

Patient Experiences of Persons Living with Dementia with and without Limited English Proficiency: Implications for Palliative Care

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In clinical interactions, 38% of providers never ask about the life of patients with limited English proficiency (LEP) who are living with dementia, suggesting a potential gap in dementia care planning and communication around goals of care and values, which may ultimately lead to suboptimal care as dementia progresses. Integrating palliative care communication principles into routine care may address this and improve dementia care for those with LEP.

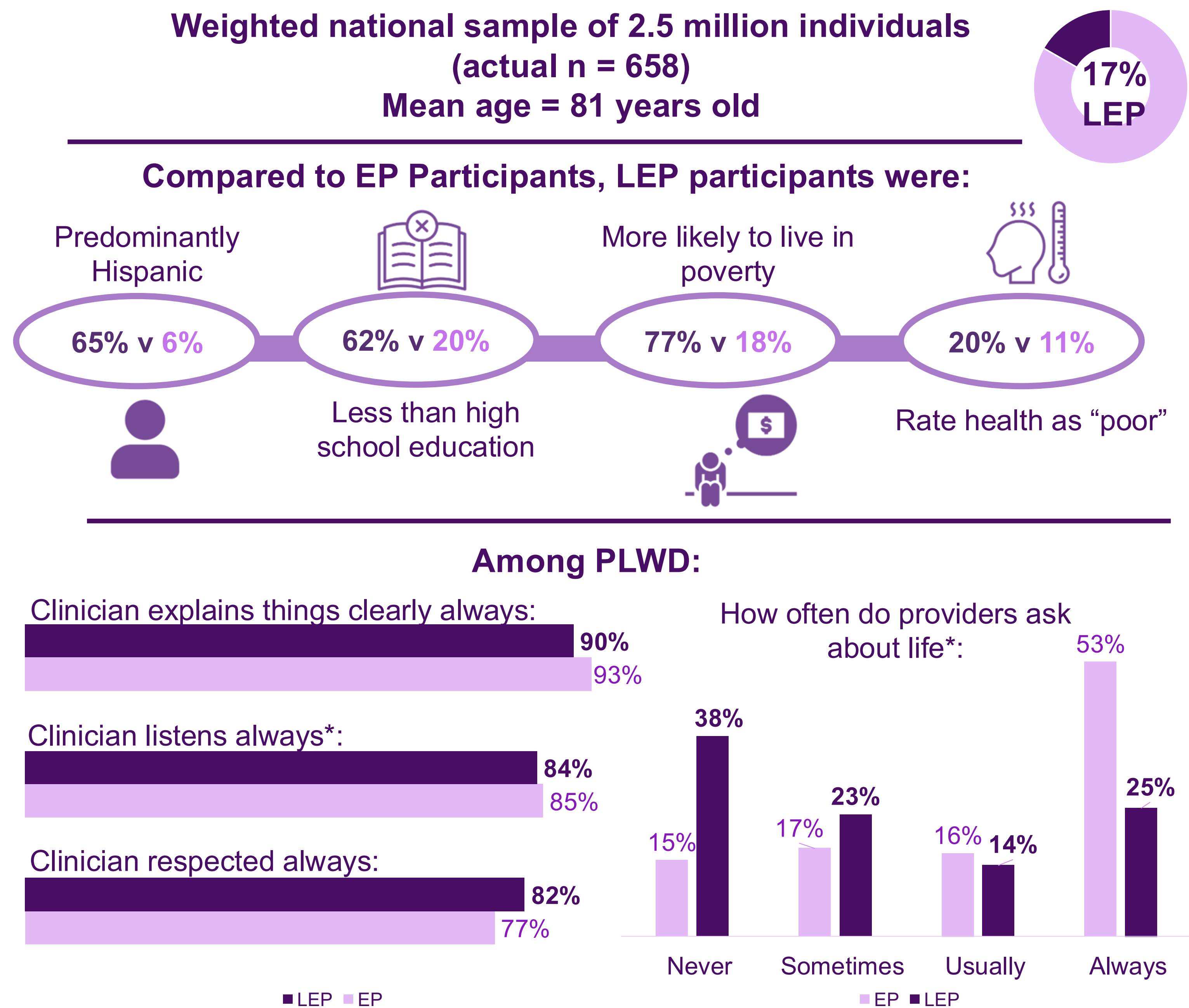
INTRODUCTION

- Quality dementia care requires person-centered communication and integration of palliative care principles
- Language barriers may inhibit quality dementia care
- We aimed to describe patient-reported experiences among LEP and English proficient (EP) PLWD

METHODS

- Cross-sectional study
- 2022 Medicare Current Beneficiary Survey (MCBS)
- PLWD identified by the Bynum-Standard 1-year algorithm, MCBS survey questions, and prescriptions
- LEP identified with MCBS survey
- Patient experience with providers questions (e.g., asked about life, explained things clearly)
- We conducted unadjusted, descriptive analyses, which incorporated MCBS survey weight and design variables

RESULTS



DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION

- The measure of how often providers asked about life warrants further investigation as to why it differed from other responses
- This may capture unmeasured aspects of the LEP experience that palliative care principles may address given the otherwise overall high satisfaction
- Future research should explore how palliative care can best address the needs and improve the patient experience of LEP PLWD

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