COVID-19 was first reported in Wuhan, China, in December 2019 and by March 11, 2020, the WHO declared it a global pandemic (CDC, 2020). COVID-19 vaccination acceptance has been a key player in the ongoing pandemic. African American and Hispanic communities have higher rates of COVID-19 hospitalization and mortality but have higher rates of vaccination hesitancy. Low COVID-19 vaccination rates among minority groups are correlated with the negative impact of the social determinants of health among those groups.

### Background

- Limited or low health literacy
- Hispanics communities distrust the government due to the previous president anti-immigration sentiment
- Tuskegee experiment
- High Poverty
- Low income
- Overcrowded housing situation

### Methods

**Literature Search:**

CDC website, NYS and NYC website, Google scholar, and PubMed, articles from May 2020 onwards

**Keywords:** COVID-19, African American, Hispanics, disparities, social determinants of health (SDOH), vaccinations, cases, and equity.

### Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reference</th>
<th>Independent/dependent variables</th>
<th>Study type</th>
<th>Main findings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alobuia, WM et al. 2020</td>
<td>COVID-19 hospitalization</td>
<td>Retrospective cohort study</td>
<td>Blacks were more likely to require hospitalization for COVID-19 while Hispanics were more likely to experience in-hospital mortality.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karaye, IM et al. 2020</td>
<td>COVID-19 vaccination</td>
<td>Cohort Study</td>
<td>Study shows all adults, regardless of underlying conditions or age, are at risk for serious COVID-19.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gold, J et al. 2020</td>
<td>COVID-19 cases in NYC</td>
<td>Control study</td>
<td>Large-scale disasters differentially affect the health of marginalized communities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alobuia, WM et al. 2020</td>
<td>COVID-19 cases in NYC</td>
<td>Control study</td>
<td>Finding found disparities in NYC.</td>
</tr>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Discussion

New York City recorded a high rate of COVID-19 cases and death among African American and Hispanics but have higher vaccine hesitancy. If more African American and Hispanics are vaccinated, we can be able to reduce COVID-19 cases in NYC. We need to follow the equity policies to engaged with health care workers, engage with community partners, and communicate with community in order to get message out to the public regarding the safety of being vaccinated. More vaccination promotions about the safety of being vaccinated are needed in minorities communities.

### Conclusion

The racial and ethnic disparities are related to the social determinants of health in minority groups. In order to reduce the substantial toll COVID-19 has had on individuals and minority communities, we need to work together to address inequities in the social determinants of health that increase the risk of severe illness from COVID-19 for racial as well as promote the safety of being vaccinated.

### References: