Increasing Black patient participation in metastatic breast cancer clinical trials:

The BECOME (Black Experience of Clinical Trials and Opportunities for Meaningful Engagement) project

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Background
- Among U.S. racial/ethnic groups, Black people with breast cancer have the highest death rates and shortest survival.
- Although about 5% of cancer patients in the U.S. are Black, only 4–6% of clinical trial participants are Black.
- There is a lack of diversity in the general population and in the drug efficacy trials.
- Understanding how a drug works across subpopulations can inform effective treatment.

Objectives
- Unintentional barriers to trial participation for Black patients with metastatic breast cancer (MBC).
- Identify actions to increase participation.

Methods
- Conducted web-based survey (with a paper-based option) of U.S. adults living with MBC, including a Brotherton interview and key informant interviews supplemented by emerging data from2034 survey participants.
- Data were printed on the Metastatic Breast Cancer Alliance (MBCA) website and distributed at MBCA meetings and conferences to people interested in increasing Black patient participation.
- Chi-squared test and multivariate methods were used to compare demographics.

Results
- p < 0.01 was considered statistically significant to reduce false positives.
- Survey participants were recruited through social media posts and conducted web-based survey (with a paper-based option) of U.S. adults living with MBC, following a literature review and Key Informant interviews.

Patient-led research found 8 out of 10 Black people living with metastatic breast cancer would consider participating in clinical trials.

Patient-centered research found 8 out of 10 Black people living with metastatic breast cancer would consider participating in clinical trials.

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A compelling motivation for Black patients to participate in clinical trials is to "ensure people with my racial or ethnic identity will benefit" and "information on clinical trials happening in my area is not be reproduced without written permission from MBCC.

Address Concerns
Communicate clearly about issues that worry Black patients and reasons that motivate their willingness to participate in clinical trials.

Black patients are less likely than non-Black patients to trust that people of all races and ethnicities get fair and equal treatment in trials.

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