Female Participation in Clinical Trials Based on Race and Children

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Clinical trials are the gateway to finding more effective treatment and medication. Females and minorities tend to be underrepresented or excluded from clinical trials. 

Multiple regression analysis was performed to determine the relationship between race and whether patients meet the criteria for clinical trials. If race was a barrier to participation, the results would indicate a significant difference in the number of Caucasians and minorities who meet the criteria.

Figure 2 shows how many female minorities and Caucasians have participated in clinical trials before, were currently pregnant/have children. Minorities: 21/300, Caucasians 8/84.

Table 1 shows the percentage breakdown of surveyed applicants based on race and whether they meet the criteria.

Figure 1 represents whether or not there is a significant difference between Caucasians who participated in clinical trials and minorities who met the same criteria.

Conclusion/Discussion:

- Majority of patients surveyed were minorities; however, only 21/300 (7.0%) of the minorities that were surveyed were pregnant/had children and had participated in a clinical trial before compared to 8/84 (9.25%) of Caucasians that meet the same criteria (Figure 2).
- Multiple regression analysis was performed to determine the following:
  1. If race was a significant barrier to participation in clinical trials. The p-values that were found to be significant were the following: Hispanic p=0.06 and Asian p=0.004 (Figure 3).
  2. If minorities who were pregnant/have children are less likely to participate in clinical trials than Caucasians that meet the same criteria. The p-values were not found to be significant (Figure 4).

FINDINGS: Hispanics and Asians are less likely to participate in clinical trials than Caucasians. There is no significant difference in participation in clinical trials between Caucasians who are currently pregnant/have children and minorities that meet the same criteria. However, since preliminary data was used in the analysis, no final conclusions can be drawn at this point because the final analysis might reveal a different outcome.