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The Bio-Psycho-Social-Cultural Domains And Their Impact On Psychopharmacological Utilization Among Latinxs

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Introduction

- ❑ The Latinx population has become the largest minority group in the United States.⁷
- ❑ This qualitative study explores the bio-psycho-social-cultural domains and their role on pharmacological utilization among 20 Latinx adults.
- ❑ The Multipath Model (MPM) offers a way to view the variety and complexity of contributors to mental disorders.
- ❑ The etiology can be understood through four domains; Biological (Genetics), Psychological (Cognition), Social (Family, social support) and Sociocultural (Religion, Culture).⁶
- ❑ Compared to non-Hispanic Whites, Latinxs are younger and have less formal education. This community is also confronted with additional stressors (i.e., more likely to have problems of unemployment, poverty, lack of insurance, and language barriers).^{1,3}
- ❑ Although Latinxs are just as likely as non-Hispanic Whites to suffer from a mental illness, they are more likely to go untreated.²

Research Questions

Research Questions:

- ❑ What domains specific to the bio-psycho-social-cultural domains contribute to perceptions toward psychopharmacology?
- ❑ This study aims to explore how providers can benefit from the MPM when working with the Latinx community in order to better understand preconceptions that may impact psychopharmacological utilization.

Methods

Sample Characteristics

- ❑ Study included 20 participants; 9 were male (45%) and 11 were female (55%).
- ❑ Ages ranged from 24 to 82 years old
- ❑ 80% were insured and 20% were uninsured
- ❑ 80% migrated to the U.S
- ❑ 20% were U.S Born

Analysis

- ❑ A semi-structured interview was used to elicit responses on migration, religious constructs, methods of coping and stress responses.
- ❑ Two independent coders and an auditor analyzed the interviews using Transana software.⁵
- ❑ Thematic analysis was used to identify, analyze, and report themes within the data.⁴
- ❑ [Expand upon types of themes pulled]

Results

Themes	Quotes (Translated from Spanish)
What domains specific to the bio-psycho-social-cultural domains contribute to perception toward psychopharmacology?	
Psychological domain (ex. Cognition)	<p>“Even for like headaches and stuff like that, because I feel like I don’t know, they don’t really work. I don’t know why, it doesn’t have to do with my religion or anything, but I don’t believe in pills; I honestly don’t. I just think it’s something the doctor give you”</p> <p>“Cause it’s uh you know, it’s medications in the long run uh-- they do damage, a lot of damage, you know a lot of damage”</p> <p>“-um I don’t know, I don’t like it, I don’t particularly like um medication- Because it’s not normal. it’s not- I don’t know, it’s not normal”</p> <p>“Y si lo hay, la mayoría de gente no va por temor- A la misma inmigración” (and there is, a majority of people don’t go out of fear- immigration)</p>
Social domain (ex. Family, Social Support)	<p>“well it’s because you know --- they’re just man they’re they can just tell you everything is going to be okay, you know, and that’s pretty much it, we alright have family for that, we already have friends for that, we have family that can help us out you know.”</p> <p>“- I control my emotions and I know myself and I know I won’t get, well depressed to that extent, and even if I get depressed I am more likely to talk to people, talk to my pastor, talk to my God brother than get medication.”</p>
Sociocultural domain (ex. Religion, Culture)	<p>“Rezar mas; porque me siento mejor” (pray more; because I would feel better)</p> <p>“Orar mas; porque yo se que en eso encontraría la tranquilidad, la paz, porque eso es, en eso es lo que yo creo que me ayudaría. Esa es la confianza en la que yo tengo en Dios.” (Prey more, because I know that i’ll find tranquility, peace, because that, that is what I think would help me. That’s the trust I have in God.</p> <p>“ Because I depend on God and not man, then it just makes me a stronger person- We know that he is there, the Bible itself says that the things we go in life, even through at the moment it may seem bad, in the future it can turn out to be a benefit towards you.</p>

Discussion

- ❑ Psychological factors included perceived negative outcomes, such as illness or dependency, and even fear of deportation
- ❑ The role of the family was the strongest social factor for underutilization.
- ❑ Sociocultural factors for underutilization included religion and religious fatalism.
- ❑ Participants did not highlight any biological factors as means for psychopharmacological treatment.
- ❑ Findings from this study provided great insight into the roles that contribute to underutilization in the Latinx community
- ❑ Our findings can promote awareness among health care providers in hopes to create a more understanding and culturally sensitive environment.
- ❑ Further research should investigate if there are any biological factors that play a role in underutilization among the Latinx community.

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