

# *Bridging the Gap: Improving access for underrepresented minorities in a specialty cognitive program*

Michelle Sorweid, Yao He, Norman Foster, and **Mark Supiano**

## INTRODUCTION

- Hispanic older adults are less likely to be seen in a cognitive specialty clinic
- Hispanic patients are disproportionately affected by cognitive disorders
- University of Utah's Aging Brain Care (ABC) Program is a cognitive specialty clinical program caring for older adults and their care partners with cognitive concerns
- ABC has a Spanish speaking provider and social worker

## METHODS

We evaluated data using patient self-reported ethnicity seen in ABC between July 2020-June 2021 and compared data with that of the community clinics and similar specialty clinics.

## RESULTS

- 212 patients aged 65 and older seen in ABC over first 12 months
- 8.2 % of patients self-reported Hispanic ethnicity
- Percent Hispanic patients seen approached that of the community-based clinics (10%) and exceeded other cognitive specialty clinics

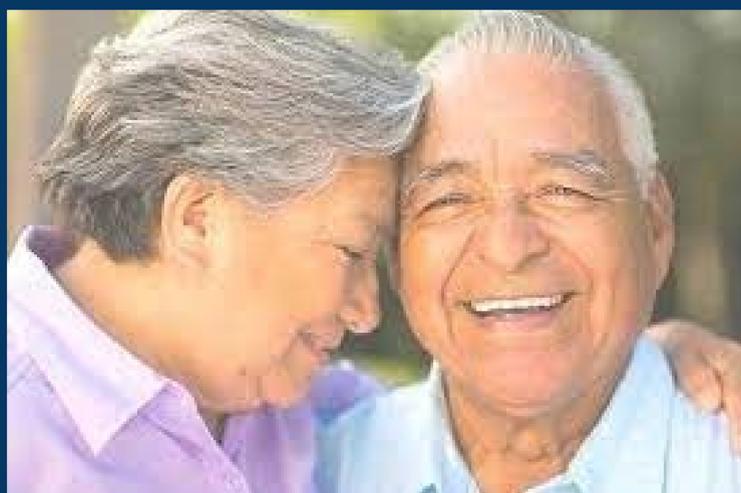
## DISCUSSION

- ABC is successfully providing specialty care to underrepresented Hispanic older adult patients
- ABC hopes to continue to increase its reach to minority patients with cognitive impairment

## FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

None

# More Hispanic older adults were seen in a cognitive specialty clinic staffed with a Spanish speaking provider and social worker.



- 212 patients were seen in the Aging Brain Care (ABC) clinic from July 2020 to June 2021
- 8.2% of ABC patients self-reported Hispanic ethnicity, approximating community clinic demographics (10%)
- This proportion is greater than in geriatric primary care, general neurology and cognitive neurology clinics

Clinic	#Pts seen	#Pts white, non-hispanic	#Pts hispanic	%Pts hispanic
Community	19064	15346	1928	10.1%
Geriatric	1778	1596	70	3.9%
ABC	194	166	16	8.2%
Non-ABC	1624	1465	57	3.5%
Neurology	4676	4271	167	3.6%
Cog	359	334	11	3.1%
Non-Cog	4452	4061	160	3.6%