

WORKSHOP SUMMARY

Aging, Race, and Health Disparities (2022)

On June 28-29, 2022, the RCCN held a workshop on aging, race, and health disparities to identify research priorities and inform the investigation, implementation, and dissemination of strategies to mitigate disparities in healthy aging. A summary of the key recommendations from the workshop is below. These recommendations highlight the need for research that builds a strong evidence base with both clinical and policy implications.

- Increase the incorporation of community-engaged, mixed-methods approaches that intentionally seek the perspectives and expertise of minoritized communities into aging research through sustained, bidirectional relationships
- Increase collaboration with experts in social science fields who have substantial expertise in health disparities theory and research
- Address structural barriers (e.g., federal funding policies and practices) that restrict or limit the ethical and effective conduct of health disparities research
- Provide targeted training in advanced statistical methods for health disparities research
- Increase collaboration and support for researchers in evolutionary medicine and those with animal data across the lifespan
- Incorporate and validate metrics that reflect the sociopolitical environment, as well as measures of perceived and objective racism, colorism, bias, and discrimination
- Move beyond comparisons between populations (e.g., identifying disparities) to examine factors within populations
- Investigate mechanisms through which structural interventions affect minority health and health disparities in order to inform and advance the development, scalability, and sustainability of effective programs and policies

Workshop Publication

<https://bit.ly/3TBZjih>