

sampling small groups as well as developing new statistical techniques to analyze new and existing data, which need to be addressed in order to investigate these issues:

Special Studies

- Special studies of minority population to examine changes in behavior, wealth, generational (e.g., immigration); historical (e.g., political, social); population migration (within the United States/in and out of the United States); family structure, and lengthening life span.
- Focused studies on rare populations to address a need for a national origin and generational research, and supplemental race and ethnic descriptors in addition to other identifiers (e.g., the concept of underserved populations can help to eliminate racial lumping).
- Critical synthesis of past theoretical and empirical research on race and ethnicity and SES.
- Studies of the impact of migration, acculturation, and other processes on the health status of minority groups and subgroups.
- Studies of the appropriateness, reliability, and validity of health measures for particular ethnic groups, taking into consideration values, beliefs, and externally-imposed factors that need to be addressed.
- Identify and define the intervening mechanisms that link SES with health service utilization and health status.
- Identify and use additional measures of SES on race and ethnicity classification—including measures of family structure and living arrangements, new measures of economic status (e.g., wealth, per capita income), acculturation, residence, labor force participation (including females), religion/spirituality, alienation, SES in early life.
- Conduct comprehensive studies of stress in family, residential, and occupational environments including financial strain and exposure to discrimination.
- Studies of populations currently in transition.
- Study the use of alternative health resources which supplant traditional resources.
- Conduct research designed to understand and improve self-reporting of race and ethnicity, including:
 - how minority populations self-identify and report (cognitive process, etc.),
 - effects of mixed parentage, and
 - effects of self-identification or self-reporting of persons of biracial or multiracial background.

- Test the reliability of race and ethnic information on vital and medical records (self-reports vs. proxy reports with a focus on mortality statistics and underreporting).

- Conduct research on capturing racial and ethnic information via provider records.
- Conduct special studies and/or analyses to understand the health of racial and ethnic populations where there are known data gaps including:
 - the effect of age, gender, generation, education, birthplace, on health status;
 - social, economic, environmental (social and physical) and psychological factors affecting health status;
 - mental health and stress;
 - sources of medical care, prevention care, and payment mechanisms;
 - cultural factors affecting health status (e.g., acculturation, assimilation, etc.); and
 - alternative health care vs. health status outcome.
- Conduct research to develop additional or enhanced predictors of health status that can explain observed differences between race and ethnic populations, including SES status measures such as:
 - generational status
 - measures of family structure and living arrangements
 - wealth
 - per capita income
 - labor force participation (including women)
 - SES in early life
 - income to needs comparisons
 - other variables such as: cultural, environmental, and societal.
- Develop and test analytical approaches to better understand the relationship between race, ethnicity, and SES as they pertain to or affect health outcomes.
- Studies to examine the relationship between self actualization, self-esteem, social support and health status or perceived health status among racial/ethnic groups.
- Studies to address environmental equity issues, including psycho/social environments.

Program Requirements

In conducting activities to achieve the purpose of this program, the recipient will be responsible for the activities under A. (Recipient Activities), and CDC will be responsible for the activities listed under B. (CDC Activities).

A. Recipient Activities

Where applicable recipients will involve community-based organizations, members of the minority population under study, and researchers from universities or private nonprofit organizations throughout the research process. Involvement in these activities may include research design, implementation, analysis, and dissemination of research results. The applicant must address why the involvement of any of the above-referenced groups is not relevant to the proposed project.

In addition, all recipients are expected to determine whether their proposed projects meet the criteria of the Protection of Human Subjects (45 CFR Part 46) requiring review by an institutional review board (IRB). If an IRB review is required and the applicant does not have the capacity to perform an IRB review, the applicant is strongly encouraged to enter into a partnership with universities or other organizations with the capacity to conduct an IRB review.

Each recipient will address the activities in one or both of the following areas, as appropriate:

1. Special studies or analyses
 - a. Identify a problem or population where there is a unique opportunity to conduct analytic studies or there are gaps in existing information as identified through the research literature, "Healthy People 2000," and/or references cited in the "Where to Obtain Additional Information" section.
 - b. Identify and define available sources of information and assistance for performing special studies or analyses (e.g., NCHS and other Federal organizations, State/local health departments, universities, survey research organizations, existing Centers of Excellence, community-based organizations, etc.).
 - c. Develop the research design, implementation and analytic plans for the conduct of special studies or analysis. Applicants should consider the professional acceptability of their methodologic approach (peer review journals/statistical standards, etc.), specific expectations of methods used, comparability to national data sources, and generalizability to other groups or subgroups.
 - d. Execute the planned study.
 - e. Disseminate research findings in publications, reports, etc., and within the respective community.

B. CDC Activities

1. Assist in the refinement of analytic and research plans.