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Knowledge of Medicaid Expansion to Recent and Undocumented Immigrants Among Oregon Mexican-origin Latinos: (Work in Progress)

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Knowledge of Medicaid Expansion to Recent and Undocumented Immigrants Among Oregon Mexican-origin Latinos (In Progress)

Nancy Ledezma, Grace Parra, Dr. Blair G. Darney, PhD, MPH

**Portland State University, Build Exito, U-Rise & OHSU
Women's Health research unit**

Background

What is Medicaid?

- It is a government funded health insurance program that covers low-income individuals and families
- However, undocumented and recent immigrants are excluded from the federal medicaid program
- Oregon along with California, Illinois, Massachusetts, New York, and Washington are some of the states that have extend benefits to undocumented immigrants

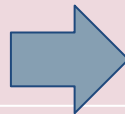
Background (Continued)

What is Healthier Oregon?

- To fill this gap some states use state funds to extend coverage to undocumented and recent immigrants
- Oregon passed a legislation to expand Medicaid to adults who do not qualify for full Medicaid via federal rules on qualifying immigration status requirements. Named “Healthier Oregon”

Phase 1
July, 1
2022

Extended Medicaid to
immigrant adults 19-25
and 55+



Phase 2
July, 1
2023

Extended Medicaid to
immigrants of all ages

As of July 1, 2023,
people of any age or immigration status
may be eligible for free, full Oregon Health Plan
(OHP) benefits!



Who is eligible?

People who:

Live in Oregon, and

meet income and other criteria



**Who can help you
apply?**

Trusted, certified community
partners can work with you
one-on-one, or



you can call

1-800-699-9075



Healthier Oregon
Better Care for More People

Free health coverage offered by the state of Oregon



You can get this document in other languages, large print, braille or a format you prefer. Contact the Community Partner Outreach Program at community.outreach@odhsoha.oregon.gov, or (971) 283-1955. We accept all relay calls or you can dial 711.

Oregon.gov/HealthierOregon



Objective of Study

**Identify if Mexican origin
latinos in Oregon are
aware of the Healthier
Oregon program,
eligibility, and whether
barriers to enrollment
exist**



Hypothesis

- Our team expects there to be a high number of Latinos to who are:
 - Unaware of the Healthier Oregon program
 - Confused about their eligibility
 - Experienced barriers to enrollment
-



Methods

- Our Team has developed a Spanish and English cross-sectional survey
 - **Survey includes:**
 - Awareness of the program
 - Eligibility requirements
 - Knowledge of the application process
 - Possible barriers to participation
-

Recruitment

Recruitment is ongoing and taking place at the General Consulate of Mexico in Downtown Portland

Objective

Recruit 500 participants

Eligibility

Latinos over 18





Results: Study Sample

While we have recruited 337 of our 500 goal we will be focusing on 59 for our completed preliminary analysis.

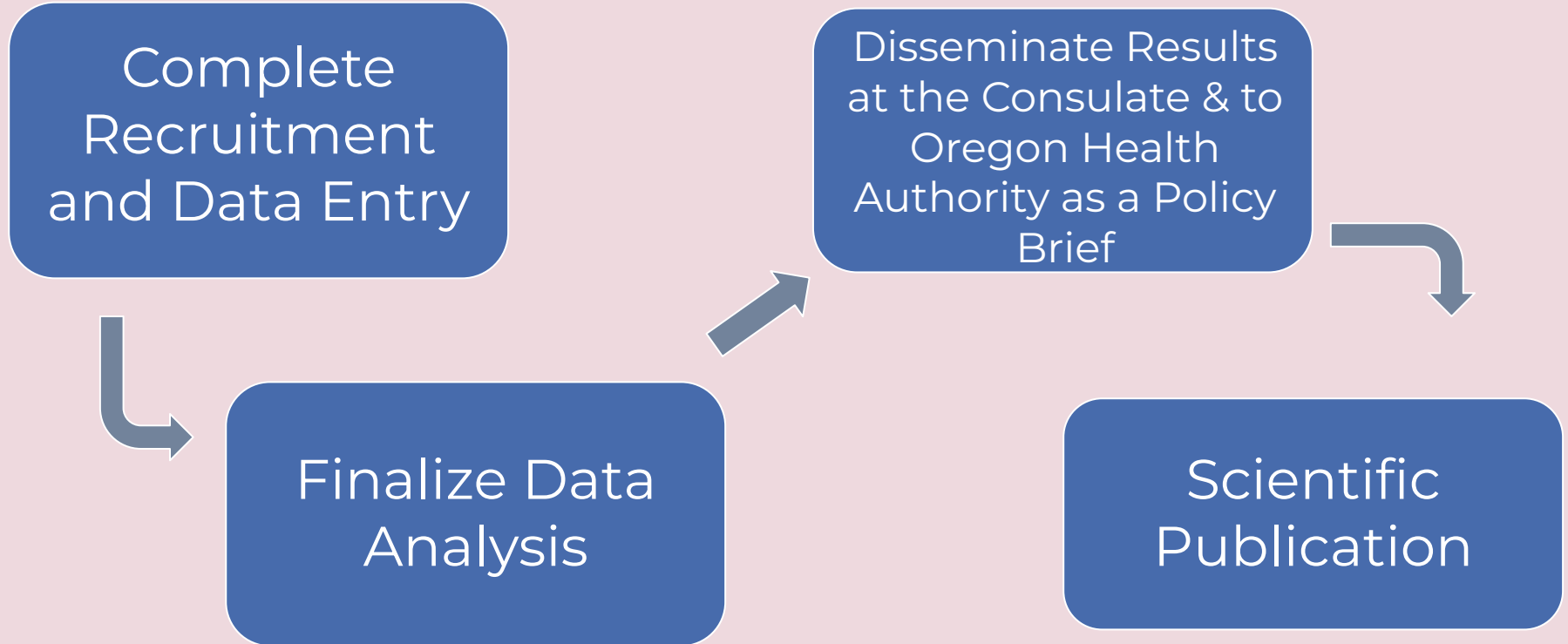
- 82% of the sample were adults older than 30
 - 56% were women
 - 71% resided in Portland tri-county area
 - 54% resided in US over 11+ years
 - 41% reported not having health insurance
-



Results: Study Outcome

- 71% reported they had not of the Healthier Oregon Program
 - 53% reported they did not know if they qualified for the program
-

Ongoing Work





Implications

Our results can be used to improve outreach to the Latino community about the Healthier Oregon Program as well as future programs to improve access to care for Oregon Latinos

Thank you

Questions?

Contact: nan27@pdx.edu