

Exploring the relationship between multigenerational households and preventative healthcare

Background

29% of Asian Americans live in multigenerational households



*estimated from 2009-2010 data
Family structure known to be associated with

- BMI
- Cognitive functioning
- Vaccines
- Cardiovascular risk factors

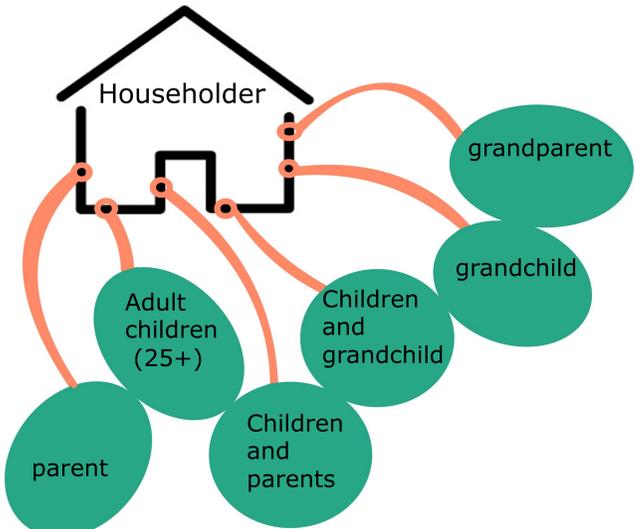
Lack of literature on multigenerational households as a specific family structure effect of multigenerational households on healthcare utilisation

Research Question: Does having a multigenerational household affect the ability of Asian Americans to obtain preventative healthcare screenings in comparison to non-Hispanic whites?

Methods

Type of study: Cross sectional study
Data: National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) from 2006 to 2016. Analysed in 2021
Inclusion Criteria: People in households in all 50 states + District of Columbia

Definition of multigenerational households



*Each coral line defines a new relationship with the householder surveyed in the NHIS

Adapted from **Pew Research Center**
Multigenerational household: **two adult generations or a grandparent and a child**

Asian Americans are more likely to live in multigenerational households as compared to *any other racial group*



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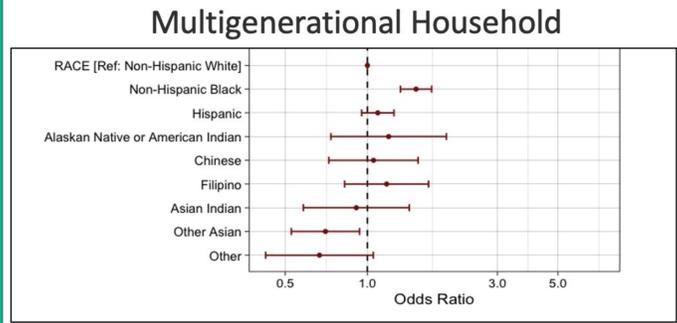
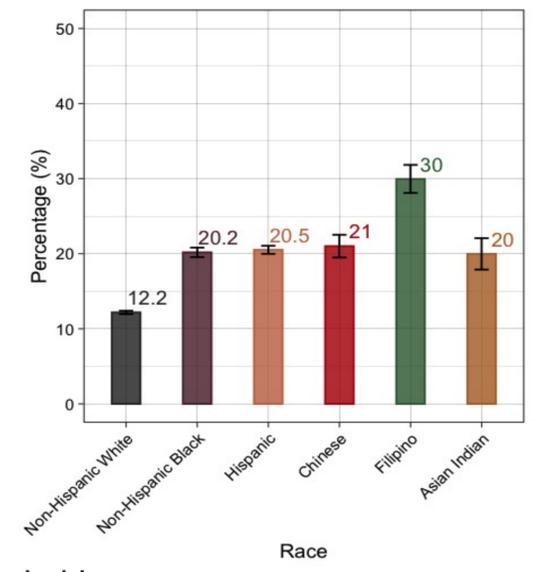


Outcome Variables: Preventative Healthcare

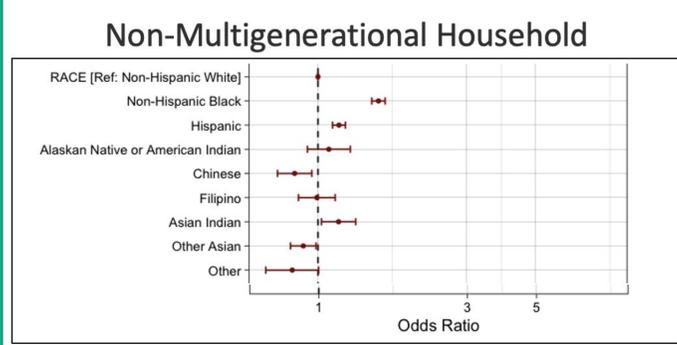
Cancer screenings: Colon Cancer (age 50-80), Mammogram (female- only age 40+), Pap Smear (female-only age 21+)
Healthcare utilization: General doctor visit in past 12 months
Cardiovascular risk factors: Cholesterol check by health professional in past 12 months

Results

- Filipinos** are the most likely Asian American subgroup to live in **multigenerational households**
- All Asian American subgroups** are **more likely** to live in **multigenerational households** as compared to Non-Hispanic whites
- Non-Hispanic Black and Hispanic participants included in preliminary analysis for reference



Among those living in a **multigenerational household**, the odds of getting cholesterol checked **did not** significantly differ between Asian subgroups and Non-Hispanic Whites.



Among those living in a **non-multigenerational household**, the odds of getting cholesterol checked are **1.13x higher** in **Asian Indians** and **0.84x lower** in **Chinese Americans** when compared to Non-Hispanic Whites.

Discussion

- Association suggests that policy measures must account for the important role that family structure and dynamics may play as a facilitator (or barrier) in healthcare utilization.
- Findings emphasize the importance of disaggregating Asian American health behavioral research.

Limitations

- Mostly face-to-face but some over the phone
- Redesigned in 2019
- No disaggregated data on Asian subgroups
- Reduce respondent burden by shortening questionnaire
- Missing data for preventative variables throughout duration of study (ie. some are only 2010 & 2015)