

# Barriers to Stroke Recognition and Action: Preliminary Assessment of an Underserved Urban Community



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# Outline

- Background
  - Disparities in stroke incidence, mortality, treatment
    - Nationwide
    - D.C.
- ASPIRE study: Community intervention
- Barrier Identification
  - Community survey results
  - Comparison: healthy volunteers vs patients
- Conclusions



# ASPIRE: Purpose

- Overall Purpose
  - To improve access to and delivery of acute stroke treatment in an underserved, urban community (District of Columbia)
- Primary outcome measure
  - IV tPA treatment rate for acute stroke




# Barrier Survey: Conclusions

- Public has learned stroke warning signs
- Confusion of stroke with heart attack
- Public has learned message
  - “If stroke → call 911”
- Sources of stroke education
  - TV, radio, periodicals, doctor



# Barrier Survey: Conclusions

- Disconnect: Knowledge  Action
- Traditional survey tool alone is insufficient
- Multiple methodologies in combination are necessary
  - ASPIRE Focus Groups
- Identification of community-specific barriers could guide intervention development

