

Impacting Cervical Cancer Disparities in Hispanic Women in the Lehigh Valley

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Impacting Cervical Cancer Disparities in Hispanic Women in the Lehigh Valley

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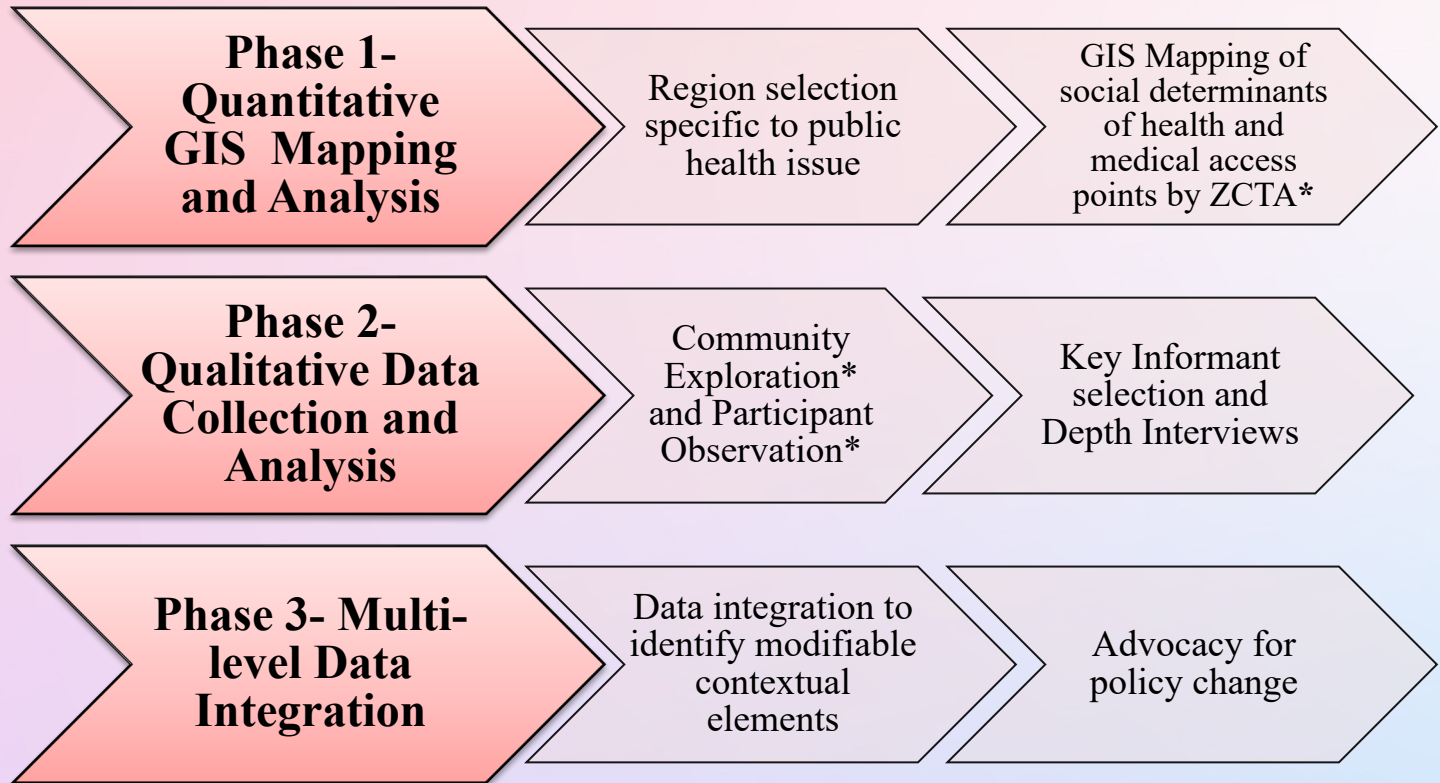
Lehigh Valley Health Network, Allentown, Pennsylvania

Introduction

- Screening, treatment, and HPV vaccination are important in preventing the progression of cervical dysplasia to cervical cancer¹
- Hispanic women are disproportionately affected by cervical cancer²
 - PA Incidence: 10.6/100,000 (7.5/100,000 for NHW and 10.1/100,000 for NHB)
 - PA Mortality: 5.5/100,000 (1.8/100,000 for NHW and 2.5/100,000 for NHB)
- Access to primary care, lack of insurance, and unhealthy behaviors contribute to disparities that have been exacerbated by the Covid-19 pandemic and disruptions to preventive care³
- **Objective:** Identify priority “hotspots” using geospatial mapping and perform ethnographic fieldwork to develop a Community Assessment Profile (CAP) of community*, medical*, and policy levels

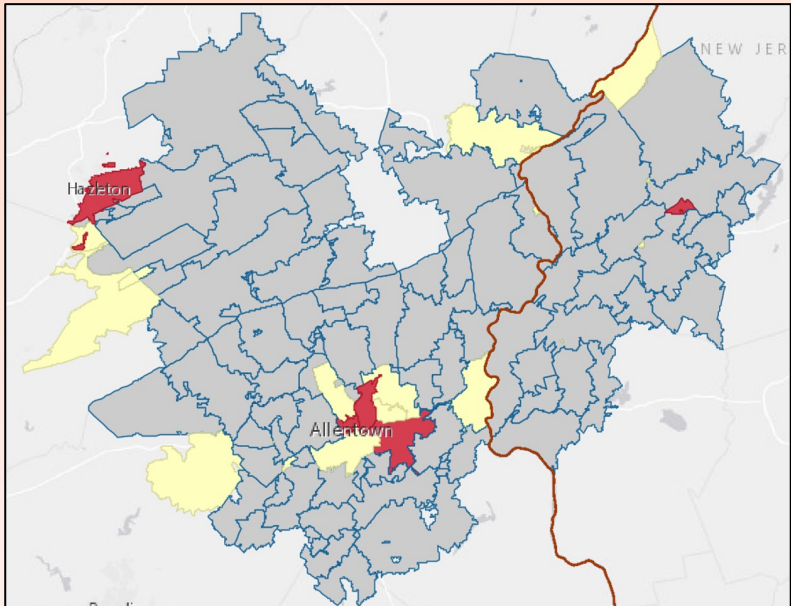
Methods

Focused Rapid Assessment Process (fRAP)⁴

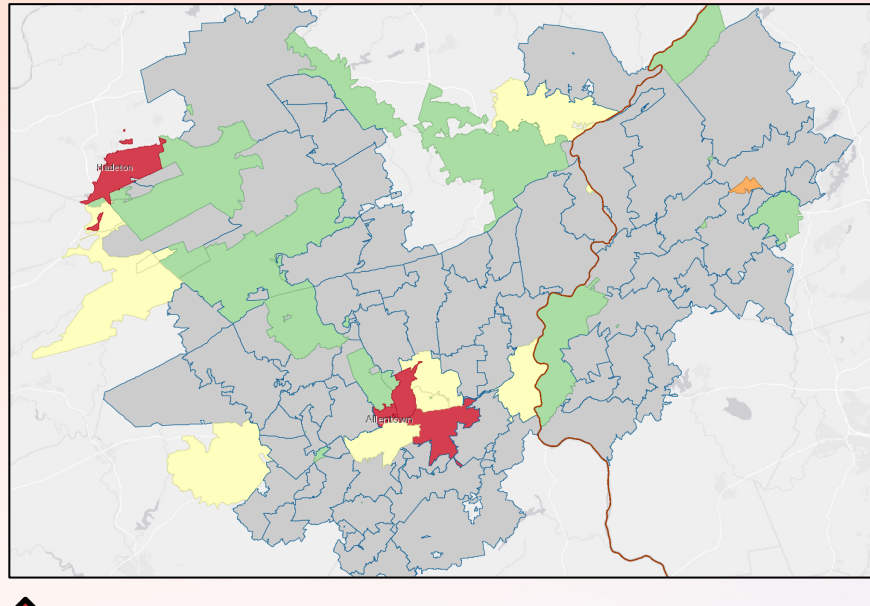


* Performed by Research Scholar

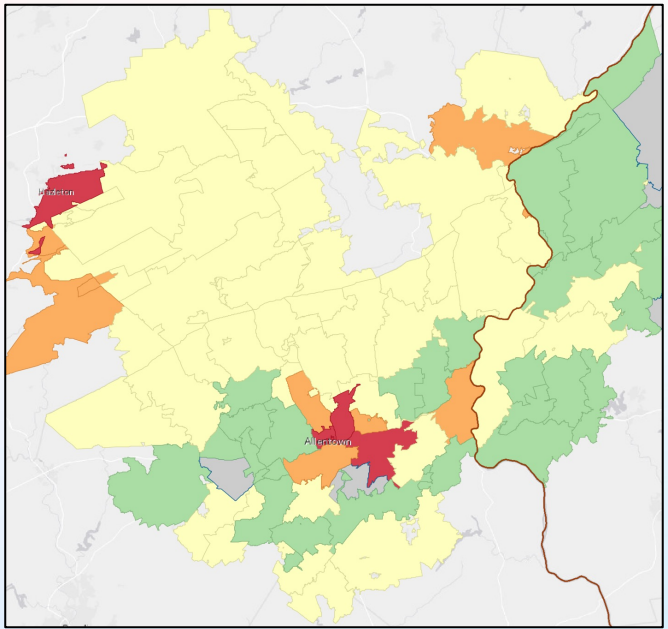
Results



◆ 07820, 18015, 18101, 18102, 18109, 18201
Figure 1. Lehigh Valley ZCTAs (Zip Code Tabulation Area) with high Hispanic population and low cervical cancer screening rates.



◆ 18015, 18101, 18102, 18109, 18201
Figure 2. Social Determinants of Health (insurance status and SDI) in ZCTAs with high Hispanic population and low cervical cancer screening rates.



◆ 18015, 18101, 18102, 18109, 18201
Figure 3. Smoking status and obesity levels in ZCTAs with high Hispanic population and low cervical cancer screening rates.

Table 1. Characteristics of high priority ZCTAs.

	PA Average	18015	18101*	18102*	18109	18201*
Total Population		32,832	3,897	49,779	16,932	27,516
Hispanic (%)	18	32.2	67.9	64	48.5	54.9
Cervical Cancer Screening (%)	81.8	79.9	75.6	77.6	80.7	80
Current Lack of Health Insurance (%)	14.1	15	26.7	25	16.9	18.4
Social Deprivation Index (SDI)	43	85	100	100	93	93
Obesity (%)	28.9	33.9	45.7	42.2	37.4	37.7
Current Smoking (%)	17.4	20.6	28.8	26.2	22	23.5

Results cont.

Community Level Observation

“Having a strong connection to the community that you are trying to reach is very important. Historically, the main goal of non-profit organizations wasn’t providing health education. After Covid-19, this became more of a focus for us since we have such an influential voice in our Hispanic community.”
 - Community organization director

Medical Level Observation

“58% of our patients are Hispanic so 50% of our board is Hispanic as well to better understand the community we serve.”
 -Health organization director

Figure 4. Community and medical level variables explored.

Conclusions

Table 2. Example of cross-comparison summary of themes in priority areas.

	18101	18102	18201
Ethnic enclave	X	X	X
Hispanic church	X	X	X
Federally Qualified Health Center	X	X	
Ease of access to tobacco products in high density neighborhoods	X	X	X
Loss of funding for state-supported screening programs targeting low-income individuals	X	X	

◆ Facilitators ◆ Barriers

Future Directions

- GIS mapping of LVHN-specific patient data
- Key informant selection and depth interviews
- Revisiting Phase 1 and Phase 2 for targeted thematic analysis
- Advocacy for policy change

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