# Addressing Racism in the Exam Room: A Family Physician Survey



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# Agenda/Outline





## Background

Racism is a public health crisis

Racism → health disparities

Clinicians understand and address racism and discrimination

Limited data about clinicians' knowledge and practices around discussing racism and discrimination with patients

## Background, cont.

**BENEFITS** 

Patients feeling understood, "seen" and validated

Clinicians gaining a better understanding of patients

Creation of trustworthiness

A role for clinicians as allies

CHALLENGES

Lack of time

Discomfort patients have discussing racism with clinicians

Clinicians discomfort with initiating the conversation,

Concern about vicarious perpetuation of trauma

## Study Objectives

Assess the knowledge, skills, and practices of family physicians related to discussions of racism and discrimination with patients Assess how comfortable family physicians are discussing racism and discrimination with patients Identify facilitators and barriers family physicians experience in discussing racism and discrimination with patients

#### Methods - Data







Pre-tested survey → Piloted



University of Minnesota Institutional Review Board determined that this study was exempt from review

# Methods - Sample



Survey emailed to MAFP members in newsletter



Raffle for one of ten \$100 gift cards

Funded by the MAFP grant

#### Methods – Measures

Participant demographics

**Training** 

Screening practices

Barriers and facilitators

## Methods – Analytic Approach



Completed in R



Participant demographics and survey responses were summarized with count (%) and mean (standard deviation [SD]) for categorical and continuous variables, respectively



Associations between screening practices and physician characteristics, patient characteristics, and potential barriers and facilitators were evaluated with Fisher's exact tests

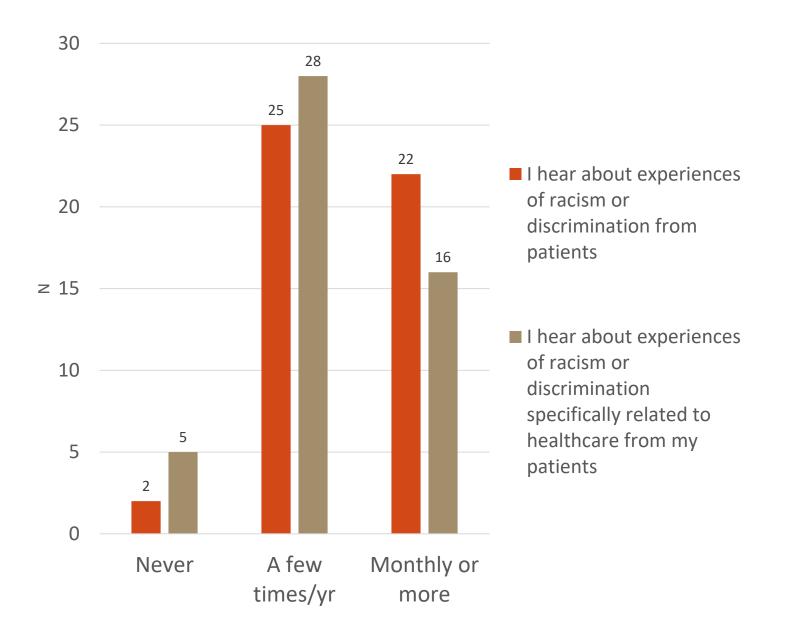


All p-values were two sided and evaluated at the 0.05 level for statistical significance

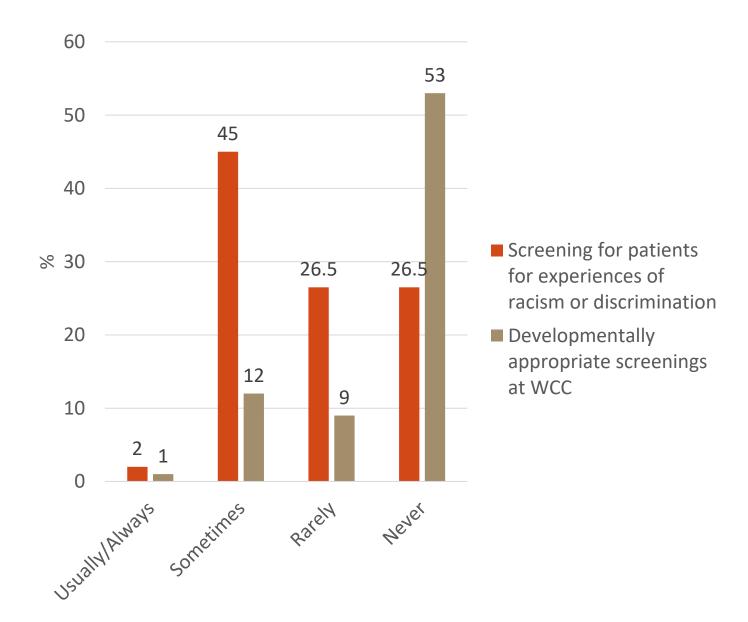
# Results – Participant Demographics

	N (%)
	Mean (SD), [range]
Gender	
Man	19 (38.8)
Woman	29 (59.2)
Prefer not to say	1 (2.0)
Race	
African American	1 (2.1)
Asian	1 (2.1)
Hispanic/Latine	2 (4.2)
White	44 (91.7)
Age	20.0 (11.31), [31,77]
Years in Practice	51.3 (11.33), [1,48]
% of time providing clinical care	
< 50%	10 (20.4)
50-80	10 (20.4)
> 80%	27 (55.1)
Location	
Rural	13 (27.7)
Suburban	5 (10.6)
Urban	29 (61.7)
Teaching	
No	16 (33.3)
Yes	32 (66.7)

#### Results -Experiences



#### Results -Screening



# Results – Barriers

Not reimbursed (94%)

Do not know what guidelines to follow (86%)

Not enough (92%)

Not enough training (71%)

# Results – Facilitators

Family physicians should address racism and discrimination with patients (82%)

# Discussion – Key Findings



Experiences



Screening



Agreement that this is part of FM



Lack of time

#### Discussion – Limitation

Voluntary, convenience sample

Low response

Single state

Unclear if representative of MAFP membership

#### Lessons Learned







Survey development

Survey management

Data analysis

#### Next steps



Qualitative Material From Survey



Qualitative Work With Clinicians, Patients



More Focused Survey(s)

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# Thank you!

Q&A

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