



### AMDeC's New York Cancer Project Publishes in *Ethnicity and Disease*

David Vlahov, PhD; Jennifer Ahern, MS; Tara Vazquez, BS; Stephen Johnson, PhD; Laura A. Phillips, PhD; Denis Nash, PhD; Maria K. Mitchell, PhD; Harold Freeman, MD. 2005. *Racial/ethnic differences in screening for colon cancer: Report from the New York Cancer Project*. Ethn Dis. 2005;15(1):76-83

#### **Abstract**

**Objective:** *To determine whether racial/ethnic differences in colon cancer screening are independent of socioeconomic and personal risk factors.*

**Design:** *Baseline cross-section for a prospective cohort.*

**Method:** *We recruited adults between 2000 and 2002 to undergo a questionnaire and venipuncture to study cancer risks.*

**Results:** *Among 5595 adults over 50 years old, 40.3% reported sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy within the prior five years; rates were 48.0% for Whites, 32.8% for Blacks, 27.9% for Hispanics, 30.3% for Asians, and 33.3% for others. Adjusting for age, gender, access to care (as income and insurance), and risk profile (as cancer in family, smoking, and obesity), Blacks and Hispanics were less likely to have been screened than Whites.*

**Conclusions:** *Screening for colon cancer is low, especially among racial/ethnic minorities. Sociocultural factors merit closer attention.*