



The Puerto Rico Chamber of Commerce  
and El Nuevo Día present:



PUERTO RICO  
**Health & Insurance**  
CONFERENCE 2019

**Research-Driven Health Policies to Ensure  
Health Equity**

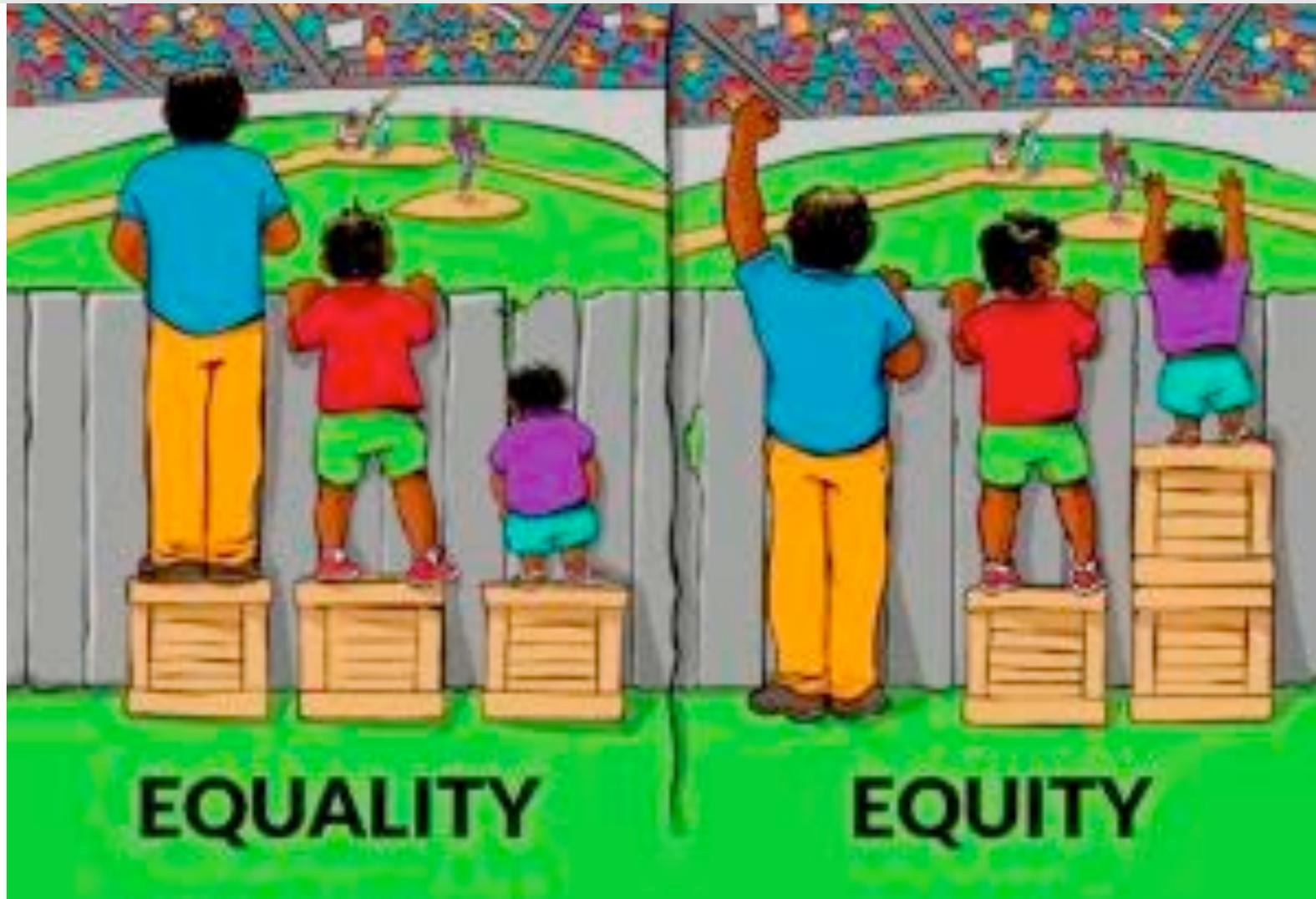
**Marcia Cruz-Correa, MD, PhD, AGAF, FASGE**



**Health Equity is the fair distribution of health determinants, outcomes, and resources within and between segments of the population, regardless of social standing.**

World Health Organization

Health equity” implies that everyone should have a fair opportunity to attain their full health potential

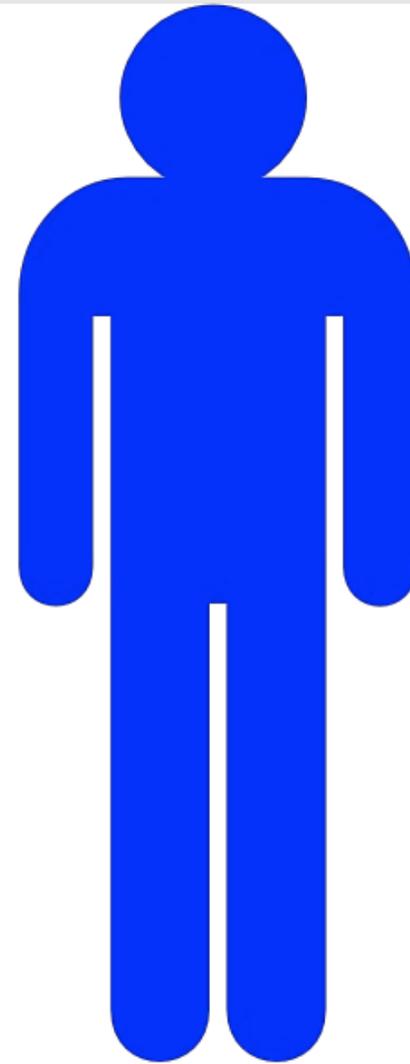


# Liver Cancer Mortality in US Hispanics

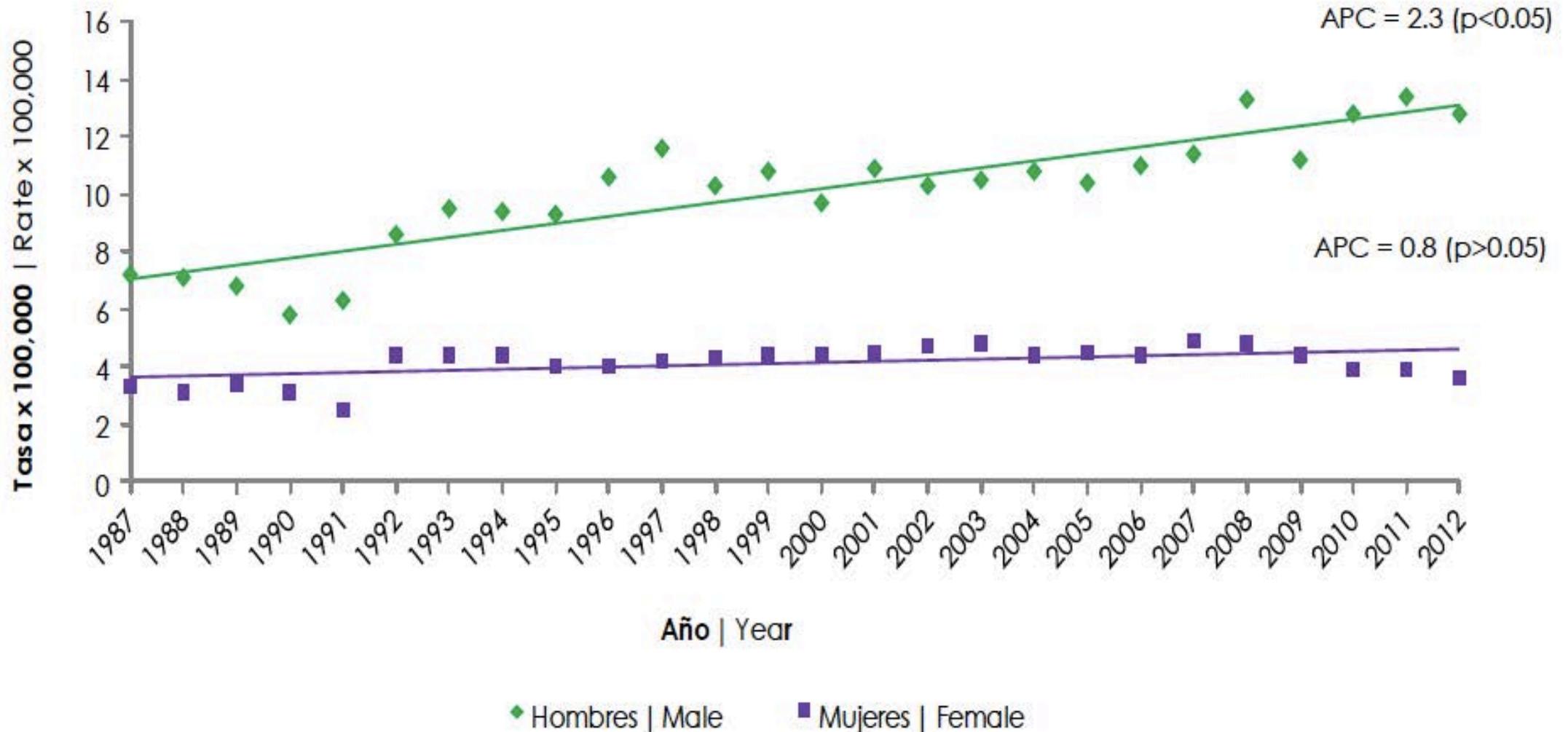
5<sup>th</sup> Leading Cause  
Cause  
(6%)



2<sup>nd</sup> Leading Cause  
Cause  
(11%)



# Age Adjusted Incidence Rates Liver Cancer PR (1987-2012)



# Hepatitis C in Puerto Rico

- ✓ 1<sup>st</sup> Cause of Liver Cancer
- ✓ 1<sup>st</sup> Cause of Liver Transplant
- ✓ 3% of seroprevalance in PR
- >100,000 infected individuals



**Healthy**



**Cirrhosis**

# Access to Medicines = Health Equity



NATURE | NEWS

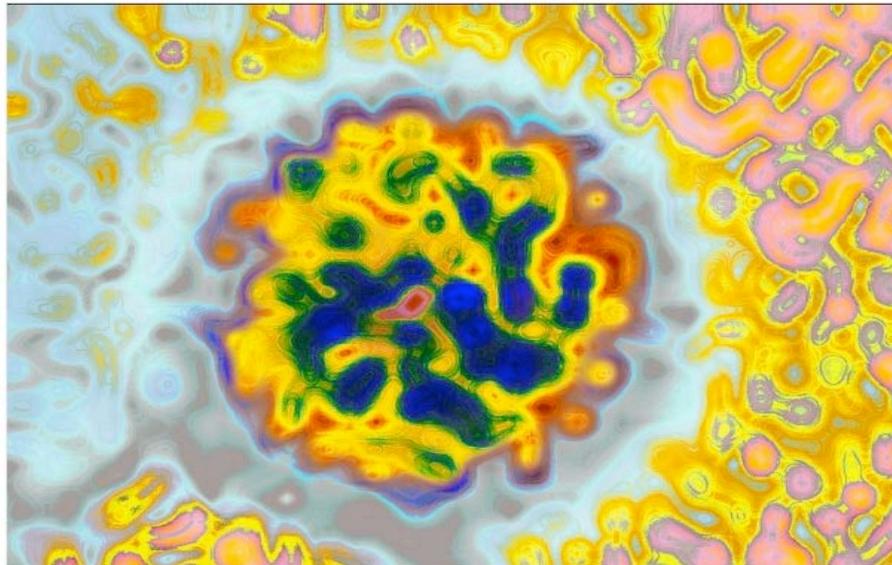
## United States to approve potent oral drugs for hepatitis C

Improved treatments offer hope for eradication of viral liver infection.

Sara Reardon

30 October 2013

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GOBIERNO DE PUERTO RICO  
Administración de Seguros de Salud

Hon. Ricardo A. Rosselló Nevares  
Gobernador

Sra. Ángela M. Ávila Marrero  
Directora Ejecutiva

### Carta Normativa 19-0116

16 de enero de 2019

**A:** Aseguradoras, Compañías de Servicios de Salud Mental, Administrador del Beneficio de Farmacia, Farmacias, Grupos Médicos Primarios y Proveedores Participantes del Plan de Salud del Gobierno

**Asunto:** Medicamento para Hepatitis C

ASES se encuentra en el proceso de establecer el proceso administrativo y de pago por el medicamento para el tratamiento de Hepatitis C.

Dada la necesidad de facilitar el tratamiento a pacientes trasplantados y con necesidad médica que de lo contrario pudiera ponerse en riesgo la pérdida o función de un órgano, o la vida del paciente estaremos cubriendo efectivo desde el 16 de enero de 2019 como emergencia el siguiente medicamento en lo que se completa el proceso:

Nombre del medicamento que entra al formulario	Nombre de referencia	Guía de Referencia	Formularios
Mavyret® tab.	Glecaprevir and Pibrentasvir	PA	Salud Física

ASES estará pagando directamente a la farmacia por este medicamento a través del PBM contratado por lo que este medicamento no está a riesgo de la aseguradora del paciente. Sin embargo, es importante que la aseguradora sea informada para que pueda actualizar junto con el especialista que atiende el beneficiario el plan de tratamiento de este.

Cordialmente,



Angela M. Ávila Marrero  
Directora Ejecutiva

# Immuno Therapies in Cancer

Dr. Jim Allison, Nobel Prize 2018



APRIL 4, 2016

TIME

What if your immune system could be taught to kill cancer?

**Inside the brutally selective, hugely expensive, lifesaving trials of immunotherapy.**

By Alice Park

time.com

Anti PDL1 therapy – 1<sup>st</sup> cancer agnostic drug

Long term survivor

Complete & partial responses in Stage IV Cancers

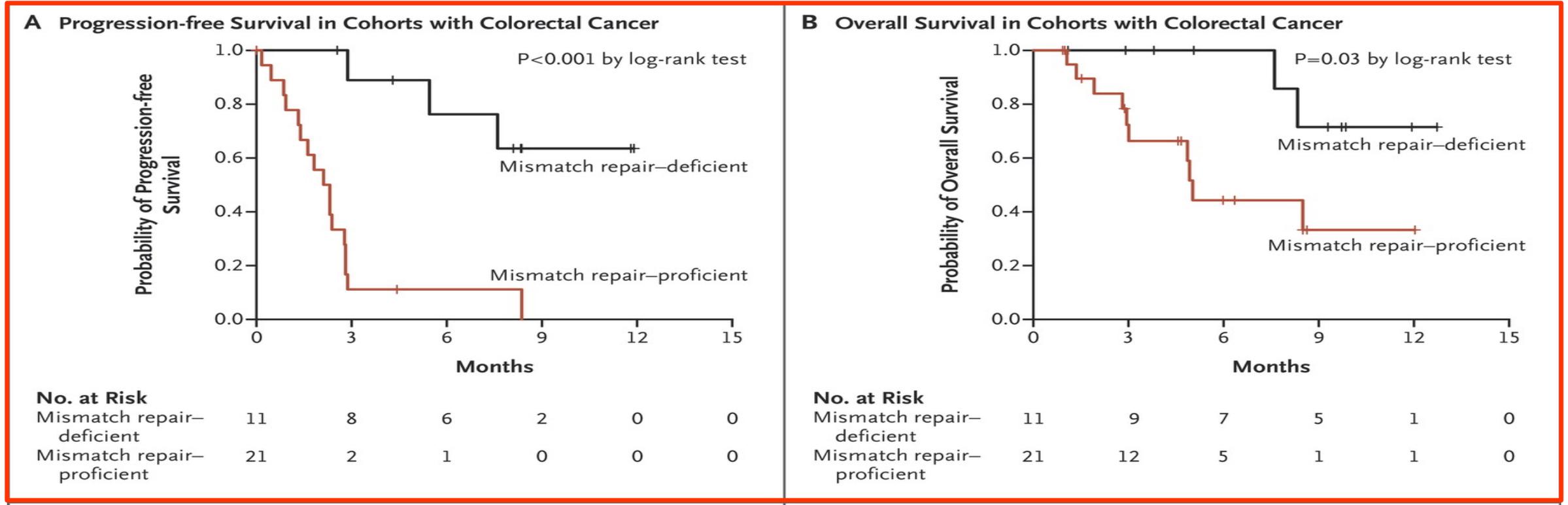
ORIGINAL ARTICLE

# PD-1 Blockade in Tumors with Mismatch-Repair Deficiency

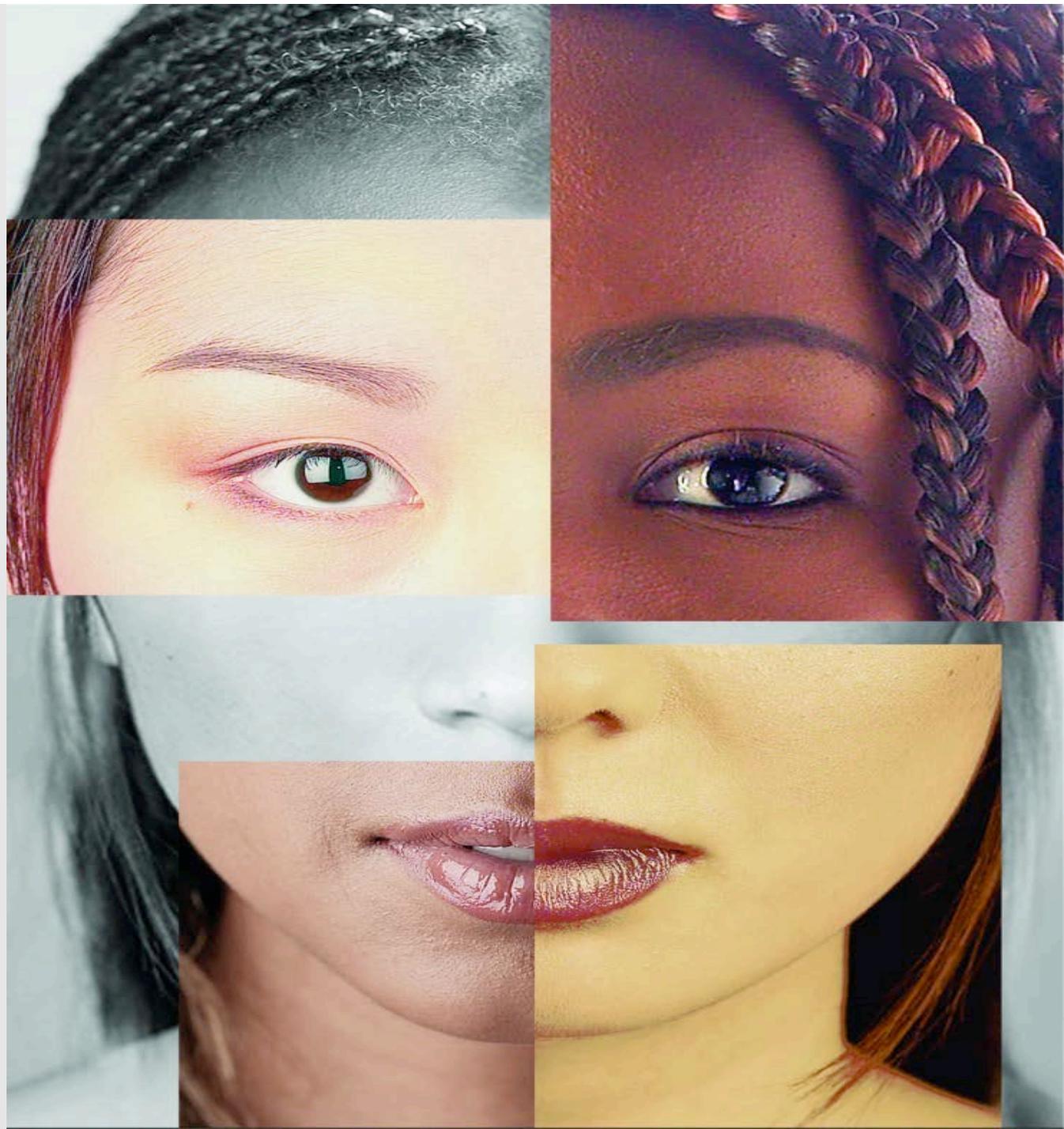
D.T. Le, J.N. Uram, H. Wang, B.R. Bartlett, H. Kemberling, A.D. Eyring, A.D. Skora, B.S. Lubner, N.S. Azad, D. Laheru, B. Biedrzycki, R.C. Donehower, A. Zaheer, G.A. Fisher, T.S. Crocenzi, J.J. Lee, S.M. Duffy, R.M. Goldberg, A. de la Chapelle, M. Koshiji, F. Bhaijee, T. Huebner, R.H. Hruban, L.D. Wood, N. Cuka, D.M. Pardoll, N. Papadopoulos, K.W. Kinzler, S. Zhou, T.C. Cornish, J.M. Taube, R.A. Anders, J.R. Eshleman, B. Vogelstein, and L.A. Diaz, Jr.

# Clinical Benefit of Pembrolizumab Treatment According to Mismatch-Repair Status

Le DT et al. N Engl J Med 2015;372:2509-2520.



Ensure Health Equity  
by Promoting  
Inclusive Research



## Participation of Hispanics in Oncology Clinical Trials is Limited

- FDA requires that pharmaceutical companies submitting applications for new drugs and/or indications for existing drugs to include participants from diverse ethnic and racial backgrounds including Hispanics
- **Less than 5% of all oncology trials include Hispanics**

# FDA Oncology Approvals (2017)

## 2017 Drug Trials Snapshots Summary Statistics

(Jan 1, 2017 - Dec 31, 2017)

### Oncology:

**7,045 patients** participated in trials that led to approvals of 12 new drugs

Demographic Subgroups	Women	White	Asian	Black or African American	Hispanic	Age 65 and Older	United States
Participant Average	83%	74%	12%	2%	4%	26%	34%

<https://www.fda.gov/drugs/informationondrugs/ucm412998.htm>

# Expanded Inclusion 2018

The American Society of  
Clinical Oncology (ASCO)

Friends of Cancer  
Research (Friends)  
Advocacy Organization

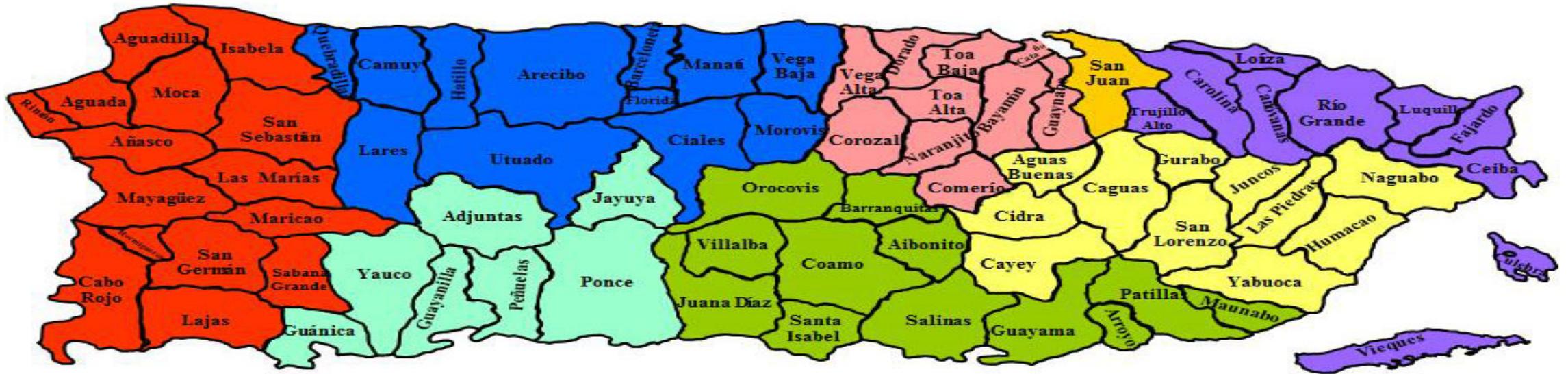


# Oncology Clinical Trials in Puerto Rico

- **5,500** open and recruiting oncology clinical trials in the United States, **53 (1%)** are **conducted in Puerto Rico\***
- 32 sponsored or co-sponsored by pharmaceutical industry
- An opportunity to **strengthen oncology clinical trials programs** in Puerto Rico to help fill this gap

**Only 1%**  
**Oncology Trials**  
**in PR**

# Cancer in Puerto Rico



- ✓ 1<sup>st</sup> cause of death
- ✓ Every year >15,000 new diagnosis of cancers
- ✓ Over 50,000 people living with cancer

# Puerto Rico – Clinical Research Ecosystem

- Hispanic population
- Solid infrastructure
  - Universities
  - Health Systems
  - Professionals
  - Pharmaceuticals
- Government Initiative (PRCCI)

# Participation in Clinical Trials

Primary reason people *participate* in clinical trials.....**They were asked**

Primary reason people *do not participate* in clinical trials... **They were not asked (not available)**

A vibrant scene of a public gathering where many people are holding Puerto Rican flags. The flags, featuring a blue triangle with a white star and a red triangle with a white eagle, are waving in the air. In the foreground, two young women are visible, smiling and looking towards the right. The background is filled with more flags and the blurred figures of other participants, creating a sense of a large, festive event.

# Close the Health Equity Gap in Puerto Rico

***Provide access to approved therapies, measure outcomes, and promote a culture of research-driven health policy and quality.***

# Puerto Rico Health & Insurance Conference 2019

 Puerto Rico Consortium  
for Clinical Investigation  
invites you to...



## PUERTO RICO CLINICAL RESEARCH SUMMIT

The 2019 Clinical Research Summit: Connecting the World, will bring together leaders and key stakeholders from organizations involved in clinical and translational research.

**For Information & Registration**

<https://bit.ly/2JlgPp2>



# Thank You

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[www.camarapr.org](http://www.camarapr.org)

#tucamaraenaccion