

LSU Health Science Center

LSU Health Digital Scholar

Medical Research Day

2022 Medical Research Day Posters

Oct 13th, 12:00 AM

Understanding the factors associated with US Dermatology Resident trainees' diagnostic confidence and skill for skin of color pathology

Alissa Jeanfreau

LSU Health Sciences Center- New Orleans

Kaylin Beiter

LSU Health Sciences Center- New Orleans, kbeite@lsuhsc.edu

Deborah Hilton

LSU Health Sciences Center- New Orleans, dhilto@lsuhsc.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalscholar.lsuhsch.edu/sommrd>



Part of the [Dermatology Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Jeanfreau, Alissa; Beiter, Kaylin; and Hilton, Deborah, "Understanding the factors associated with US Dermatology Resident trainees' diagnostic confidence and skill for skin of color pathology" (2022). *Medical Research Day*. 38.

<https://digitalscholar.lsuhsch.edu/sommrd/2022MRD/Posters/38>

This Event is brought to you for free and open access by the School of Medicine at LSU Health Digital Scholar. It has been accepted for inclusion in Medical Research Day by an authorized administrator of LSU Health Digital Scholar. For more information, please contact aolini@lsuhsc.edu.

Understanding the Factors Associated with U.S. Dermatology Resident Trainees’ Diagnostic Confidence and Skill for Skin of Color Pathology

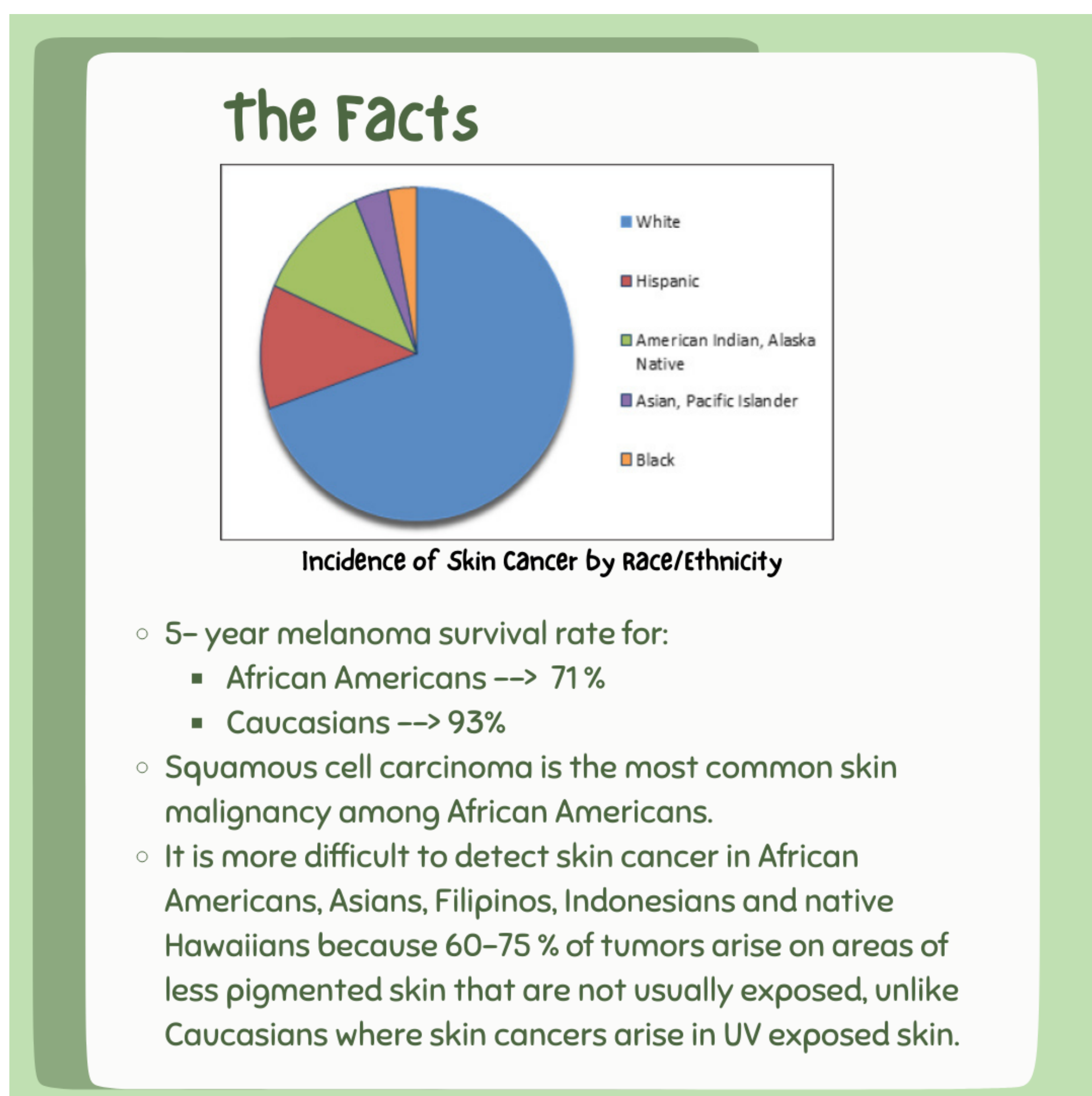


Alissa Jeanfreau, Kaylin Beiter Ph.D, Deborah Hilton M.D
LSUHSC-NO Department of Dermatology

Introduction

Inequities in dermatologic health outcomes exist at every level of care delivery including: disease prevention, screening, diagnosis, and treatment.

Despite significantly lower incidence of skin cancer, African Americans are diagnosed at later stages with greater degrees of lymph node involvement, leading to **disproportionate mortality** when compared to lighter skinned individuals.



Frequently used medical education materials have significantly smaller percentages of skin of color images as compared to lighter skin.

Studies have subsequently identified greater visual diagnostic accuracy of skin conditions in lighter skin than in darker skin by U.S medical students.

OUR MISSION? To address the theory that increasing exposure to skin of color pathology within medical education and training will help to reduce the disparity that exists.

Methods

A cross-sectional electronic REDCap-administered survey has been designed and distributed to all dermatology residents in US-based ACGME-accredited programs as of August 2022. Participants are asked about their own basic demographics (including gender, racial and ethnic identity, and training level) and about their programs’ (including geographical location, proportion of patients of each Fitzpatrick skin type, and whether their program has a dedicated skin of color clinic).

This data will be correlated with the participant’s diagnostic accuracy of corresponding images of common dermatologic conditions in lighter and darker skin.

It is imperative to establish an evidence-based understanding of the factors associated with dermatologic clinical acumen among patients of all skin tones.

Such knowledge can then be used to implement or expand upon existing dermatologic curricula within medical schools and residency training programs to ultimately minimize the disparity that exists and **provide equitable dermatologic care to all.**

Objectives

- To understand the factors behind U.S dermatology resident diagnostic accuracy of characteristic skin conditions in darker skin tones versus lighter skin tones in order to inform medical education and training curricula.

The Future

By 2044, minorities will constitute **greater than 50%** of the U.S. census. It is necessary now more than ever to address this disparity.

Education is the KEY! Education of at-risk individuals themselves AND their health care providers about the unique dermatologic concerns and needs of darker skinned individuals is of great importance. The motive behind this research project is to address whether increased exposure to skin of color pathology within residency training leads to higher diagnostic accuracy of skin conditions in darker skinned individuals.

Dermatological organizations such as the Skin of Color Society, Women’s Dermatologic Society, International League of Dermatological Societies, and many more are all taking initiative in addressing the lack of diversified education, research, care, and leadership within the field of Dermatology.

Acknowledgments

So much gratitude to Dr. Deborah Hilton for granting me this amazing opportunity and to Dr. Kaylin Beiter for being the best mentor and teacher throughout this entire process.

References

- Desai, S. R., Khanna, R., Glass, D., Alam, M., Barrio, V., French, L. E., Gohara, M., McKinley-Grant, L., Harvey, V., Heath, C., Mariwalla, K., Pentland, A., Piliang, M., Pourciau, C., Taylor, S., Wu, P., Grimes, P., & Lim, H. W. (2021). Embracing diversity in dermatology: Creation of a culture of equity and inclusion in dermatology. *International journal of women's dermatology*, 7(4), 378–382. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijwd.2021.04.001>
- Gupta, A. K., Bharadwaj, M., & Mehrotra, R. (2016). Skin Cancer Concerns in People of Color: Risk Factors and Prevention. *Asian Pacific journal of cancer prevention : APJCP*, 17(12), 5257–5264. <https://doi.org/10.7327/apjcp.2016.1712.5257>
- Cancer Facts and Figures 2022. American Cancer Society. <https://www.cancer.org/content/dam/cancer-org/research/cancer-facts-and-statistics/annual-cancer-facts-and-figures/2022/2022-cancer-facts-and-figures.pdf>
- Wilson BN, Sun M, Ashbaugh AG, et al. Assessment of skin of color and diversity and inclusion content of dermatologic published literature: An analysis and call to action. *Int J Womens Dermatol*. 2021;7(4):391-397. Published 2021 Apr 20. doi:10.1016/j.ijwd.2021.04.001
- Fenton A, Elliott E, Shahbandi A, et al. Medical students’ ability to diagnose common dermatologic conditions in skin of color. *J Am Acad Dermatol*. 2020;83(3):957-958. doi:10.1016/j.jaad.2019.12.078
- Mahendraraj K, Sidhu K, Lau CSM, McRoy GJ, Chamberlain RS, Smith FO. Malignant Melanoma in African-Americans: A Population-Based Clinical Outcomes Study Involving 1106 African-American Patients from the Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Result (SEER) Database (1988-2011). *Medicine (Baltimore)*. 2017;96(15):e6258. doi:10.1097/MD.00000000000006258