



Hispanic Psychiatry Resident Clinic: A Pilot Study

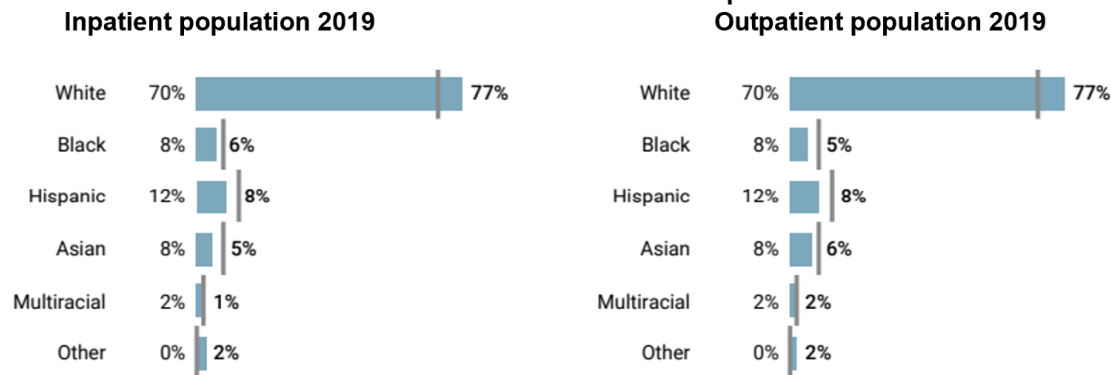
Maria Camila Velez Florez, M.D.¹; Richard Bido Medina, M.D., Ph.D.¹; Alejandra Morfin Rodríguez, M.D.¹; Linda Herrera Santos M.D., Ph.D.¹

¹Massachusetts General Hospital, McLean Hospital, Harvard Medical School

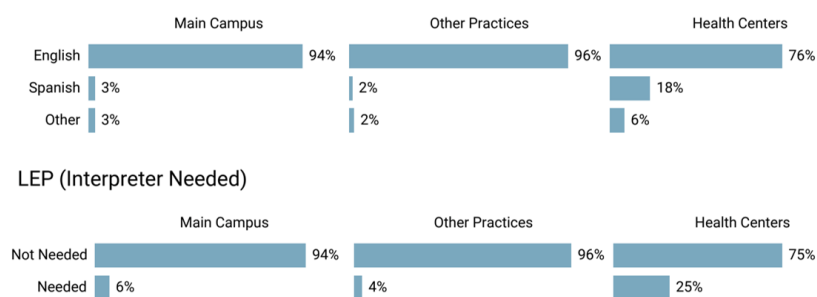
Background

Language, sociocultural, and immigration barriers prevent Spanish-speaking patients in the United States from receiving the mental health care they need. Multilingual care has been shown to decrease emergency room visits and improve health outcomes. In addition to speaking Spanish, providers require skills in providing culturally appropriate care.

Massachusetts General Hospital



Preferred language in the outpatient setting



Objective

Develop the first Hispanic Clinic for Psychiatric Residents at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH), with the purpose of training bilingual Spanish/English residents in culturally sensitive mental health skills for bridging the gap in access and optimizing care for our Hispanic population.

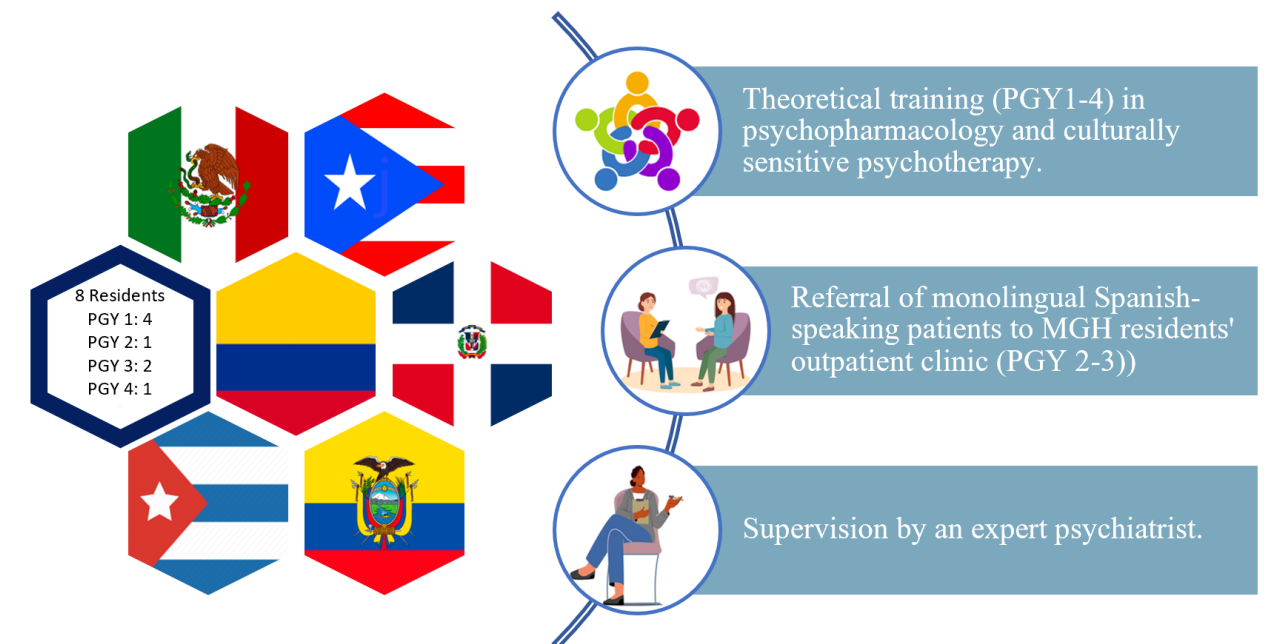
Methods

In January 2022, an expert consensus developed the structure of the Hispanic Clinic for Psychiatry Residents based on needs of our MGH population. Subsequently, the structure and business plan were presented to the Department of Psychiatry and hospital administration. Once approved, 8 bilingual psychiatric residents from years 1-4 were recruited for the purpose of being certified as Qualified Bilingual Personnel and trained to care for monolingual Spanish-speaking patients.

Results

8 bilingual psychiatric residents from years 1-4 were recruited for:

- Qualified Bilingual Personnel certification.
- Training to care for monolingual Spanish-speaking patients.



Conclusion

The Clinic began during second semester of 2022 (after recruitment and pre-survey evaluation inquiring on confidence and perception of skills in the care of these population), striving to promote psychiatry residents' training and efforts to establish optimal mental health care for our Spanish-speaking patients. We will proceed to evaluate the impact of this intervention on providers and the perception of patients about psychiatric consultation. Ultimately, it is hoped to cultivate collaboration between other providers who care for Hispanic patients at MGH.