

## DISPARITIES IN CANCER CLINICAL TRIAL PARTICIPATION

If we are to ensure that investigational anticancer therapeutics are safe and effective for everyone who will use them if they are approved, it is vital that the participants in the clinical trials testing the agents represent the entire population who may use them. Despite this knowledge, several segments of the population have been found to be underrepresented in clinical trials. Examples of these disparities include the following:

The elderly (adults ages 65 or older) accounted for about two-thirds of patients with breast, lung, colorectal, and prostate cancer, but only one-third of participants in clinical trials testing treatments for these four types of cancer (131).



Black and Hispanic patients with breast, lung, colorectal, and prostate cancer were almost 30 percent less likely to enroll in clinical trials testing treatments for these four types of cancer compared with white patients (131).

Patients with an annual household income of <\$50,000 were 32 percent less likely to participate in a clinical trial compared with those who had an annual household income of ≥\$50,000 (133).



Individuals who lack insurance account for only 5 percent of those participating in clinical trials compared with 16 percent of the U.S. population (134).