

The Health Status of Asian and Pacific Islander Americans: Show me the data

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Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (AANHPI): Countries and Ethnicities

- × China
 - × India
 - × Vietnam
 - × Indonesia
 - × Japan
 - × Pakistan
 - × Singapore
 - × Taiwan
 - × Philippines
 - × American Samoa
 - × Hawaii
 - × New Zealand (Maori)
 - × Fiji
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Global Perspective

- ✘ Nearly 60% of the world's population, ~4 billion people
- ✘ 40+ nations with great diversity: numerous ethnicities and languages/dialects within countries
- ✘ Emerging economies
- ✘ Overlap of health conditions that affect developing vs. developed nations
 - + Malnutrition, diarrheal diseases, TB, malaria
 - + Obesity, diabetes, heart disease, hypertension

US Demographics

- ✘ Asian Americans: origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent
- ✘ Asian-American populations generally concentrated in western states, Northeast, and parts of the South. States with the greatest concentration are Hawaii, California, Washington, New Jersey, and New York
- ✘ AANAPI: 2.5% of Florida's population (2010 Census)

US Demographics (cont.)

- ✘ According to 2000 U.S. Census, Asian-Americans comprised 3.6 percent of the American population, approximately 10 million individuals
 - ✘ In 2010 census, “Asian only” category had the largest growth up 43.3 % from the previous census
 - ✘ Census Bureau projects the Asian-American population will grow to 37.6 million individuals by 2050 (9.3% of population)
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Diversity of AANHPI

- ✘ “Asian Americans represent both extremes of socioeconomic and health indices: while more than a million Asian Americans live at or below the federal poverty level, Asian-American women have the highest life expectancy of any other group. Asian Americans suffer disproportionately from certain types of cancer, tuberculosis, and Hepatitis B. Factors contributing to poor health outcomes for Asian Americans include language and cultural barriers, stigma associated with certain conditions, and lack of health insurance”

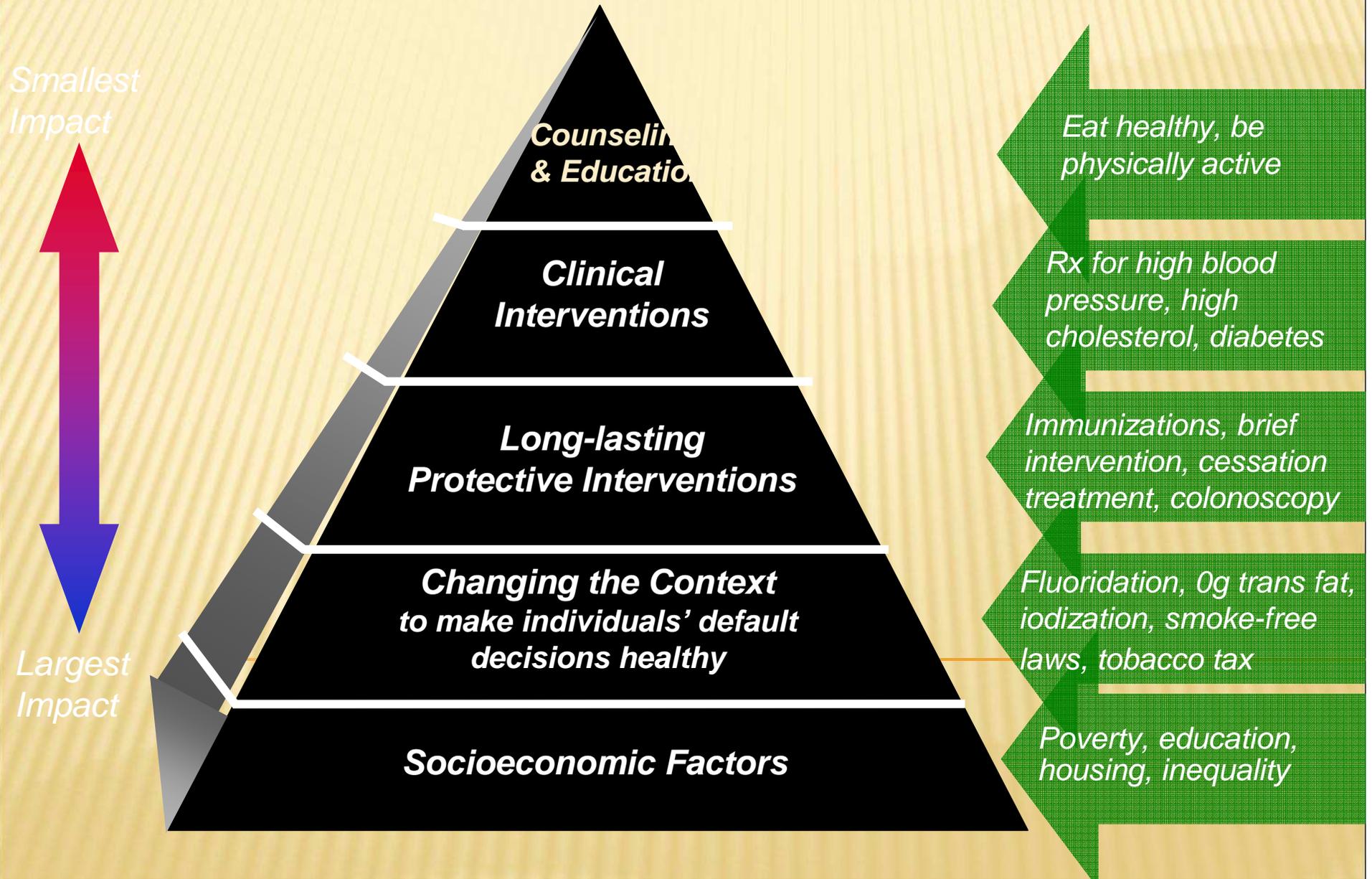
Myth of the Model Minority

- ✘ “Asian Americans represent a wide variety of languages, dialects, and cultures as different from one another as from non-Asian groups. Asian Americans have historically been overlooked due to the “myth of the model minority”: the erroneous notion that Asian Americans are passive, compliant, and without problems or needs. The effects of this myth have been the failure to take seriously the very real concerns of this population.”
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Health Surveys – Race/ethnicity data

- ✘ Major health surveys such as NHANES and BRFSS collect race/ethnicity data
 - + Numbers of participants of AANHPI origin usually too low to provide stable estimates
 - ✘ Data for AANHPI ethnicities is aggregated
 - + Allows for larger numbers to seek statistical significance
 - + Assumes all ethnicities to be similar
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Factors that Affect Health



Health Factors

✘ Health Behaviors

- + Tobacco Use
- + Diet and Exercise
- + Unsafe Sex
- + Alcohol Use

✘ Clinical Care

- + Access to Care
- + Quality of Care

✘ Physical Environment

- + Environmental Quality
- + Built Environment

✘ Social and Economic Factors

- + Education
- + Employment
- + Income
- + Family and Social Support
- + Community Safety



Challenges of Data Aggregation

- ✘ Demographics or social determinants of health vary greatly by country or origin
 - ✘ Difficult to stratify by key demographics and identify risk factors with low participant numbers
 - + Conclusions not as robust
 - + Difficult to tailor meaningful interventions
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10 Leading Causes of Death among AANHPI, 2007

- × 1. Cancer
 - × 2. Heart disease
 - × 3. Stroke
 - × 4. Unintentional injuries
 - × 5. Diabetes
 - × 6. Influenza and pneumonia
 - × 7. Chronic lower respiratory dz
 - × 8. Suicide
 - × 9. Nephritis, Nephrotic syndrome, and Nephrosis
 - × 10. Alzheimer's Disease
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HHS Plan for AANHPI Health

- ✘ Goal 1: Prevent, treat and control Hepatitis B Viral (HBV) infections in AANHPI communities
 - ✘ Goal 2: Improve data collection in AANHPI communities
 - ✘ Goal 3: Align the healthcare workforce with needs of the AANHPI communities
 - ✘ Goal 4: Improve health conditions and access to health care services for Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders
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Opportunities for Enhanced Data Collection

- ✘ Electronic health records (EHR) and health information exchanges (HIE) will allow for large amounts of data to be collected and aggregated
- ✘ Data on groups traditionally underrepresented in health surveys will be captured
- ✘ Possibility for large health surveys to oversample certain AANHPI subgroups in the future
- ✘ Private-public partnerships around data collection

Thank you!

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