REDUCING CANCER HEALTH DISPARITIES AMONG CHICAGO-AREA LATINOS/AS

Judy Guitelman1, David Victorson, PhD2,6, Jennifer Banas, MPH, EdD3, Ninna Haas, MA4, Sandra Gutierrez, MS2, Adelina Barajas1, Alonso Valerio1, Carly Maletich, MA2, Evelyn Cordero2, Jenni Antonicic1, Silvita Diaz Brown1, Kristin Osborn1, Jill Kuehn1, Julia Pedersen1,5, Melinda Ring, MD2,6

1 ALAS-WINGS, 2 Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine; 3 Northeastern Illinois University; 4 BrightOutcome; 5 YogaCare; 6 Oscher Center for Integrative Medicine, Northwestern Medicine

Initial Dissemination

-Victorson, D, Banas, J, Gutierrez, S, Gutierrez, B, Cordero E, Haas N. (Under Review). Initial development of an mHealth Application to Connect Newly Diagnosed Hispanic Cancer Patients with Matched Peer Survivors: Results from Focus Groups and Individual Interviews with Spanish Language Stakeholders. Journal of Cancer Education

Joint Service on NIH-Supported Steering Committee
As a result of this partnership, Ms. Guitelman joined the advisory board of Dr. Victorson’s NIH grant INTERCAMBIOs (SR13HD0754902), which seeks to bring academic and community leaders together to brainstorm solutions related to obesity and chronic stress among Chicago-area Latinos/as.

Co-PI’s on a Spanish-language Yoga Research Trial
Through INTERCAMBIOs, they learned of their mutual work and interests in yoga therapy, and received a grant from the Osher Center for Integrative Medicine and Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center for pilot funding to evaluate ALAS-WING’s yoga support program with breast cancer survivors and their support providers. The specific purpose is to examine the biopsychosocial impact of a Spanish language community yoga intervention for Hispanic cancer survivors and their care providers on self-reported outcomes of quality of life and biomarkers of stress and cardiovascular risk.

Initial Dissemination

Partnership Initiation
Ms. Judy Guitelman and Dr. David Victorson began a community-engaged research partnership over four years ago through a pilot project within an NIH-funded P-20 grant (NU NEIGHBORS, 5P20CA16558804), which sought to identify unmet support needs of limited English speaking Latinas with breast cancer and determine whether health solutions existed to meet these needs. During this study, we created an MOU. Ms. Guitelman co-led several focus groups with Spanish-speaking breast cancer survivors, and both partners were involved with data analysis, interpretation, and dissemination.

R21 Submissions
Through this work, we submitted a community engaged research based R21 proposal to develop and pilot test a new mHealth support tool called “MAESTRA”, which will enable one-to-one peer support between Spanish-speaking women recently diagnosed with breast cancer (mentees) and matched breast cancer survivor peers (mentors). MAESTRA means “teacher or mentor” in Spanish and stands for “mHealth Application to Enhance Support, Treatment Readiness and Adjustment.” This proposal has received an impact scores of 39 and 37.

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