

Barriers to Underrepresented Minorities (URM) Clinical Trial Enrollment

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Agenda

- 1. Project 1:** Systematic Review of Strategies to Improve URM Clinical Trial Enrollment
- 1. Project 2:** Improving Disparities in Clinical Trial Enrollment in Gynecologic Cancers: Peer Ambassador Program

Project 1

SYSTEMATIC REVIEW OF STRATEGIES TO IMPROVE URM CLINICAL TRIAL ENROLLMENT

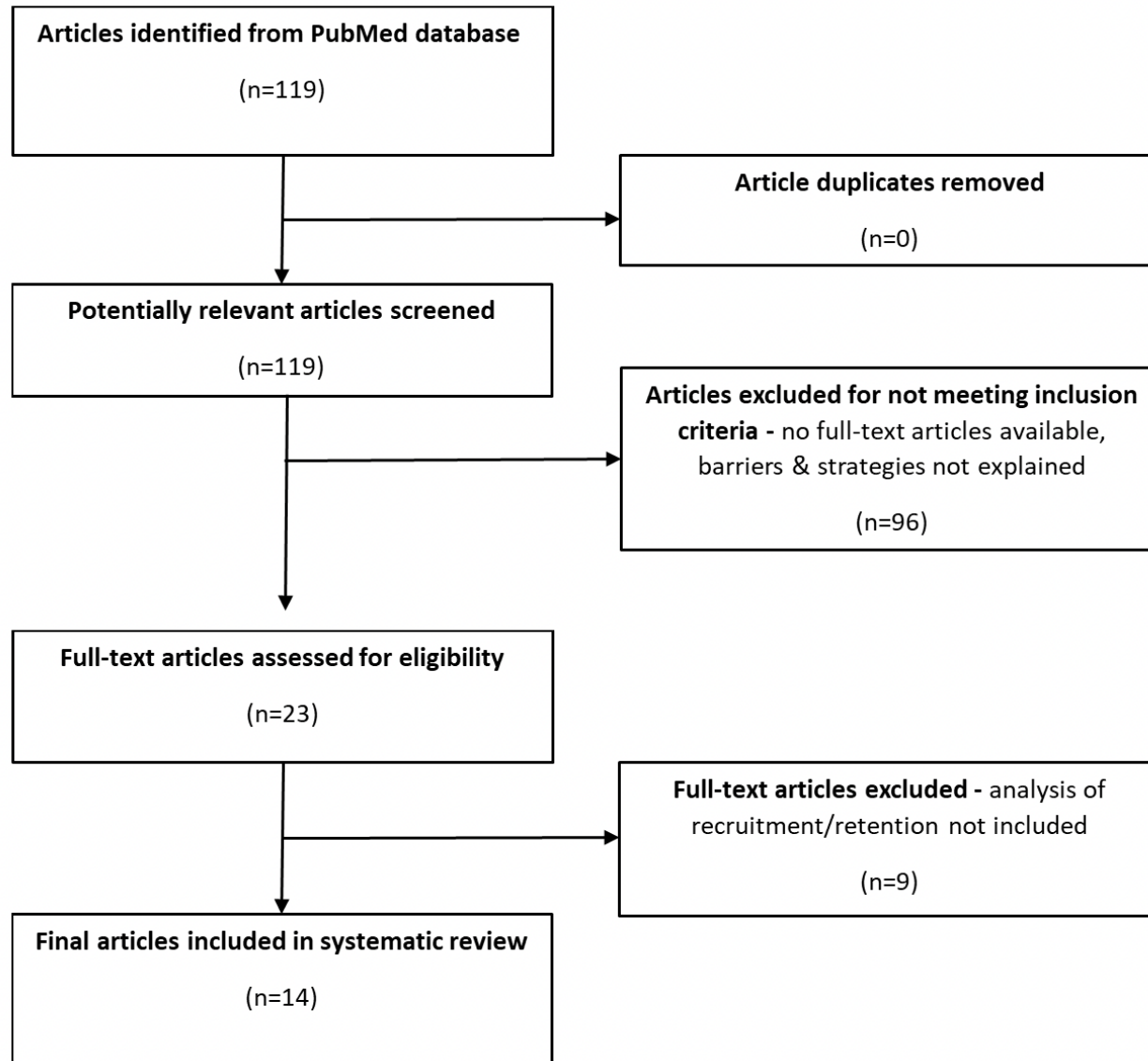
Project Overview

◆ **Significance:**

- Minorities make up ~40% of the U.S. population
 - <2% of 10,000 National Cancer Institute-funded clinical trials have adequate minority representation

◆ **Objective:** The purpose of this systematic review was to identify successful strategies used in addressing barriers to clinical trial enrollment of underrepresented/minority patients.

Methods:

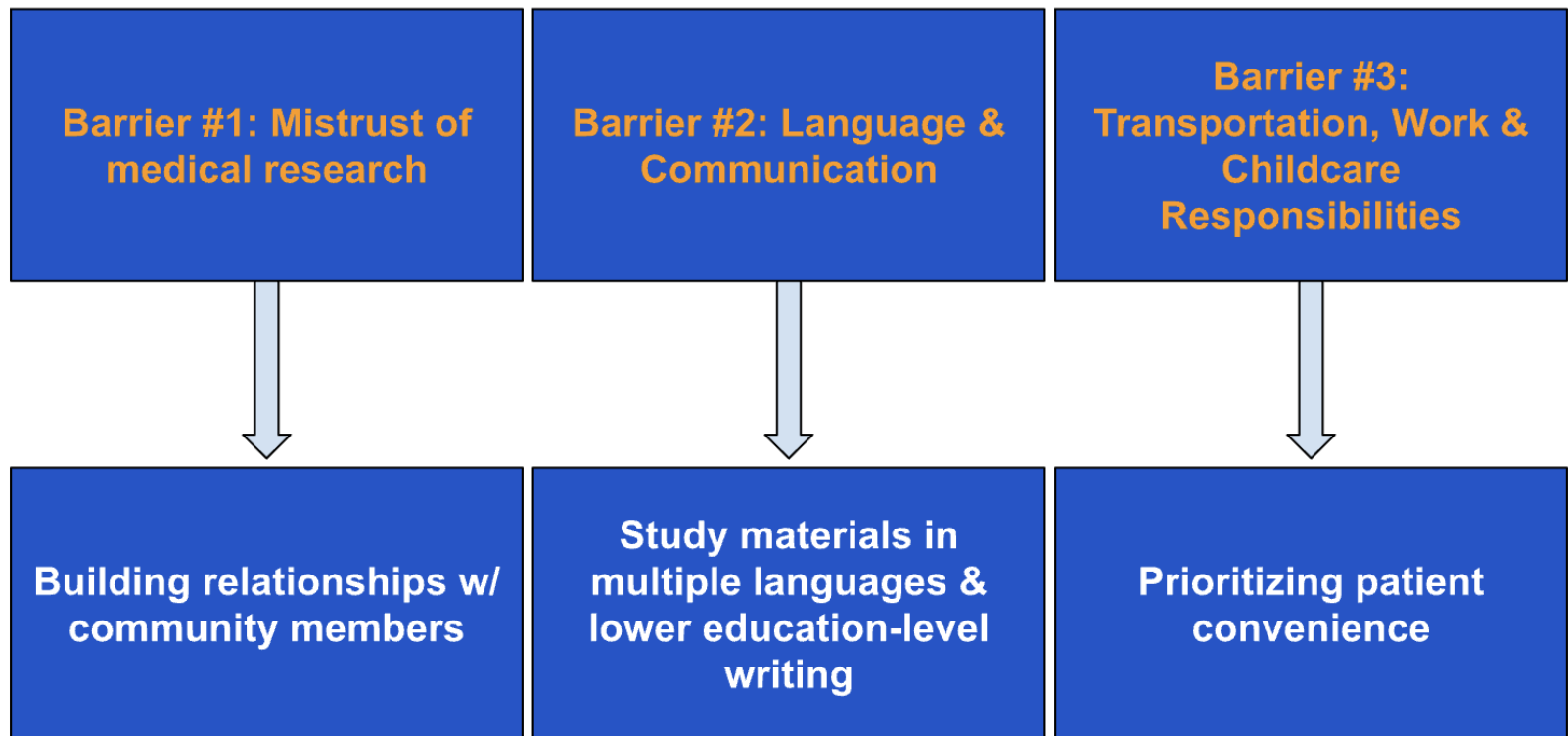


Research Contribution

◆ Organization of literature identified–

Title & Author	Overview	Barriers	Strategies	Outcomes
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◆ Findings–



Future Plans:

- ◆ **Complete manuscript & submission**
- ◆ **Submission for a presentation at a conference
(ex: MAGOS)**

PROJECT 2:

**IMPROVING DISPARITIES IN CLINICAL
TRIAL ENROLLMENT IN GYNECOLOGIC
CANCERS: PEER AMBASSADOR PROGRAM**

Background:

- ◆ Anytime standard therapy is not enough → clinical trials are the next best option
- ◆ **Low enrollment rates of underrepresented minorities in gynecologic oncology trials**
- ◆ Black & Hispanic women are disproportionately affected by endometrial cancer

Objective:

To develop a patient-ambassador led program to facilitate discussion of clinical trials in gynecologic cancer patient populations

Protocol Design:

- ◆ **Ambassador: patients w/ experience in clinical trials**
- ◆ **Mentees: patients w/o experience in clinical trials**
- ◆ **10-20 ambassador-mentee pairs who will meet over 12 months**

Protocol Design II

◆ discussions consist of:

- ambassadors educating about clinical trials
- mentee patients' thoughts on clinical trials

◆ Aim:

- To determine feasibility and acceptability of using peer ambassadors to increase discussion, awareness, and enrollment of patients with advanced or recurrent gynecologic cancer onto clinical trials

Research Contribution

For Ambassadors:

1. Guide to Engagement

Guide to Engagement:

1. Ask about their well-being before beginning
2. Active listening: "It sounds like you
3. Reflect: "How does this make you feel
4. Acknowledge the emotion (use emotion

1. Discussion Script

For Patients:

1. Recruitment Flyer



The flyer features the Penn Medicine Abramson Cancer Center logo at the top left. The main text reads "Clinical Trials: What do they mean to you?" in white on a dark blue background. Below this, a photograph shows a man and a woman in a professional setting. To the right of the photo, the text "Here is an opportunity to discuss clinical trials with a patient ambassador." is written in red. At the bottom, it asks "Are you receiving care with a Gynecologic Oncologist at Penn?". A dark blue box on the right side contains the text "Locations: PCAM: 3400 Civic Center Boulevard, 3rd Floor West, Philadelphia, PA 19104".

1. Clinical Trials Resource sheet

Future Plans:

- ◆ **IRB approval**
- ◆ **Create REDCap database for study**
- ◆ **Start patient ambassador program!**

Lessons Learned

◆ Project 1: Systematic Review

- How to conduct a literature search through the MESH database
- How to structure a research paper

◆ Project 2: Patient-Ambassador Program

- How to design an intervention that addresses the barriers encountered

Thank You!

◆ Research Mentors/Team:

- Emily M. Ko, MD, MSCR
- Linda Crossette
- Diego Rodriguez
- Tracy Thomas
- Ann Fischer, MA
- Carmen Guerra, MD
- Joanne Levy, MBA, MCP, Penn LDI
- Chinwe Nwadiogbu, MLA
- SUMR 2023 Cohort



Questions?