Barriers to Diagnosis and Care of Stroke in African American Community

Patricia Lane, MBA, SCRN
Neuroscience Administrative Director Bon Secours Richmond
National Black Nurses Association

Cryptogenic Stroke Public Health Conference
Age-Adjusted Incidence of Stroke/Transient Ischemic Attack by Race and Sex, Ages 45–74, ARIC Cohort, 1987–2001
Statistics – What Numbers Are Important?

• African Americans have almost twice the risk of first-ever strokes compared to whites.
• African Americans have higher death rates for stroke compared to whites.
• The prevalence of high blood pressure in African Americans in the United States is the highest in the world.
• Among non-Hispanic African Americans age 20 and older, 62.9% of men and 77.2% of women are overweight or obese.
Cryptogenic Stroke and African Americans

- Greater Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky Stroke Study – blacks have twice the annual incidence rate of cryptogenic stroke as whites
- African Americans were less likely to have a potential cardiac source of embolism, i.e. Patent Foramen Ovale (PFO) or atrial septal aneurysm
- More prone to left ventricular hypertrophy – subclinical cerebral atherosclerosis
SPRINT – Are You In The Know?

Living with high blood pressure?
80% of Strokes Are Preventable!

7 small steps to big changes.

It’s easy and simple. Anyone can do it. Start with one or two!
Are Disparities The Total Barrier?

• Access to health care
Health Care Reform

In the past 24 months, 29% of CVD patients and 40% of stroke patients reported problems with their health insurance.
Health Care Payment Challenges

Over the past couple years, CVD patients reported difficulty paying for...

- 41% Prescription drugs
- 29% Health insurance premiums, co-pays or deductibles
- 26% Physician services
- 24% Hospital services
- 10% Rehabilitation care from therapists
- 5% Other health-related costs

Total CVD Patients
What financial problems have CVD patients faced as a result of health care costs?

- 48% Had difficulty paying bills other than basic necessities.
- 39% Used up all/most of savings.
- 34% Been contacted by a collection agency.
- 30% Incurred thousands of dollars of medical debt.
- 27% Borrowed money from family or friends.
- 25% Been unable to pay for basic necessities, like food, heat or housing.
Health Behaviors
Exposure to Environmental Health Hazard

No Car and No Supermarket Store Within a Mile

SOURCE: Department of Agriculture, Centers for Disease Control
The Ideal System of Care for Time-Sensitive Conditions

- Patient
- Ambulance/EMS
- Referring hospital for time-sensitive conditions
- Receiving hospital for time-sensitive conditions
- Public
- Payers
- Health agencies
- Policymakers
Jazz Up Your Health

Power to End Stroke Jazz Night
May 14, 2015 - 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Doors open at 5:00 pm

Trinity Family Life Center
3601 Dill Road, Richmond, Virginia 23222

Stay in tune with your health and enjoy a free evening of jazz provided by Richmond’s own J. "Plunky" Branch.

Join us for a healthy dinner, giveaways, workshops, cooking demonstrations, health screenings and stroke counseling.

To RSVP please visit www.roajazznight.org. For more information please email jazznight@dorothea.org or call 804-960-6517.

sponsored by

POWER TO END STROKE

Bon Secours Neuroscience Institute

Good Help to Those in Need®
Love your heart, help your brain!