

# IFH: RESPONSE AND SUCCESS AS PARTNER IN MULTI-SITE NIH ACUPUNCTURE RESEARCH STUDY

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## HEAL Back In Action (BIA) Research Trial: Implementation at IFH



HEAL Back in Action is a pragmatic trial examining acupuncture for chronic lower back pain in adults age  $\geq 65$

- Funded by NCCIH and the Helping End Addiction Long-term (HEAL) Initiative. Award No. 1UH3 ATO10739
- IFH partnered with Kaiser Permanente (WA & N. CA) and Sutter Health (N. CA)
- 3 arms: Standardized Acupuncture, Enhanced Acupuncture, Usual Care
- IFH unique as FQHC site, and with acupuncture intervention integrated on site

## CHALLENGES

- Covid-19 Pandemic
- Older Adults and Pain
- Urban Setting
- Complexity of Research Design
- Limited Access to Acupuncture Intervention

## OPPORTUNITIES

- Expand Awareness
- Forge Collaboration with Multi-Site Partners and NIH
- Facilitate Patient Access to Research & Care

## RESPONSE AND SOLUTIONS

### LEVERAGE & ADAPT

- Prior Acupuncture Research experience: e.g., AADDOPT II, GAPYOGA, BIA Pilot, *plus* IFH Acupuncture programs
- Recruit Participants through direct outreach & medical provider referrals

### INTEGRATION & ACCESS

- Integrate Acupuncture Intervention within or close to Participants' Home Medical Site
- Collaborate with IFH Clinic and Site Administration for seamless, consistent delivery of patient care

### TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION

- EPIC build
  - Embed scheduling and treatment record in EMR
  - Data share from EMR to research record
- Redcap
  - Streamline clinic ops communications

## IMPORTANCE OF FQHC PARTICIPATION IN MULTI-SITE RESEARCH

- Research plays a role in the advancement of healthcare equity and social justice
- HEAL BIA intersects the need to offer non-pharmaceutical therapies for pain, ensure quality care for older adults and provide access to care
- Implications, re: Design and Implementation:
  - Reflect context and reality of participants' environment and concerns
  - Focus recruitment on referrals from participants' trusted providers
  - Ensure enrollment process and research participation is patient-centered

## NUMBERS



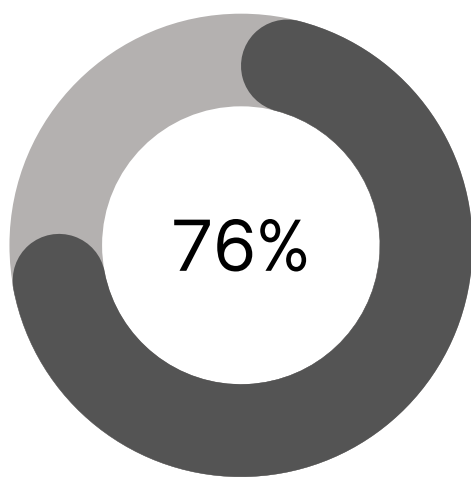
The IFH Patient Data  
124 enrolled

212 patients screened eligible  
~4/5 of whom were provider referred  
(vs. direct mailing outreach)

139 providers referred 576



Number of Clinic Sites: 3  
Number Weekly Clinics: 6  
Total Number of Sessions: 313

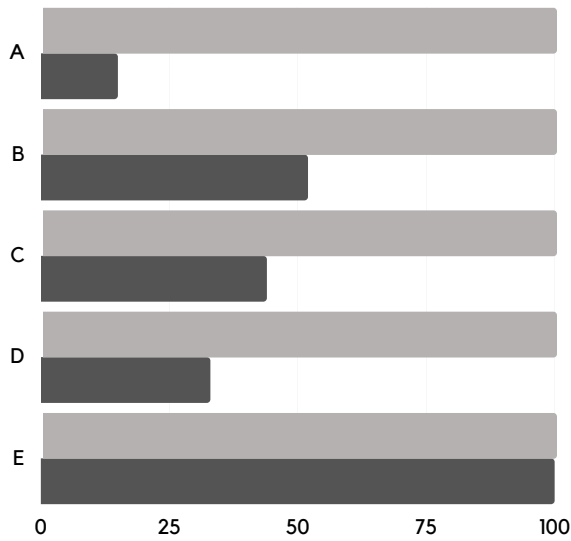


Total Appointments  
Scheduled: 1,210, of which  
920 were Attended (76%)

Total Cancellations: 162 (14%)

Total No Show: 123 (10%)

TRIAL TOTAL N = 807  
IFH accounts for:  
A: 15% of total N  
B: 52% of Hispanic total of 87  
C: 44% of Education  $\leq$  HS total of 122  
D: 33% of BIPOC total of 273  
E: 100% of Spanish-speaking participants total of 33



## IFH SUCCESS AND LESSONS LEARNED

### RESEARCH

- Met Recruitment Goals
- Complied with weekly research data transmission
- Facilitated access to Research for IFH participants (information, language translation, etc.)

### HEALTHCARE DELIVERY

- Patients at IFH utilized & appreciated acupuncture
- Acupuncture intervention is compatible with Primary Care Model of referral to specialty care

## IMPLICATIONS

### IFH AS STAKEHOLDER

- IFH as FQHC in NIH, multi-site research study
- Advanced Healthcare IT
- Expanded offerings in integrative health, non-pharm intervention
- FQHC voice included in CMS policy considerations

### INQUIRY AND DISCOVERY

- What factors contribute to patient participation in research (e.g., access, recruitment & retention)
- Can non-pharm therapies be made routinely available to treat pain, e.g., acupuncture, and expand models of patient care
- How can research be more inclusive of a broader population base and what are the considerations to design and implementation

### IFH HEAL BIA RESEARCH STUDY TEAM



**Administration:**  
Raymond Teets, Principal Investigator  
Matthew Beyrouty, Project Manager  
Donna Mah, Clinic Program Manager  
Arya Nielsen, Acupuncture Consultant

**Clinical Research Coordinators:**  
Phoebe Rosenheim, Lead  
Estefhany Soto Cossio  
Talia Urdanigo  
Ariel Jacobs  
Pamela Del Valle

**Research Acupuncturists:**  
Patricia Botet  
Valentina Duque  
Selina Greene  
Maria Macchia  
Dana Moore  
Dorothy Wong

**IRB:**  
Saskia Shuman  
**Information Systems:**  
Liliya Averchenkova  
Leigh Garvey  
Rebecca McGinley

**Research Supplement:**  
Eve Walter, Site PI  
Hyowoun Jyung, Co-PI  
Mirta Milanes

**Family Health Center of Harlem**  
Leila Hagshenas, Medical Director  
Bernadette Bryant, Practice Administrator  
Kadian Stewart, Nurse Manager

### IFH CLINIC SITES

**Institute for Family Health at 17th Street**  
Ginger Gillespie, Medical Director  
Lindarey Gonzalez, Practice Administrator  
Christine Tawil, Practice Administrator  
Ana White, Assistant Nurse Manager

**Walton Family Health Center and Center for Counseling**  
Yvonne Eisner, Medical Director  
Diana Santiago, Practice Administrator  
Desirée Martinez, Associate Practice Administrator



### IFH HEAL BIA RESEARCH STUDY PARTNERS

- Kaiser Permanente Washington Health Research Institute
- Kaiser Permanente Northern California Division of Research
- Sutter Health Research Development & Dissemination Center for Health Systems Research