

10th Conference on Health Care of the Chinese in North America



Breast Cancer Screening Among Chinese-American Women

Shin-Ping Tu, MD, MPH, Gregory Hislop, MD, MSc, Y Yasui, PhD, A Kuniyuki, MS, JC Jackson, MD, MPH, MA, V Taylor, MD, MPH (Seattle, WA and Vancouver, BC)

Purpose: The objective of this study was to determine mammography screening rates and factors associated with screening rates in a Chinese-American population.

Results: Three hundred and thirty three women completed the survey. Twenty six percent of the women reported never having had a mammogram. Only 60% reported a screening mammogram in the last two years. Ever and recent mammogram screening were significantly associated with the following variables: type of housing, proportion of life in the US, physician characteristics, receiving prenatal care in US, receiving family planning services in US, belief cancer can be caused by poor qi and blood circulation, and that mammogram is the best way to detect breast cancer.

Conclusion: In this population of Chinese-American women, almost one quarter had never had a mammogram, and only 40% were recently screened. Women who lived in rented or subsidized housing, and are recent immigrants had lower rates of mammogram screening. Breast cancer screening programs for Chinese-American women need to target women who under-utilize mammogram screening through interventions that address the needs of this population and are also consistent with their beliefs.