

A PILOT STUDY OF BARRIERS AND FACILITATORS TO RECRUITMENT OF LATINAS INTO HIV/AIDS CLINICAL RESEARCH STUDIES

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Latinas are poorly represented in HIV/AIDS clinical trials. Minority participation in clinical trials is needed to improve care and treatment for HIV+ persons of color. In order to increase participation, researchers need to identify key factors that keep patients from participating. The study focuses on understanding potential barriers and facilitators to participation from the perspective of HIV+ Latinas living in San Diego County. A structured survey conducted with HIV+ Latina participants included both closed and open-ended questions. The purpose of this project is to review and organize qualitative data from patient surveys by applying qualitative analysis techniques that are used in research to identify themes and similarities in text format information. Following the application of these techniques, the qualitative data can be quantified and statistical analysis can be carried out. Opinions on improving clinical trials participation included: additional information, improved explanation of the study protocol, and better communication about studies.