases



Source: CRCCP Clinic Data March 2020 data submission. PY1 Clinics only; Years 1-4.

COVID-19-Related Cancer Screening Deficits

Backlog of patients waiting to be seen across the United States

Cancer site	Deficit
Breast	3.9 million
Colorectal	3.8 million
Prostate	1.6 million



Source: Chen RC, Haynes K, Du S, Barron J, Katz AJ. Association of Cancer Screening Deficit in the United States With the COVID-19 Pandemic. JAMA Oncol. 2021 Apr 29. doi: 10.1001/jamaoncol.2021.0884. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 33914015.



Thank you!

Go to the official federal source of cancer prevention information:
www.cdc.gov/cancer



Division of Cancer Prevention and Control

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The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Top Reasons People Don't Get Colonoscopies

- Fear
- Finances
- Logistics
- No recommendation/referral
- Don't think it's needed

Muthukrishnan, M., Arnold, L. D., & James, A. S. (2019). Patients' self-reported barriers to colon cancer screening in federally qualified health center settings. *Preventive medicine reports*, 15, 100896.

