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## Effects of Healthcare Providers Personal Life on Low-income African American Men

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## **Abstract**

Previous research has outlined evident disparities in the development of chronic health conditions among African Americans compared to other groups, with African American men disproportionately affected by almost every disorder investigated. Examinations into health conditions such as Chronic Heart Disease (CHD) revealed that social determinants of health stemming from structural racism combined with cultural elements such as diet and risk-taking behaviors were highly related to the health burdens of African American men. Compounded by the fact that African American men are less likely to have access to adequate health insurance, a disturbing picture of healthcare emerges for many African American men. Yet, much literature exploring the experiences, expectations, and effects of chronic health conditions rarely focuses specifically on African American men, much less, how the intricate role of healthcare providers affects health-related behaviors. The purpose of the current research is to expand the literature by exploring healthcare providers' themes and response patterns during a focus group. Providers were interviewed about health management as it relates to low-income African American men with chronic health conditions. In particular, the current project seeks to answer the following question; How do the elements of healthcare providers' life experiences contribute to healthcare management for low-income African American men? The analysis will be conducted on a focus group comprised of healthcare providers for low-income African American men with chronic conditions.