

Culture, Language and Health Disparities

Working with Hispanic/Latino Women and Families: Cultural Competency Part III



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Upstate New York Minority Population

- The upstate New York minority population is large.
- Economies of scale in serving minority communities in big cities cannot be realized in smaller cities.
- Minority communities are dispersed throughout upstate New York.
- Therefore, disparity exists between minority and non-minority populations.



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- Access
- Origin of Illness
- Complementary Vs Traditional medicine
- Do's and don'ts
- Language issues



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ACCESS

- **Awareness of resources**
- **Method of payment**
- **Transportation**
- **Language**



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Origin of Illness

- **Religious**
- **Spiritual**
- **Emotional**
- **Event**
- **Self-causing**



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Complementary Vs Traditional Medicine

- **Hot/Cold balance**
- **Post Surgical care**
- **Belief system**
- **Community**



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Do's and don'ts

- **Stereotypes**
- **Assumptions of education and literacy levels**
- **Family/relatives/minors as interpreters**
- **Disregard of belief systems**



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Language and Culture

- **Provider as authority figure**
- **Importance of family- immediate and extended**
- **Verbal and non-verbal communication**



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Language and Culture

- **The role of the medical interpreter**
- **Interpretation Mode**
- **Telephonic interpreting**
- **Mental health**



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RESOURCES

- HHS- Office for Civil Rights <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/lep/>.
- The National Health Law Program
<http://www.healthlaw.org/langaccess/fedadmin.html> or
<http://www.healthlaw.org/langaccess/promisingpractices.html#interpreters>
- <http://www.healthlaw.org/langaccess/stateactivities.html>
- The National Council on Interpreting in Health Care (NCIHC) www.ncihc.org



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Available at www.cdc.gov/omh/AboutUs/disparities.htm or <http://www.cdc.gov/omhd/OMHD@cdc.gov>

Working Together to End Racial and Ethnic Disparities: One Physician at a Time www.ama-assn.org/go/healthdisparities

Proceedings of the 2005 White House Conference on Aging Mini-Conference on Health Literacy and Health Disparities, American Medical Association, 2005 www.ama-assn.org/go/aging

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Thank you!!

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