

BACKGROUND

- Black patients make up 20% of people living with multiple myeloma, yet they represent only 6% of participants in clinical trials.
- Underrepresentation of Black patients in clinical trials can contribute to outcome disparities thereby negatively impacting health equity in cancer treatment and outcomes.

AIMS

- Findings will inform the development of programs aimed at increasing clinical trial participation in this population, including these Cancer Support Community education & support programs:
 - *Frankly Speaking About Cancer (FSAC): Multiple Myeloma*
www.CancerSupportCommunity.org/Multiple-myeloma
 - *FSAC Clinical Trials*
www.CancerSupportCommunity.org/ClinicalTrials
 - *Peer Clinical Trial Support*
www.CancerSupportCommunity.org/peer-clinical-trials-support-program

METHODS

- Online survey of Black Multiple Myeloma patients and their caregivers/care partners.
- Survey questions were informed by insights from prior focus groups with Black Multiple Myeloma patients and caregivers/care partners.

PARTICIPANTS

<i>N</i> = 195	Mean / <i>n</i>	SD / %
Age (years)	46.2	9.7
Race and Ethnicity		
Non-Hispanic Black/African American	186	95%
Hispanic Black/African American	9	5%
Men	121	62%
Role		
Diagnosed with Multiple Myeloma	94	48%
Caring for Patient with Multiple Myeloma	101	52%
Household Income		
\$0-\$24,999	16	8%
\$25,000-\$49,999	71	38%
\$50,000-\$74,999	57	30%
\$75,000-\$94,999	21	11%
\$100,000+	24	13%

CONCLUSIONS/MAIN FINDINGS

1. *Top Patient & Caregiver Perceptions of Clinical Trials:*

- a. Fear of side effects
- b. Discomfort with random assignment
- c. Only being willing to participate if the patient's current doctor recommended it

2. *Top Facilitators for Increasing Enrollment in Clinical Trials:*

- a. Understanding potential side effects of the trial's treatment
- b. A member of the patient's healthcare team speaks to them about cancer clinical trials
- c. Compensation for transportation, childcare, or time off work to participate in the clinical trial

Our study highlights that Black and African American multiple myeloma patients and caregivers value multifactorial efforts to increase clinical trial participation: logistical and financial interventions, patient/provider communication, and culturally sensitive support and education programs.

RESULTS

Most Common Patient & Caregiver Perceptions of Clinical Trials

	Strongly Agree/Agree
1. I fear side effects might come with treatment in a clinical trial	63%
2. I am uncomfortable with being randomly assigned (in a process similar to a coin toss) to a treatment	56%
3. I would only participate in a clinical trial if my current doctor recommended it	50%
4. There are no clinical trials available in my community	47%
5. I would be unable to fulfill trial requirements due to the cost of non-healthcare expenses such as missing work due to additional appointments, transportation, or childcare	45%
6. My health insurance would not cover it	45%
7. I would be unable to fulfill trial requirements due to logistical barriers such as transportation or childcare	39%
8. I fear receiving a placebo (for example, a sugar pill) in a clinical trial	38%
9. I don't understand what clinical trials are	28%

RESULTS (Cont.)

Top Facilitators for Increasing Enrollment in Clinical Trials

	Strongly Agree/Agree
1. I understand potential side effects of the treatment being offered in the clinical trial	66%
2. A member of my healthcare team speaks to me about cancer clinical trials	65%
3. Compensation is offered for transportation, childcare, or time off work	62%
4. My family/community support my decision to participate in the clinical trial	61%
5. I receive detailed information explaining the study, the costs associated with participation, and what will be covered by the study	60%
6. I know whether or not I will get a placebo	60%
7. I understand the potential risks and benefits of participating in the clinical trial	60%
8. Money is offered for my participation	60%
9. I don't have to change treatment facilities to join the trial	58%
10. A friend or family member is participating in the same study	58%
11. I understand the treatment that I would potentially receive	57%
12. Hearing testimonials/reviews from other cancer patients that participated in the clinical trials	56%
13. The doctor/team conducting the research speaks the same language as I do	54%
14. I understand the research being conducted by the clinical trial	53%
15. I don't have to change doctors to join the trial	52%
16. The doctor/team conducting the research is the same race/ethnicity as me	47%
17. The doctor/team conducting the research is the same gender (sex) as me	45%

FUTURE DIRECTIONS FOR RESEARCH

- Need for more research among Black/African American population regarding clinical trials
- Need for longitudinal research in this area
- Need for research on ways to reduce barriers to clinical trial enrollment among Black/African American patients

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