PII-34: An Ethnogeriatric Study of Pain Perception in Minority Individuals

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Abstract:
Introduction: Background/Significance: Studies have shown that pain perception is influenced significantly by one’s ethnocultural background. Ethnocultural differences translate into differences in pain perception, pain behavior, and caregiver and healthcare provider perception of these factors. Understanding the impact of ethnicity and culture on pain perception contributes to further development of the bio-behavioral knowledge base essential for development, testing and delivery of culturally proficient interventions that improve the health of minority populations. Purpose: The purpose of this study is to assess and compare pain perception in African Americans, Asian/Pacific Islanders, Hispanics and Native Americans aged 65 years and older. Research Question: Are there similarities and/or differences in pain perception among African Americans, Asian/Pacific Islanders, Hispanics and Native Americans aged 65 and older?

Method(s): Design: Individuals aged 65 years and older who self-identify as African American, Asian/Pacific Islander, Hispanic and Native American and live in the San Antonio metropolitan
area are targeted for this study. Participants will be asked to fill out a demographic survey and
the Ethnicity and Pain Questionnaire (EPQ), and discuss their answers in an individual interview.
Data will be used to assess and compare pain perception among these population groups.
Measurement Tools: Interviews will be analyzed for emerging themes. Analysis of variance will
be used to analyze data from the demographic survey and EPQ. A total of 92-100 subjects aged
65 years and older from African American, Asian/Pacific Islander, Hispanic and Native
American populations will be enrolled to obtain an alpha of <.05 and a power of 0.8.

**Results:** Currently the study is ongoing, with data analysis to be completed by February 2010.
Results from this study are expected to contribute to further development of the bio-behavioral
knowledge base essential for development, testing and delivery of culturally proficient
interventions that improve the health of minority populations.

**Discussion & Conclusions:** N/A

**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:**
No, I (or a member of my immediate family) have not 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.

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

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