Systemic Lupus Erythematosus: A Health Disparity among African Americans in Massachusetts as compared to the general population

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Types of Lupus

- Neonatal Lupus
- Drug-induced Lupus Erythematosus
- Cutaneous Lupus Erythematosus
- Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE)
Systemic Lupus Erythematosus

- Disease definition
- Manifestations
- Etiology

http://www.medicine.net/lupus_pictures_slideshow/article.htm
A Health Disparity among African Americans in Massachusetts

- What are health disparities?
- Evidence of disparity among SLE African American patients
Understanding the Main Factors of the Disparity in Massachusetts
Facts

- Did you know?
- Accurate diagnosis and management
- The neighborhoods targeted in Massachusetts
- Supporting laws
Barriers among SLE Patients

- Fatigue: 7%
- Depression: 10%
- Lack of healthcare professionals to talk to: 10%
- Physical pain: 14%
- Lack of disease awareness: 17%
- Isolation: 21%
- Challenges of healthcare coordination: 24%
- Emotional physical barriers: 31%
- Lack of health information: 44%
- Lack of trained health professionals: 55%
- Lack of SLE education: 62%

*Multiple answers were collected from each patient..
*SOURCE: NIH PUBLIC ACCESS
SLE in Numbers

Massachusetts:

- African Americans make 7.9% of population.
- Out of every 12 SLE patients, 10 are women.
- Among all SLE patients, 80% are African Americans.
Roxbury vs South Boston Population by Race and Ethnicity
Previous Study Results

2006, American College of Rheumatology
Longer Silica Exposure = Higher Risk of SLE

2010, Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Longer Silica Exposure ≠ Higher Risk of SLE

Odds Ratio of Silica Exposure vs Chance of developing SLE in South Boston

Odds Ratio of Silica Exposure vs Chance of developing SLE in Roxbury

Longer Silica Exposure ≠ Higher Risk of SLE
Longer Silica Exposure = Higher Risk of SLE
Connections between Disease and Disparity Population

Chronic Symptoms vs Economy

Ethnic Group Cluster

Higher Rate among Women
Current Studies/Projects

BRIGHAM AND WOMEN'S HOSPITAL

Alliance for Lupus Research
walkwithus

MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL

University of Massachusetts Medical School

HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL
Summary

- SLE disproportionately affects low-income families within the African American community.

- SLE aggravating factors.

- Main barriers.

- There are many supporting systems that assist SLE patients.
Questions???

http://justgngr.files.wordpress.com/2013/12/massachusetts-rainbow-towns.jpg


