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### **Urgent Needs among Vulnerable Populations; A Baseline Analysis of the SUNY Downstate COVID-19 Cohort Study**

The novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic has exposed incontrovertible evidence that Social Determinants of Health (SDoH), including racism, poverty, crowded housing, food insecurity, employment risks, higher burden of comorbid health risk factors (cardiovascular disease, hypertension, diabetes), and the digital divide produce higher burdens of COVID-19 disease and severe outcome. In NYC, Black and Latinx are respectively 22% and 29% of the city's population, but accounted for 67% of non-fatal hospitalization and 61% of mortalities. Using baseline data from the COVID Cohort Study, we sought to explore key predictors of "urgent needs," or the combination of both food and housing insecurity. Using a Stepwise approach, we constructed several models with the following covariates: age, gender, work status, number of persons in the house, and insurance. We found that childcare concerns (OR=0.37 (95% CI: 0.07, 1.89) and concerns over bills (OR=0.25 (95%CI: 0.12, 0.54) were significant predictors of "urgent needs." In a multivariate model for childcare concern, we found that the covariates age ( $p=0.004$ ), work status ( $p=0.001$ ), and the number of individual living in the household ( $p=0.002$ ) were statistically significant. In a multivariate model for concern over bill payment, we found that only age ( $p<0.001$ ) was a statistically significant covariate. Although these findings suggest that older adults and working families with children have similar urgent needs, we would hypothesize that with additional information from the follow-up data, that we would better understand the specific factors driving food and housing insecurity among these different vulnerable sub-groups.