

DISPARITIES IN HEALTH AND QUALITY OF LIFE AFTER A CANCER DIAGNOSIS

Several segments of the U.S. population have been found to be disproportionately affected by cancer- and cancer treatment-related health complications that adversely affect health and quality of life after a cancer diagnosis. Examples of these disparities include:

20%
LOWER

The proportion of Native American women who had breast reconstruction after a mastectomy to treat breast cancer was 20 percent lower than the proportion of white women who had this surgery, which has been shown to improve health-related quality of life for cancer survivors.

LESS
LIKELY

African Americans who had advanced cancer were less likely to receive a palliative care consult compared with whites.

50%
MORE LIKELY

Colorectal cancer survivors who had low socioeconomic status were 50 percent more likely to report clinically significant anxiety and depression compared with those who had high socioeconomic status.

23%
MORE LIKELY

Cancer survivors who lived in rural areas were 23 percent more likely to report psychological distress compared with those in urban areas.