

Services to Address Food Shortage Concerns Among People Undergoing Cancer Treatment in the US

Alejandro R. Marrero-Gonzalez BS¹, Anna Crawford MS¹, Andrea Incudine MPH², Evan M. Graboyes MD, MPH¹
¹Medical University of South Carolina; ²Family Reach;

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Significance

- 25% to 60% of people with cancer suffer from food insecurity (FI)¹
- Financial support organizations play a crucial role in addressing FI by offering different types of intervention.^{2,3}
- Little is known about the types of interventions provided to address food shortage concerns among people undergoing cancer treatment.

Methods

- Cross-sectional study of 4,166 adults with cancer undergoing treatment and receiving services from Family Reach.
- Primary Outcome: Receipt of services among cancer patients with self-reported food shortage concerns (FSC).
- Statistical Analysis:

- Descriptive analysis of service types by cancer type, insurance, and employment.
- MV logistic regression to assess the association between sociodemographic factors and the likelihood of receiving food-specific services.

In Financial Support Organizations, Food Shortage Concerns are Managed with Both Food and Non-food-specific interventions



marrero@musc.edu

Results

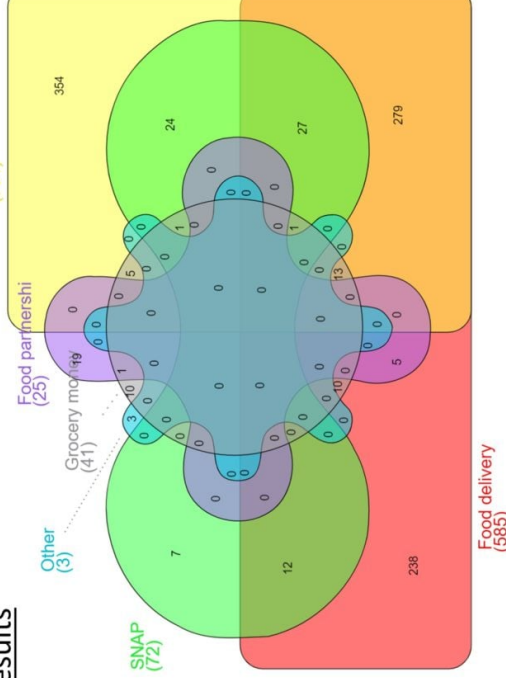


Figure 1: Number and Type of Food-Specific Services Provided by Family Reach

References:
1. Evers M, Graboyes E, Simon C, et al. Story Teller Unites, Aims 5 Adults, Brenda A Adjei, Mary Brown, Gehrah Sadiq, Andrea Incudine, Ruth C Carico, Scott D Barrows, Rick Bangs. Interventions addressing health-related social needs among patients with cancer. *JCO: Journal of the National Cancer Institute*. 2024; doi:10.1093/jco/ckae282. 2. Gony F, Lee T, Ramirez J, et al. Do our patients have enough to eat? Food insecurity among urban low-income cancer patients / Health Care Poor Underrepresented. *Am J Public Health*. 2014;104(11):1153-1156. doi:10.1353/ajph.2014.0153. 3. Sabar M, Jackson A, Bamer-Eggoat K, et al. Food Insecurity Among People With Cancer: Nutritional Needs as an Essential Component of Care. *J Natl Cancer Inst*. Dec 8 2021;113(12):1577-1583. doi:10.1093/jnci/ckab135. 4. McDougall JA, Anderson J, Adler Jaffe S, et al. Food Insecurity and Fopgno Medical Care Among Cancer Survivors. *JCO Oncol Pract*. Sep 2020;16(9):652-658.

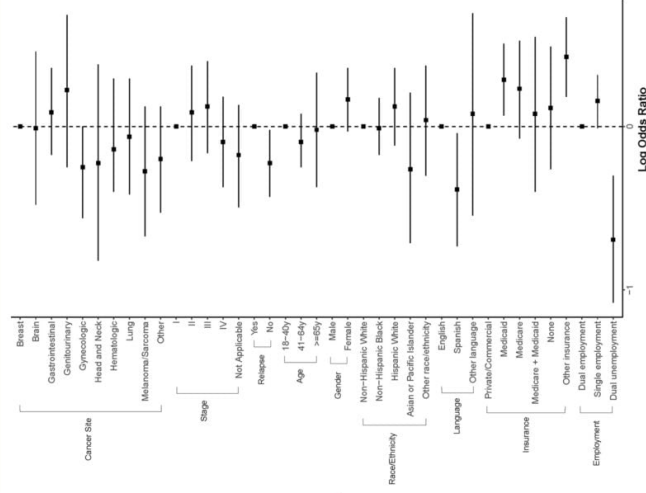


Figure 2. Factors Associated with Receipt of Food-Specific Support Among People with FSC Undergoing Cancer Treatment who Sought Financial Support from Family Reach

Conclusions

- **Service Provision:** Most services were non-food-specific, highlighting the key role of financial assistance in addressing food insecurity.
- **Future Research:** Studies should explore how financial and resource navigation services impact cancer treatment adherence