Abstract:

Introduction: Hypertension, is a contributing factor to cardiovascular disease, and is the leading cause of death in 44.6% African Americans. High blood pressure has unnoticeable symptoms, causing delayed treatment and non-adherence to medications until complications develop (American Heart Association, 2008). This causes a dilemma for health care industries and public health officials (American Heart Association, 2008). The health care industry is concerned with the failure of patients to take prescribed medications because the result is a 10% increase in hospital admissions (American Heart Association, 2008). Johnson, Williams, and Marshall (1999) suggest that non-adherence is the main reason why patients are unsuccessful in controlling their hypertension. Medication non-adherence is recognized as a health concern in the management of hypertension (Lukoschek, 2003). The purpose of this qualitative study is to explore how beliefs and attitudes influence medication adherence in African American men between the ages of 45-65 with high blood pressure.

Method(s): This qualitative study will use an interpretive (hermeneutic) phenomenology research methodology. Up to 25 African American men between the ages of 45 and 65 who have antihypertensive medication prescribed will be recruited using purposive sampling. Semi-structured interviews will be used to collect data. Crist and Tanner’s (2003) data analysis strategies will provide a systematic guide to interpreting transcripts, identifying central concerns and shared meanings, clarification of emerging interpretations, and reporting interpretations.
Results: The findings from the proposed study will give health care professionals knowledge to provide competent health care of hypertension in African American men. Initial interviews for this study are currently being conducted.

Discussion & Conclusions: This study will provide an in-depth knowledge of how beliefs and attitudes of African American men influence their adherence to medications prescribed to treat high blood pressure. Information obtained from this research will give health care professionals knowledge to provide competent health care of hypertension in African American men.

Abstract History:
This abstract has not been presented or accepted for presentation in whole or in part at the SNRS or other scientific meeting.

Financial Disclosure:
Yes, I (or a member of my immediate family) have received something of value* from or own stock (or stock options) in a commercial company or institution related directly or indirectly to the subject of my presentation. Janell Bennett, Research or institutional support, speaking and teaching

FDA Disclosure:
I will not be describing any pharmaceutical and/or medical device.

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Submitted by:
janellsample@yahoo.com