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Assessing the Receptiveness of Underrepresented Children towards an Emergency Department Pre-Post Intervention on Physical Activity

Molecular and Cell Biology and Political Science

An adolescent's perception of physical activity is important to understand to find ways in which physical activity attitudes and behaviors can be improved in the long term. Underrepresented youth are often not studied in the field as often and therefore need to be surveyed in order to understand the racial and socioeconomic influences on attitudes towards physical activity. The purpose of this study is to find ways in which underrepresented youth can be assessed on attitudes and find ways the best methods to educate and intervene.

This study is a cross-sectional survey. The target population is underrepresented youth in the healthcare system who present to the Emergency Department of CT Children's between the ages of 12-18 years old. They must be enrolled in public insurance in order to be viewed as being a part of the underrepresented population. However, the analysis of racial differences of children with regards to the acceptance of interventions has never been done through a pediatric Emergency Department (ED).

Due to underserved youth presenting to the emergency department (ED) more frequently compared to their counterparts, the setting of the ED must be examined further as a possible educational setting to reach this patient population. The purpose of this study is to determine the receptivity of underserved youth in receiving an ED-initiated intervention on the topic of physical activity. Secondary outcomes include assessing the comfort level of youth to discuss physical activity in the ED as well as determining the best methods to receive educational materials on the topic of physical activity.