

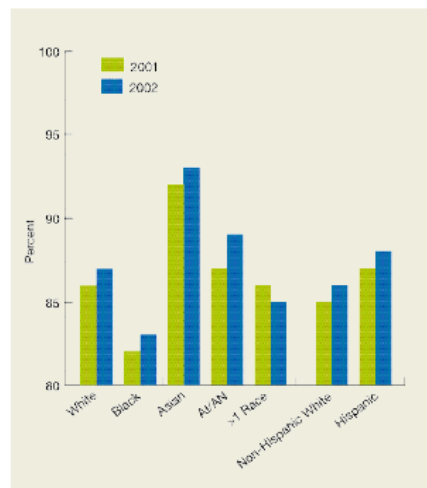


Disparities in Access to Chronic Kidney Disease Healthcare for Minorities

The 2004 National Healthcare Disparities Report demonstrated that even though the United States healthcare delivery system has the most comprehensive coverage with excellent providers and modern facilities, not all Americans have equal access to high quality healthcare. Health disparities related to ethnicity, socioeconomic status, and race prevail in America's healthcare system in regards to preventive care, acute care and especially chronic care.¹ Chronic kidney disease (CKD) disproportionately affects racial and ethnic minority populations because of their increased susceptibility to co-morbid conditions such as diabetes and hypertension.²

- ◆ African Americans are 4.5 times more likely to develop CKD than Caucasians.²
- ◆ American Indians are 3.6 times more likely to develop CKD than Caucasians.²
- ◆ Hispanics are 2 times more likely to develop CKD than Caucasians.²
- ◆ Asians are 1.6 times more likely to develop CKD than Caucasians.²
- ◆ Other causes of increased prevalence of CKD in these minority populations are:
 - Delayed detection and treatment of the early stages of CKD.¹
 - Poor control of diabetes and hypertension.
 - Combination of biological, clinical, economic, social and cultural factors.²
 - Unequal access to clinical methods of early diagnosis and treatment.¹

Hemodialysis patients with adequate dialysis, by race and ethnicity, 2001-2002.



Source: CMS ESRD Clinical Performance Measures Project, 2001-2002

- Asymmetric knowledge regarding prevention, screening and disease management strategies.

Overall, minorities have a higher likelihood of developing kidney failure but are less likely to be treated for it with either dialysis or a kidney transplant.¹

Sources:

¹ Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. (2004) 2004 National Healthcare Disparities Report. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

² Office of Minority Health. (2006). Highlights in Minority Health – Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Chronic Kidney Disease and Kidney Failure. Retrieved on March 23, 2006 from <http://www.cdc.gov/omh/Highlights/2006/HMar06K.htm>.

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