

# Sunday Morning

## Health Corner

### Cervical Cancer Clinical Trials & African American Women

African American women have a higher risk of both developing and dying from cervical cancer than White women.

- **Lifetime risk of developing cervical cancer**  
**Non-Hispanic White: 1 in 176**  
**Black: 1 in 130**
- **Lifetime risk of dying from cervical cancer**  
**Non-Hispanic White: 1 in 506**  
**Black: 1 in 265**

These differences are primarily due to a lack of cervical cancer screening among African Americans. Because of this, African American women also tend to present with cervical cancer at a more advanced stage of disease, making their disease more difficult to treat.

The standard of care using chemotherapy and radiation is not enough for patients with a more advanced stage of disease. New treatments are needed in order to stop women from dying of cervical cancer. Cervical cancer clinical trials are working to find new treatments to prevent recurrence and treatments for women with metastatic cancer whose treatment didn't work. But in order for these trials to be successful, cervical cancer patients need to know that they are available and may be an option for treatment. These trials rely on a diverse patient group so that researchers can understand if ethnicity and genetic makeup affect the outcomes of the trial. Yet, more than 95% of cancer patients in clinical trials are Caucasian. Only 1.3% are African American or Latino.

If you or a loved one has cervical cancer and want to learn more about these trials, please visit [clinicaltrials.gov](http://clinicaltrials.gov) and search for cervical cancer.

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