

Title: Social Determinants of Health Predict Health Screenings in West Virginia

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Background: Regular health screenings can reduce deaths from deadly cancers such as prostate cancer and breast cancer. However, many adults do not receive such health screens with the recommended time frame. This can prolong the time to cancer treatment and make cancers harder to treat.

Purpose: The goal of the current study was to examine whether Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) can be used as a predictor for receiving routine health screenings.

Methods: Responses from 1837 men and 2592 women from West Virginia were gathered from the 2020 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System data to explore age, health care coverage, and race as predictors for receiving routine health screenings.

Results: Using a logistic regression analysis, the equation was significant for women, $\chi^2 = (DF=11) = 362.97, p < .001$. In men, the equation was significant, $\chi^2 = (DF=11) = 195.62, p < .001$. West Virginians receiving mammograms and prostate cancer screening were significantly lower in middle-aged men and women, and in West Virginians with no health care coverage.

Conclusion: Providing education at early to middle adulthood and creating opportunities for people with little or no health coverage to be tested will increase early diagnosis and success rate for the treatments of these cancers.