The multidisciplinary partnership was based on

Specific Aims:
- Build and strengthen a collaboration among a community-based organization (CBO), academic researchers, and faith-based organizations to conduct community-participatory research (CBPR) on advance care planning among Chinese and Vietnamese Americans.
- Design an effective intervention involving faith-based organizations to address advance care planning in Chinese and Vietnamese American communities.
- Evaluate the impact and efficacy of a faith-based intervention to increase completion of advance directives among Chinese and Vietnamese Americans.

Background/Rationale

Asian Americans (AA):
- Comprised of 4.8% of the US Population (14.6 million) 7,8
- 3.8 million are of Chinese descent1 (about 26% of AA population)
  - 61.0% are immigrants
  - 41.5% attended low English proficiency
- 1.6 million are of Vietnamese descent2 (about 1.65% of AA population)
  - 64.5% are immigrants
  - 85.2% speak a language other than English
- Have low rates of Advance Directives (AD) utilization
- No published studies have addressed advance care planning among Chinese and Vietnamese Americans.

Academic-Community Partnership

The multidisciplinary partnership was based on Community Based Participatory Research (CBPR)3, in which all partners in the project, including leaders from academia, community-based organization, and faith-based organizations have the opportunity to be full participants in each phase of the project.

Theory used for Intervention:
- Theory of Reasoned Action1 was chosen for this intervention because:
  - TRA has been used to understand the AD Decision making process6
  - Allows examination of social influence in AD completion as being applied in research promoting health behavior change via faith based programs1
  - Has been applied across various cultures, including Asian, that place importance on collectivism and family values in decision making 2,4,10

Division of Tasks among CBO and Academia:
Tasks were divided according to Expertise of the each partners:
- **Academia:** Draft sections on literature review, theory, and methodology
- **Community:** Solicit support from its network
- Draft Sections of proposal related to the community’s skills
- **Grant Submission Process**
- **All:** Draft sections related to the Research Plan, Budget, and Human Subject Protection Protocol

Timeline of Accomplishments and Milestones (Year 1)

- **Year 1:**
  - Draft sections related to the Research Plan, Budget, and Human Subject Protection Protocol
  - Theory used for Intervention
  - Theory of Reasoned Action
  - Tasks were divided according to Expertise of each partners
  - **Academia:**
    - Draft sections on literature review, theory, and methodology
  - **Community:**
    - Solicit support from its network
    - Draft Sections of proposal related to the community’s skills
  - **Grant Submission Process**
  - **All:**
    - Draft sections related to the Research Plan, Budget, and Human Subject Protection Protocol

RESULTS

- The Grant Proposal was approved and the study is currently in progress.
- The Community Partner is leading the study as the Principal Investigator (PI).
- The Academic Partner is providing guidance and expertise in research theory and methodology.

REFERENCES


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Edward A. Chow, MD, Co-chair, San Francisco Asian American Network for Cancer Awareness, Research and Training
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Faith-Based Organization Partners:
- Cumberland Presbyterian Chinese Church, San Francisco, California
- Church of the Resurrection, Sunnyvale, California
- Most Holy Trinity Catholic Church, San Jose, California
- San Francisco Chinese Alliance Church, San Francisco, California

ACADEMIC-COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

This study provides a model for:
- Establishing and sustaining a multidisciplinary partnership
- Identifying partners with common goals
- Maintaining a balance of power (financial, political, and cultural) across all partners with flexibility without compromising the integrity of each partner’s mission and culture
- Maximizing expertise and resources of all partners
- Balancing coordination and communication among all partners