Inclusion of Diabetic Populations in Clinical Trials Conducted in Los Angeles County

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BACKGROUND

- 11.3% of individuals in Los Angeles County are diagnosed with diabetes.
- There are more diabetes cases among non-Hispanic (NH) Blacks and Hispanics than NH Asians and NH Whites.
- American Indians/Alaskan Natives (AI/AN) have the highest incidence of diabetes.
- Food and Drug Administration Safety and Innovation Act (FDASIA) Section 907 promotes diversity inclusion within clinical trials.

RESEARCH QUESTION

Is the diabetic population represented in clinical trials dedicated to Type 2 diabetes?

OBJECTIVE: This research examined clinical trials (CTs) for Type 2 diabetes held in Los Angeles County to understand the demographics of the participants and compare to the diabetic populations in United States and in Los Angeles County.

METHODOLOGY

1. Compiled list of clinical trials from clinicaltrials.gov that reference race and ethnicity in study results
2. Separated clinical trials that reference race from those that reference ethnicity
3. Created race and ethnicity distribution for each clinical trial
4. Compared results with current Los Angeles County and United States demographics

RESULTS

- **Race**
  - The majority of participants from the 86 clinical trials that reference race identified as White.
  - When compared to the Los Angeles County and United States diabetic population, the clinical trials lack of racial representation.

- **Ethnicity**
  - Demographic population of the diabetic Hispanics/Latinos are higher in clinical trials than that of United States but lower than the Los Angeles County population

- **Diversity Inclusion**
  - More incentives and FDA efforts warranted to increase racial representation in clinical trials.
  - FDA, NIH, and other institutions need unified definitions of race and ethnicity for better analysis of diversity inclusion.

- **Future Work**
  - Following the diabetes research, future research will be expanded to other chronic diseases and patterns of racial and ethnic representation within Los Angeles County.

CONCLUSIONS
Stacy Uhm, BA ’21 is a third-year undergraduate student at USC pursuing for a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology and a minor in Health Care Studies. Stacy has always been interested in health sciences and became interested in regulatory science after realizing its applicability to general health care and everyday life. As the Co-Assistant Director of the Asian Pacific American Student Assembly of USC, she understands the value of diversity and inclusion within a community. Therefore, she is currently researching the diversity of the subject population in clinical trials for diabetes located in Los Angeles County. In the future, Stacy hopes to use her knowledge about clinical and translational science to become a transparent, cultured, and well-educated physician. sunyounu@usc.edu