

# A Role for Social and Behavioral Sciences in Genomic Translation: Making Room at the Table

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EMORY

ROLLINS  
SCHOOL OF  
PUBLIC  
HEALTH

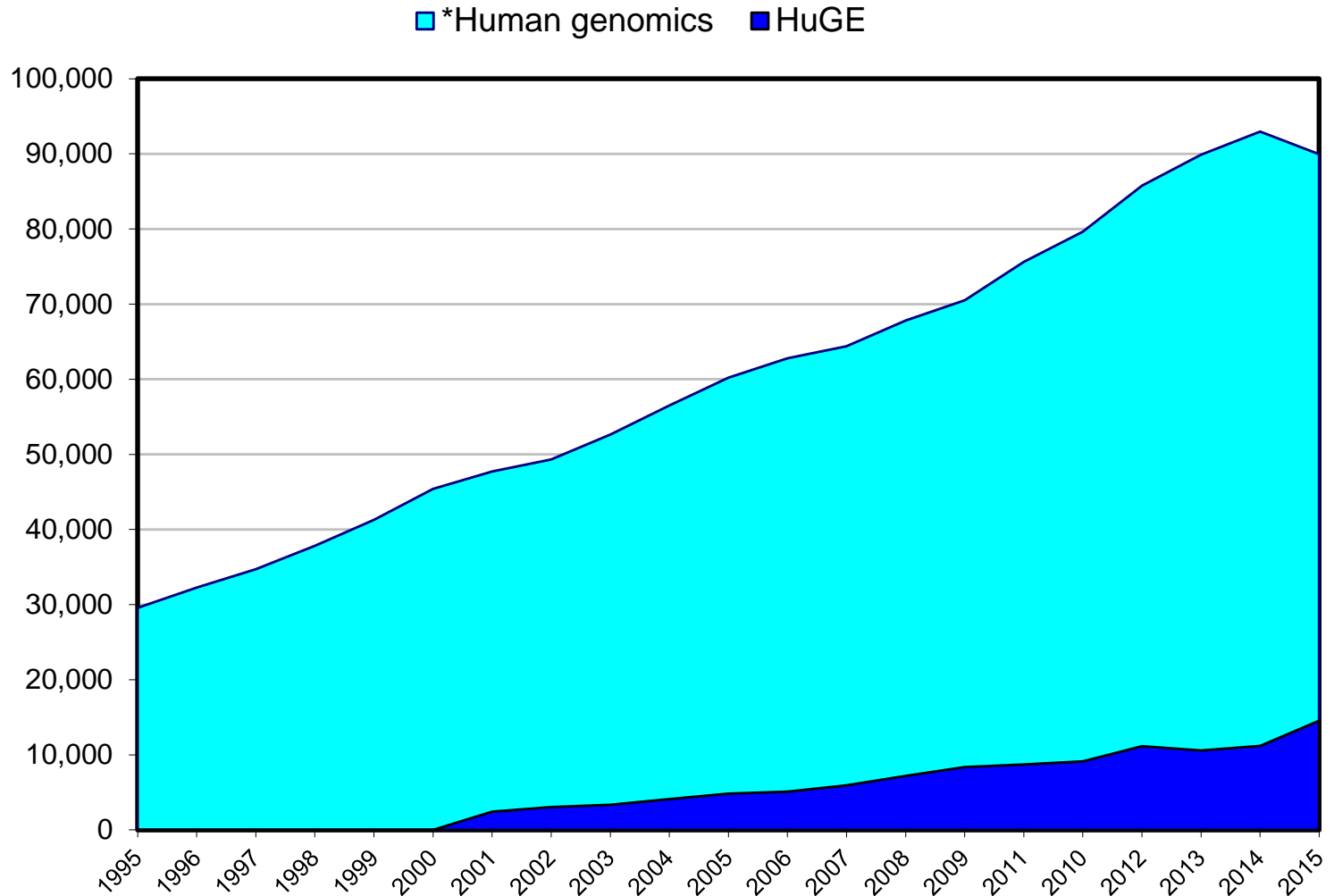
# Today's talk

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- Notes from the field approach
- Who's at the genomic translation table & why?
- Obligation to reduce health disparities is an optimal collaboration nexus for genomic translation
- Borrowed recommendations



# Publications related to genetics:



PubMed query "gene OR genetic OR genome OR genomic" / limited to human vs. HuGE Navigator, Sep 2016

# High Profile Genomics Initiatives

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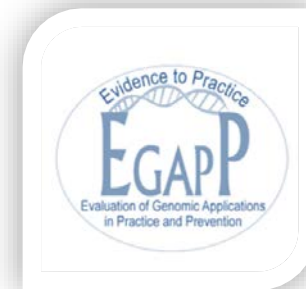


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Medicine  
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**THE FUTURE OF HEALTH BEGINS WITH YOU**

# Evaluation of Genomic Applications in Practice & Prevention (EGAPP)

**Table. Evidence-based Classification of Genomic Tests and Family Health History**

Tier	Definition	Example(s)
1	Implementation in practice is supported by a base of synthesized evidence.	<i>BRCA</i> -associated hereditary breast and ovarian cancer (U.S. Preventive Services Task Force B recommendation); Lynch syndrome (EGAPP)
2	May provide information for informed decision making based on existing evidence; however, synthesized evidence is insufficient to support routine implementation in practice.	Family health history in primary care, with few exceptions
3	Not ready for routine implementation in practice based on synthesized evidence culminating in recommendations against use, OR no relevant synthesized evidence identified.	Direct-to-consumer personal genomic tests



# Basic Genomic Science



# Social & Behavioral Science

neither here  
nor there



# Epidemiology, Data Science & Clinical Practice



# Not Invited to the Banquet

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- Focus Group Discussions with SBM members (N=40)
- 90-minute video conferencing
- Difficult to find collaborators in epidemiology & clinical sciences
- Lack of funding incentives for social and behavioral science
- Few opportunities for cross disciplinary discussions



Report to Soc Beh Med, Executive Committee, April, 2018; McBride, Allen, Arredondo, Guan, Kaphingst, Klein, Wang,

# Social & Behavioral Scientists Slow to Engage in Genomics

- 1 • Concern that genomics will eclipse social determinants of health
- 2 • Infeasible to disseminate high tech & expensive genomic applications
- 3 • Genomic applications unlikely to improve health promotion interventions

Opinion

VIEWPOINT

## Will Precision Medicine Improve Population Health?

**Muin J. Khoury, MD, PhD**  
Office of Public Health Genomics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, Georgia.


**Sandro Galea, MD, DrPH**  
Boston University School of Public Health, Boston, Massachusetts.

**Announcement** of the precision medicine initiative has led to a variety of responses, ranging from enthusiastic expectations<sup>1</sup> to explicit skepticism,<sup>2</sup> about potential health benefits, limitations, and return on investment. This Viewpoint discusses whether precision medicine is unlikely or likely to improve population health, aiming to forge a consensus that bridges disparate perspectives on the issue. The potential of precision medicine to improve the health of individuals or small groups of individuals is not addressed here because it involves a different question with different metrics.

First, the United States faces extraordinary challenges to the health of its population. Over the past 30 years, the United States has fallen behind other high-income peer nations in health attainment on many metrics, including life expectancy and infant mortality, and there are persistent gaps in health outcomes by income and race/ethnicity.<sup>4</sup> The solution to these challenges is probably not an increased focus on the individual, but rather involves focusing on the social, economic, and structural drivers of population health that are ubiquitous and inevitably linked to health achievement as a country. The centrality of the precision medicine effort

RESEARCH

OPEN ACCESS

 CrossMark

## The impact of communicating genetic risks of disease on risk-reducing health behaviour: systematic review with meta-analysis

Gareth J Hollands,<sup>1</sup> David P French,<sup>2</sup> Simon J Griffin,<sup>3</sup> A Toby Prevost,<sup>4</sup> Stephen Sutton,<sup>3</sup> Sarah King,<sup>1</sup> Theresa M Marteau<sup>1</sup>

**ABSTRACT**

**OBJECTIVE**  
To assess the impact of communicating DNA based disease risk estimates on risk-reducing health behaviours and motivation to engage in such behaviours.

**DESIGN**  
Systematic review with meta-analysis, using Cochrane methods.

**DATA SOURCES**  
Medline, Embase, PsycINFO, CINAHL, and the Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials up to 25 February 2015. Backward and forward citation searches were also conducted.

**STUDY SELECTION**  
Randomised and quasi-randomised controlled trials involving adults in which one group received personalised DNA based estimates of disease risk for

medication use, sun protection behaviours, and attendance at screening or behavioural support programmes) or on motivation to change behaviour, and no adverse effects, such as depression and anxiety. Subgroup analyses provided no clear evidence that communication of a risk-conferring genotype affected behaviour more than communication of the absence of such a genotype. However, studies were predominantly at high or unclear risk of bias, and evidence was typically of low quality.

**CONCLUSIONS**  
Expectations that communicating DNA based risk estimates changes behaviour is not supported by existing evidence. These results do not support use of genetic testing or the search for risk-conferring gene variants for common complex diseases on the basis that they motivate risk-reducing behaviour.

**SYSTEMATIC REVIEW REGISTRATION**  
This systematic review and meta-analysis for Cochrane

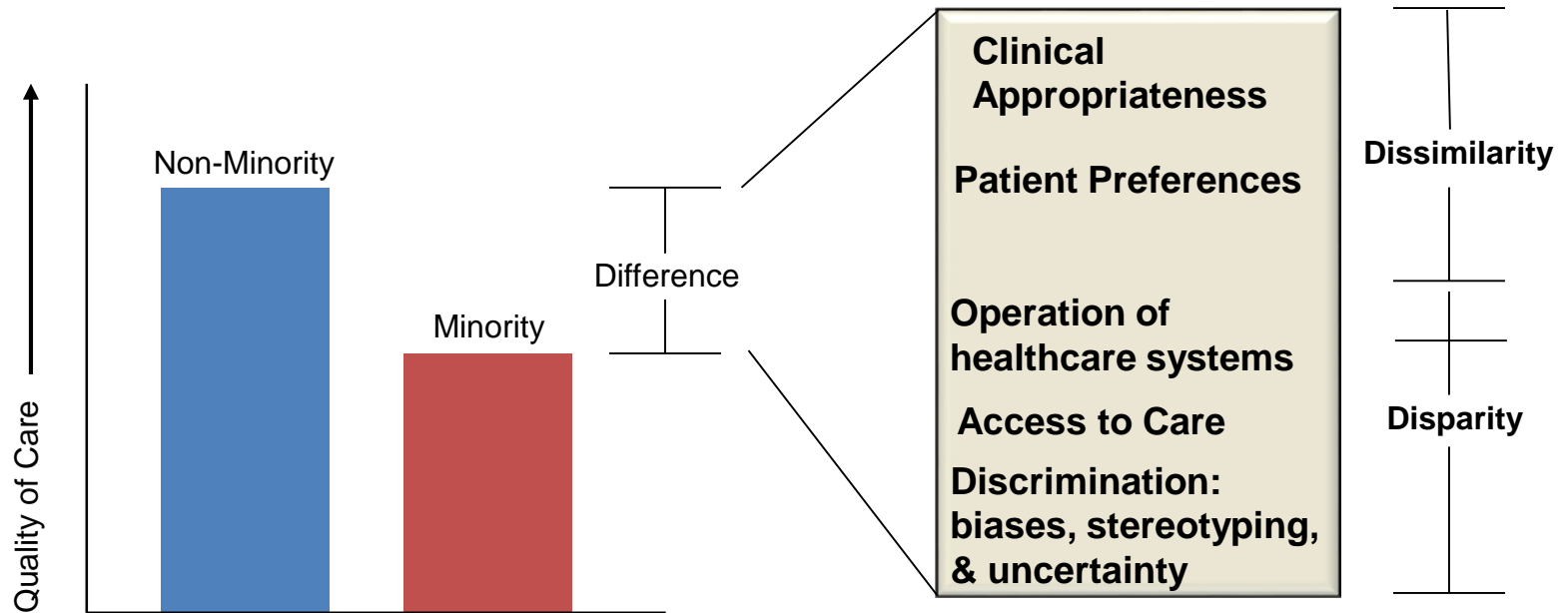
<sup>1</sup>behaviour and Health Research Unit, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK  
<sup>2</sup>School of Psychological Sciences, University of Manchester, Manchester, UK  
<sup>3</sup>Department of Public Health and Primary Care, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK  
<sup>4</sup>Imperial Clinical Trials Unit, Imperial College London, London, UK  
Correspondence to: T M Marteau tmm388@cam.ac.uk  
Additional material is published online only. To view please visit the journal online.  
Cite this as: *BMJ* 2016;352:h1102 <http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/bmj.h1102>  
Accepted: 14 February 2016





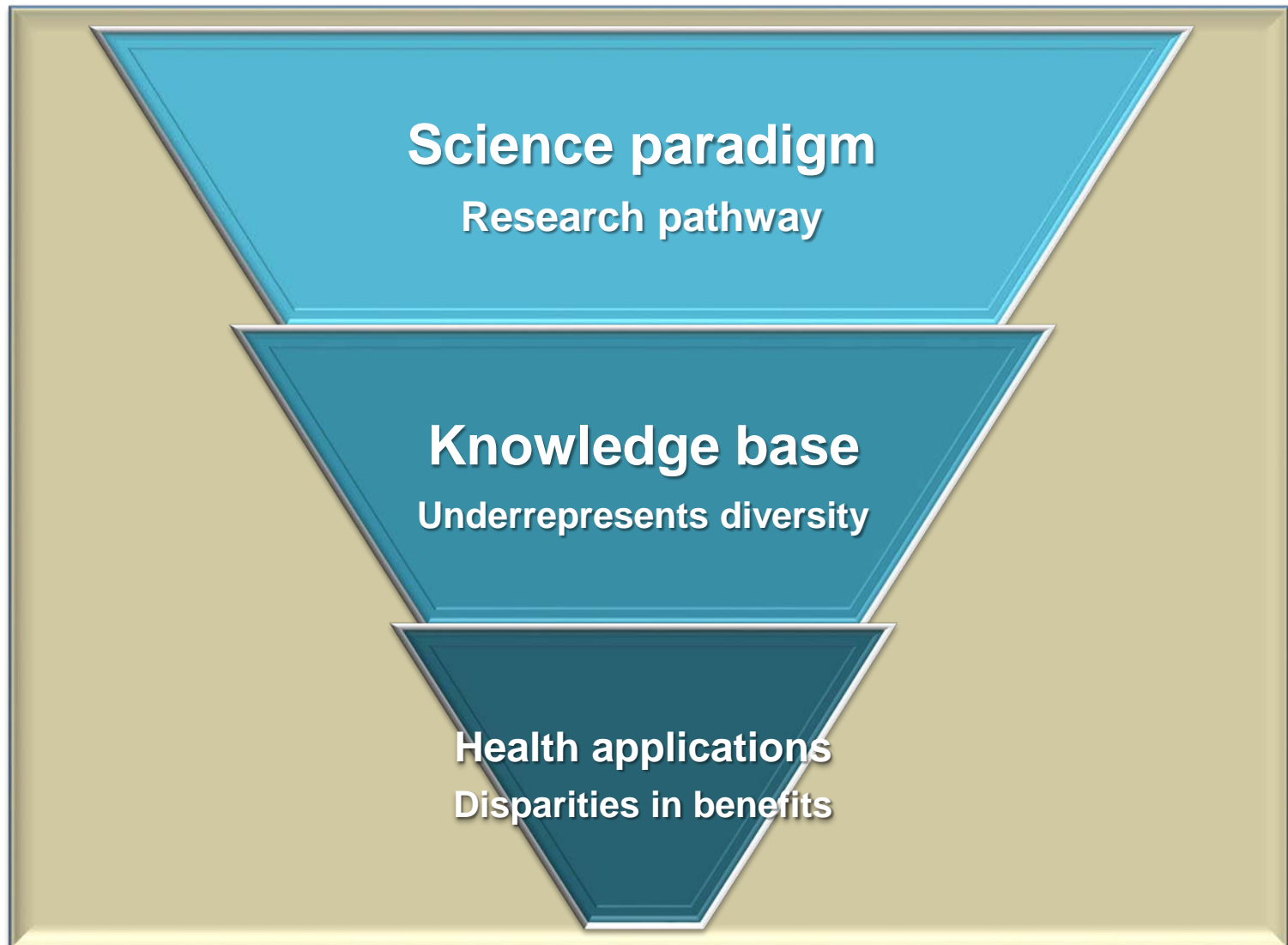
# Model of Health Care Disparities

Not all dissimilarities in care are necessarily a disparity.



Source: Gomes, C. and McGuire T.G. 2001. Identifying the sources of racial and ethnic disparities in health care use. Unpublished manuscript cited in: IOM, . 2002. *Unequal Treatment: Confronting Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health Care*. Smedley, B., A. Stith and A. Nelson, eds. Washington DC: National Academy Press

# Layers of Influence on Disparities Related to Genomic Translation



# Accepted Translation Paradigm

- **Stage 1: Basic Research**
- **Stage 2: Treatment Development**
- **Stage 3: Efficacy**
- **Stage 4: Effectiveness**
- **Stage 5: Adaptation to real world**

**T1**

From Gene  
Discovery to  
Health Application

**T2**

From Health Application  
to Evidence-based  
Guideline

**T3**

From Guideline  
to Health  
Practice

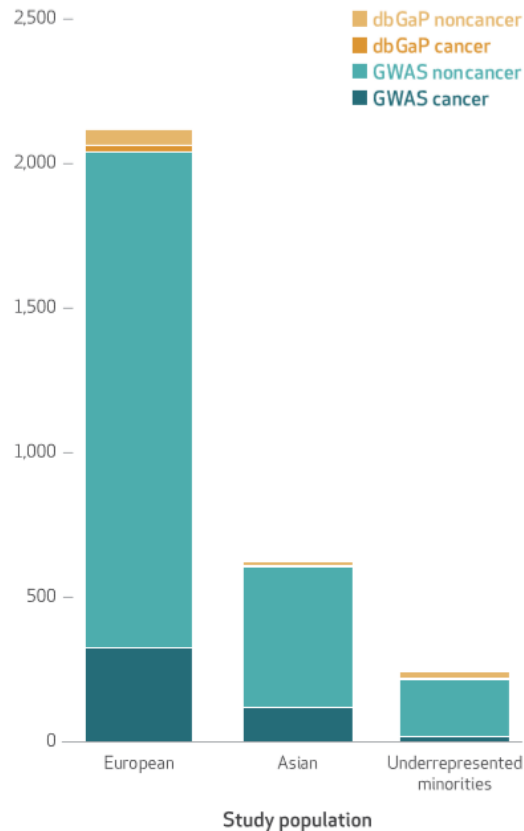
**T4**

From Practice  
to Health  
Impact

# Knowledge Based on European Ancestry Groups

## EXHIBIT 3

Numbers of genomewide association studies and genotype and phenotype studies, by disease area and study population demographic group, 2017



**SOURCE** Authors' analysis of data from the Genome-Wide Association Study Catalog and the database of Genotypes and Phenotypes (dbGaP). **NOTES** Underrepresented minorities are explained in the text. GWAS is genome-wide association study.

- Risk-allele frequencies modest correlations between ancestry groups
- Effect sizes varied:
  - Particularly for European vs. African groups
  - Some in opposite direction
  - Same direction but differed by 2-fold

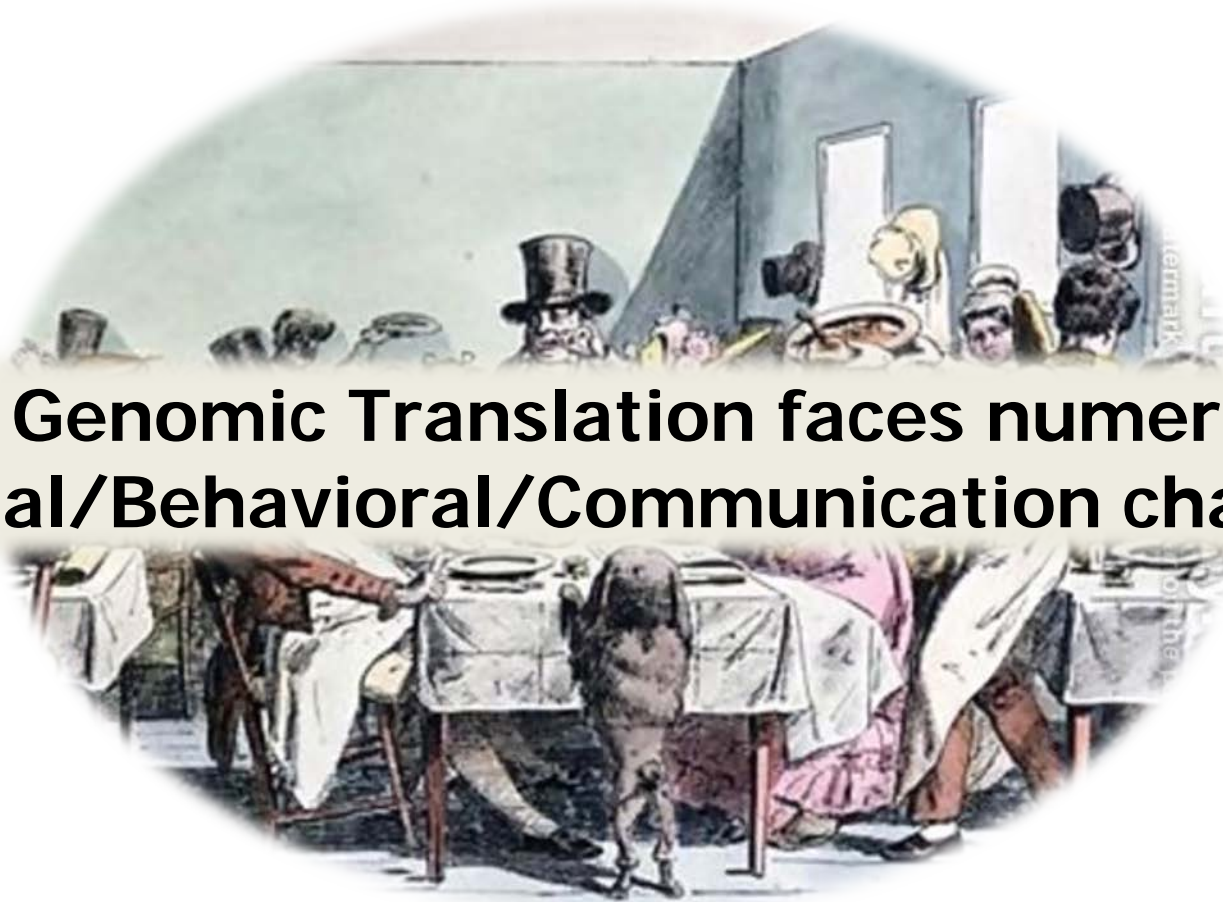
Ntzani et al., Hum Genet, 2012

# Health Application: HBOC Genetic testing

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- **GWAS (59 studies) 5% “underrepresented minorities”**
- **Inadequate risk models**
  - High risk white families
- **Understanding of testing benefits**
  - Based on European Ancestry (BRCA -- Ashkenazi populations)
- **Estimating population prevalence**
  - High rates of uncertain significance & novel deleterious mutations among African Americans

**Back at the banquet...**



**Genomic Translation faces numerous  
Social/Behavioral/Communication challenges**

# **Recruitment & uptake of genetic services: Social/Behavioral/Communication challenges**

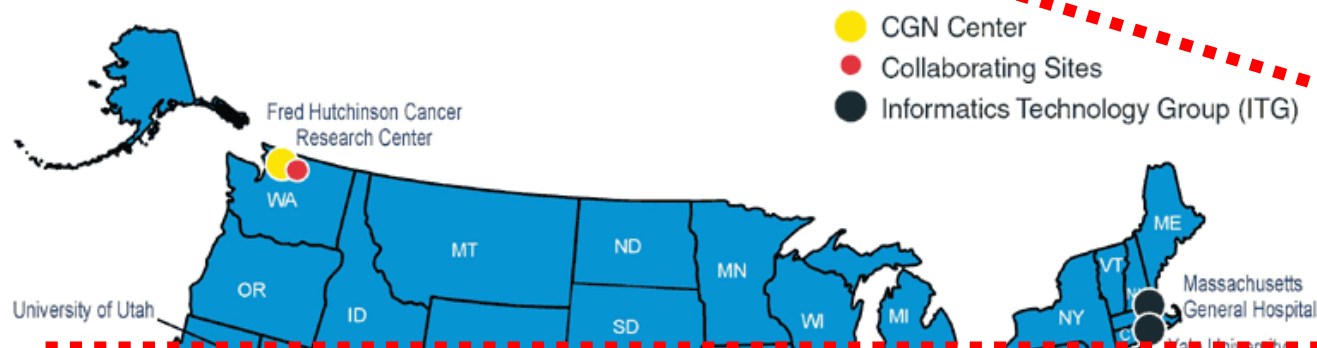
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- **What do communities of color have to gain from research participation?**
  - What is lost if they do not participate?
- **Comprehension of testing results and appropriate follow-up?**
- **Decision support for those at high risk**
- **Family communication about risk**



## Increasing Minority Participant Enrollment into a Cancer Family Registry: The Cancer Genetics Network

Deborah J. Bowen<sup>d</sup> Thuy Vu<sup>a,b</sup> Carol Kasten-Sportes<sup>c</sup>



As of May 2002, the CGN contained data on 15,007 participants and 241,948 family members. The majority of CGN participants were of Non-Hispanic White/Caucasian ethnicity (90%), with few numbers of Hispanic (4%), Black (3%), Asian (1%), and other ethnicities (2%). These participation figures did not match those of the general public, nor did they match the catchment areas of the participating sites in the CGN.

# Minority recruitment to CGN

Percent

Moorman et al., CEBP, 2004

100

80

60

40

20

0

Black

White

■ Enrolled in CGN ■ Received materials & declined ■ Declined to receive CGN materials

37

46

18

58

28

15

# The Multiplex Initiative



New Participants

Returning Participants

Health Care P

- **Observational study**
- **NCI-funded Cancer Research Network**
  - Henry Ford Health System clinical recruitment site
- **Multiplex genetic test for 8 common health conditions**
  - Removed access barriers
- **Sample: Healthy adults (25-40/ without health condition)**

# Multiplex Testing Uptake

	<b>Gender</b> (Men vs. Women) Adjusted+ OR (95% CI)	<b>Education</b> (Low vs. High) Adjusted+ OR (95% CI)	<b>Race</b> (AA vs. White) Adjusted+ OR (95% CI)
<b>Baseline survey</b>	.65 (0.58,0.72)**	0.86 (0.79,0.97)*	0.88 (0.80, 0.99)*
<b>Visited website</b>	.81 (0.67, 0.99)*	1.07 (0.88, 1.32)	0.52 (0.43,0.63)**
<b>Tested</b>	1.02 (0.73, 1.42)	0.80 (0.57, 1.11)	0.36 (0.25,0.50)***

+adjusted for other two categories

# All of Us: Recruitment



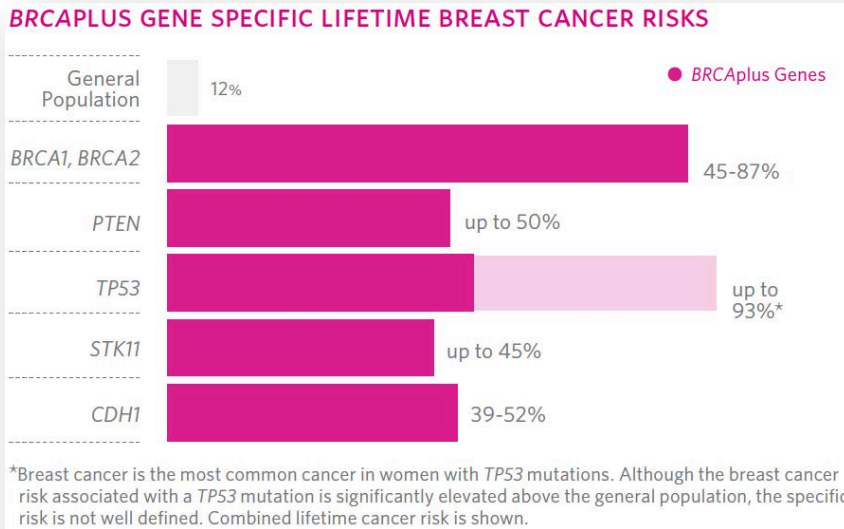
# National Network of Inaugural Partners

- National Partners
- Regional Medical Centers
- FQHCs
- Community Partners



# Health Applications

## Genetic testing

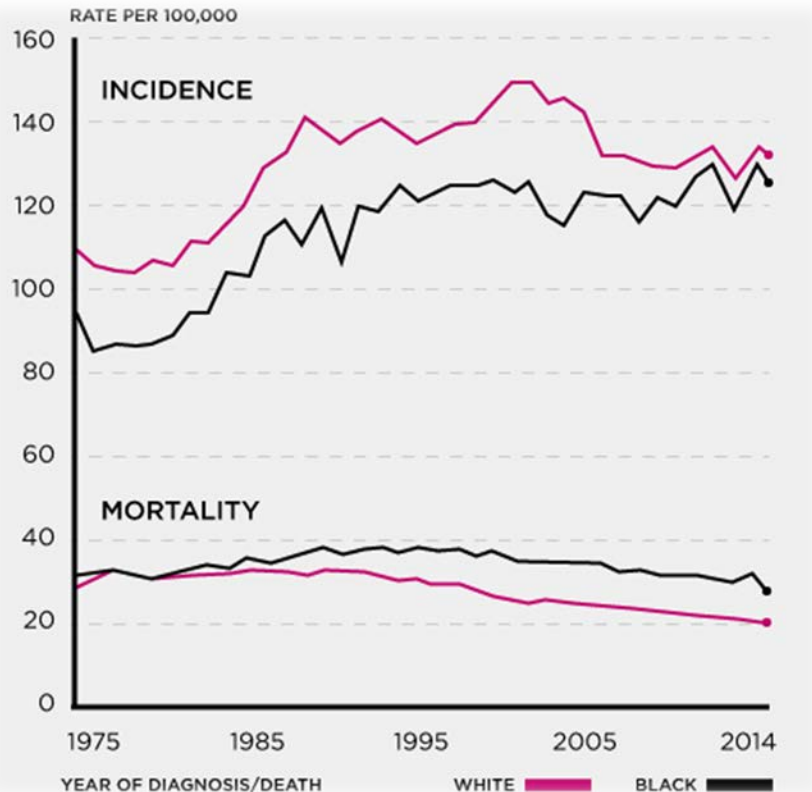


## Life saving options

- **Enhanced screening**
- **Risk-reducing surgery**
- **Chemoprevention**
  - Tamoxifen
  - Oral contraceptives
- **Family member benefits**

# Health Applications con.

## Identifying & Offering Genetic Testing to Cancer Patients

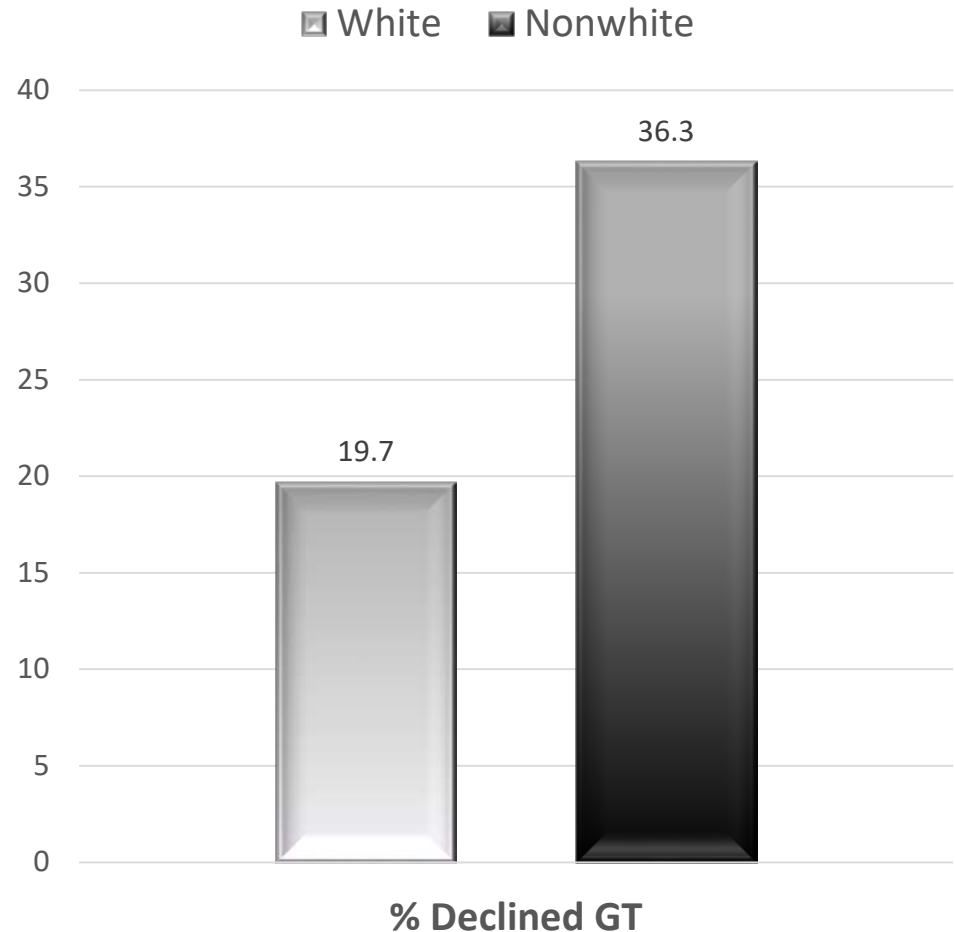


- **Tumor registries to identify probands**
  - Tertiary specialty centers
  - Over-represents white & high SES
- **Efforts to increase reach**
  - Few efforts at community engagement
  - Telegenetics



# Declined genetic testing by race

- Used outreach approaches to increase reach
- DC site: 13.6 (n=91) “nonwhite”
- Whites 2x more likely to undergo genetic testing (Butrick)
- New Mexico trial cite 5.8% were hispanic or “nonwhite” (Kinney, 2014)



# Uptake of genetic testing by genetic counseling approach & race

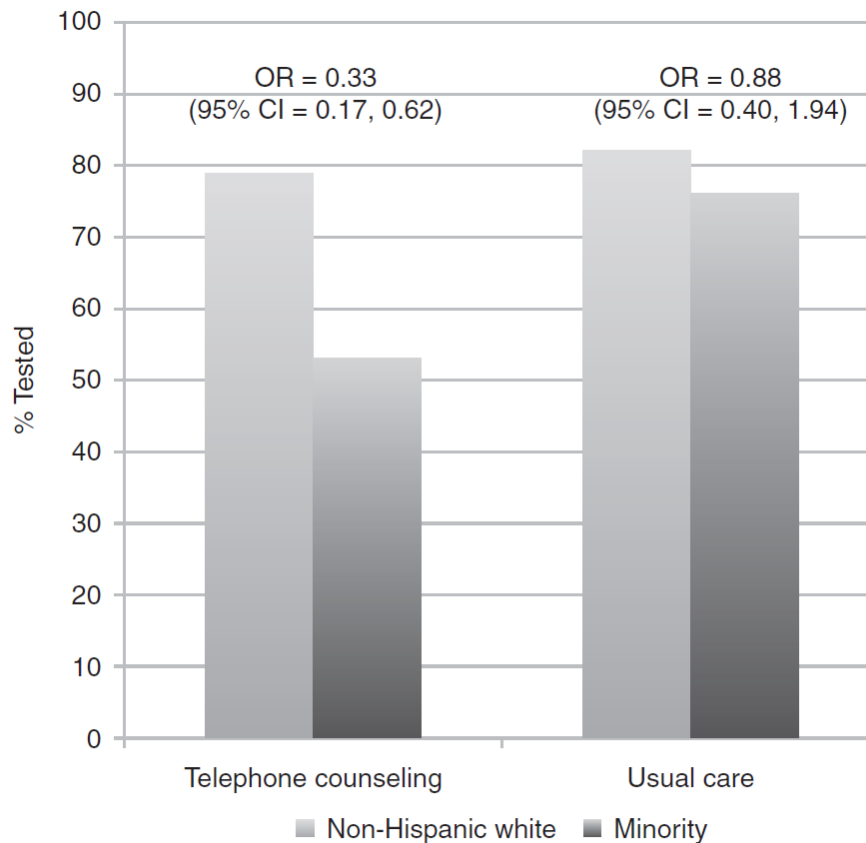


Figure 2 Race by group interaction in intention-to-treat sample.

# HBOC Population Screening Tradeoffs for Communities of African Ancestry

## Benefits

- Women of AAn > advanced disease and > mortality
- Women of AAn > likelihood for mutations
- At risk family members can benefit
- Mutations inform risk for other cancers


## Limitations

- Healthy individuals with information
  - Increased anxiety & existential concerns
  - More likely to have VUS
  - No clear treatment course
  - Family members diffusion
- 85-95% will not be at risk
  - Misunderstanding


**ACR recommends all women of AAn be screened for breast cancer risk < 30**



**GEORGIA BREAST CANCER  
GENOMIC CONSORTIUM**  
EDUCATION SURVEILLANCE AND POLICY



Breast Cancer Genetics  
Referral Screening Tool  
(B-RST™)  
English | Español



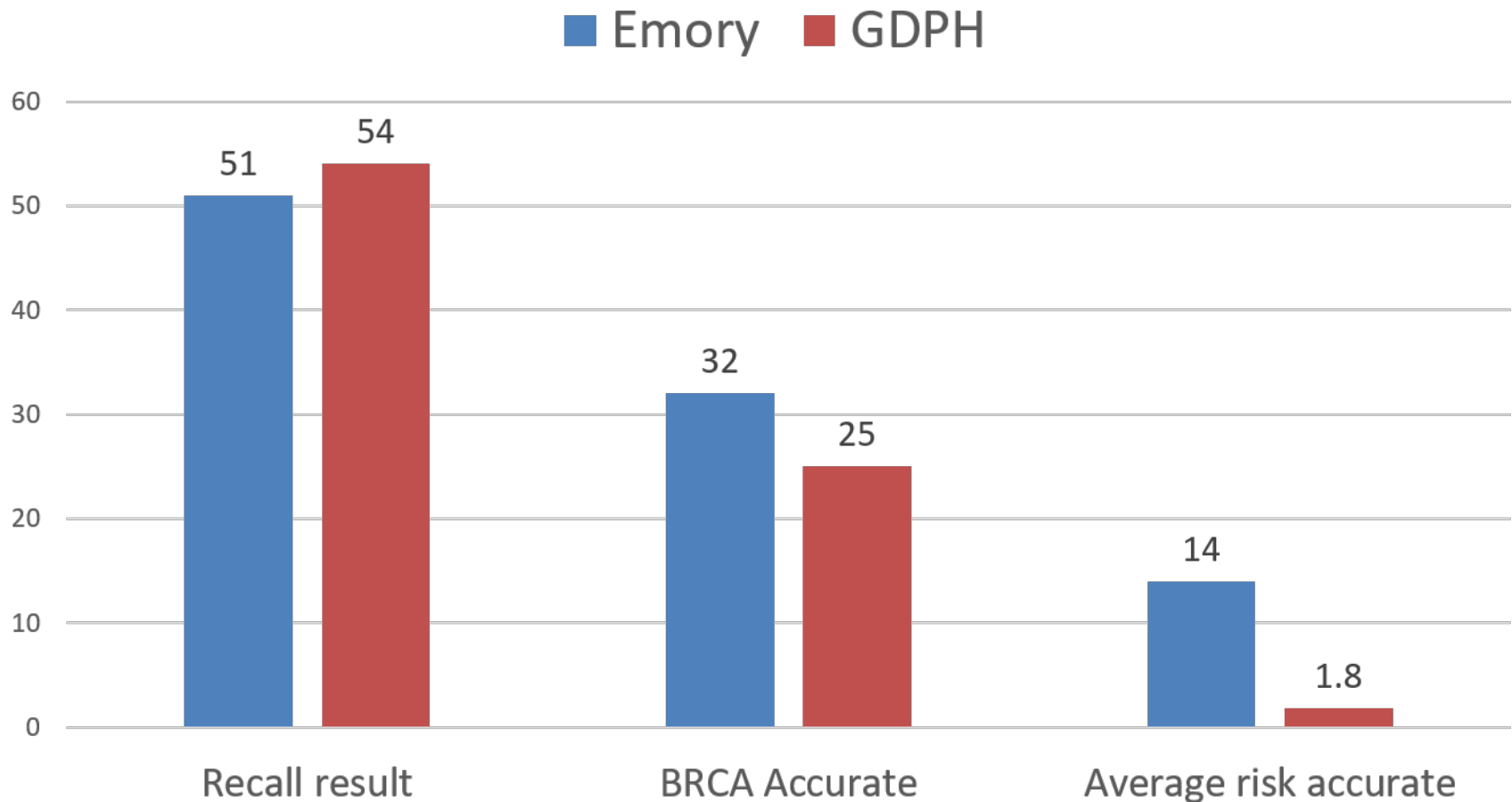
B-RST™ is a screening tool that asks questions about family history to assess if you (or your patient) may be at risk for Hereditary Breast and Ovarian Cancer.

**TABLE 3** Client follow-up and test results

Action	N (%)
Screened	2,159 (100)
Positive screens	130 (6.0)
Agreed to follow-up	110 (84.6)
Successfully contacted for follow-up	67 (60.9)
Met NCCN guidelines for testing	47 (65.7)
Underwent genetic testing	14 (29.8)
Genetic variants	2 (14.3)
<i>BRCA2</i> mutation	1 (7.1)
Variant of uncertain significance	1 (7.1)

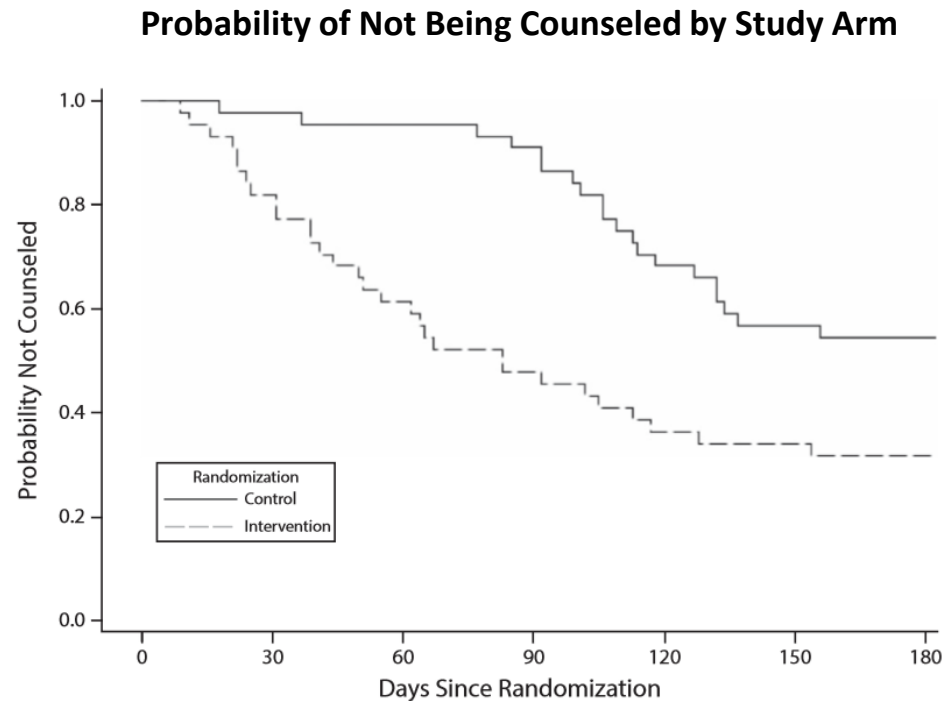
- Ongoing in 13 districts
- Approached in women's health clinics; ages 25-49
- Nov 2012 - Dec 2013 screened 2,159 women (3% of eligible patients)
- Majority of patients AA

# Understanding of BRST results among those with negative results: Georgia Experience



# Mismatch of Genetic Counseling Audiences with Low Literacy

- **English, Spanish, Chinese-speaking (N=124)**
- **170 genetic counseling appointments**
- **Mismatch**
  - Too much information
  - Complex terminology
  - Information not personally relevant
  - Unintentional inhibition of patient engagement
  - Vague descriptions of prevention

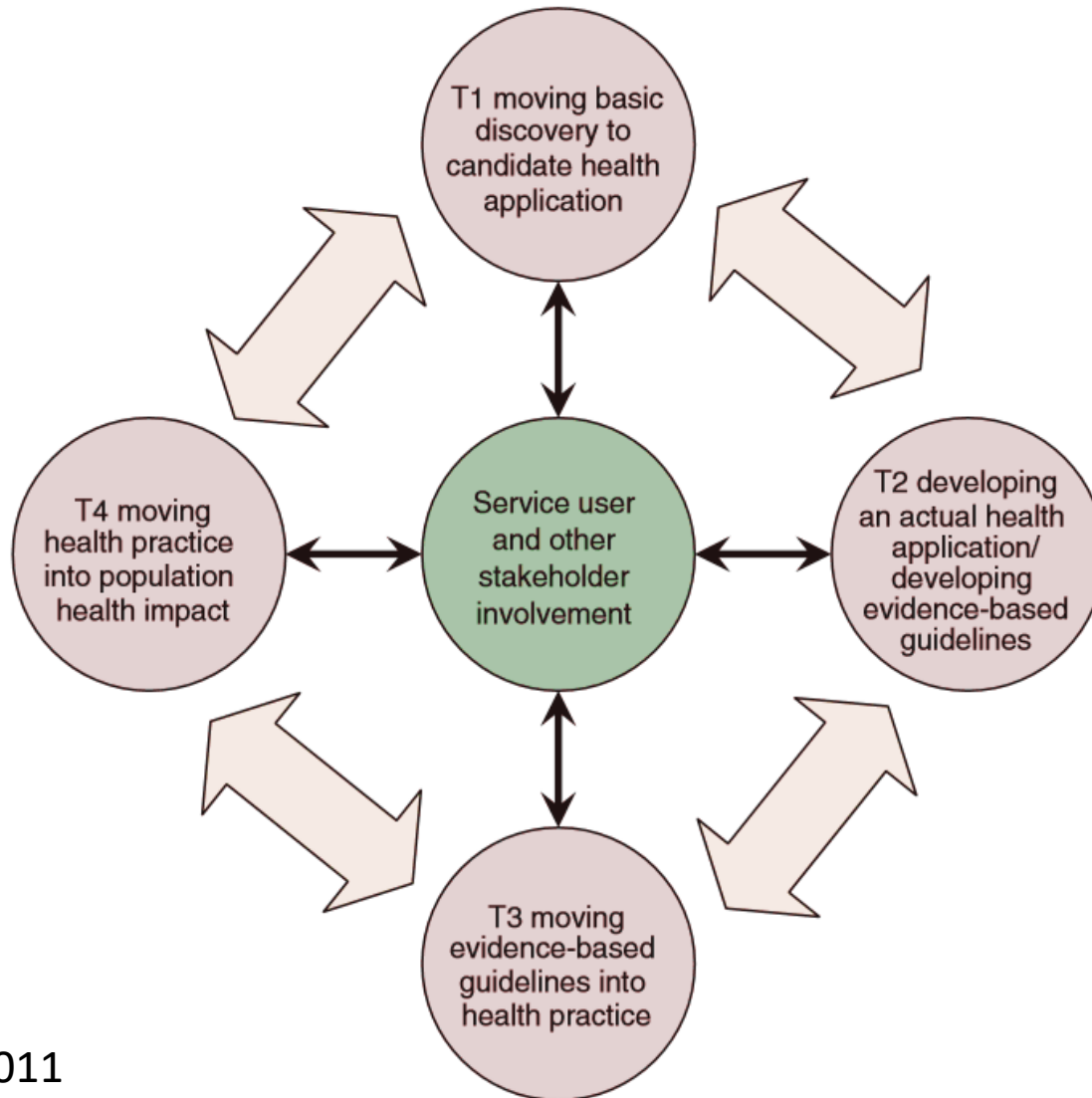


Joseph et al., 2017; Pasick, Joseph et al, 2016



**BRIDGING THE TRANSLATION GAP**

# Envisoning (Post)Genomic Translation Research as an Interlocking Loop





# Scientific Inclusion

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- **Appropriate reach of “precision public health”**
  - Uptake individuals & families
  - Outside of clinical settings
  - SBC challenges intersect with basic science, epidemiology & clinical
- **Averting disparities, an opportunity for interdisciplinary collaborations**
  - Problem-based discussions
  - National forums needed to foster cross disciplinary conversations
  - Must include community partners
- **Need incentives for collaboration**
  - NIH and other funders to incentivize interdisciplinary collaborations

# Genomics to reduce disparities recommendations

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- **Minority-focused genetic research**
  - Framing basic science research benefits to minority communities
- **Community-based participatory research**
  - Bring novel engagement approaches to the table
- **GxE Research aligned with social determinants of health -- epigenetics**
  - Study health issues of concern to communities
- **Public education**
  - Clinical settings
  - Community settings

Smith et al., Health Affairs, 2016  
Landry et al., 2018

**THANK YOU!**

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