



Pascal James Imperato, MD
Editor-in-Chief
Journal of Community Health

January 17, 2023

Dear Dr. Pascal James Imperato:

I am writing to submit our manuscript entitled, “Colorectal Cancer Screening Among Adults in Zuni Pueblo: Factors Associated with FOBT and Colonoscopy Utilization,” for consideration for publication in Journal of Community Health.

In this manuscript, we describe the results of a survey among colorectal cancer (CRC) screen-eligible members of Zuni Pueblo (N=218) on an array of questions regarding CRC screening behaviors, knowledge, satisfaction with and access to healthcare services, social support for CRC screening, perceptions toward FOBT, and preference for evidence-based interventions or strategies for improving CRC screening rates. Results from the multivariable model suggest age, having a regular healthcare provider, and harboring fewer negative perceptions toward FOBT are key drivers of ever completing CRC screening.

As you will read, major portions of the study were modeled after a previous article published in JCH: Brown SR, Joshweseoma L, Saboda K et al. Cancer screening on the Hopi reservation: A model for success in a Native American community. Journal of Community Health 2015; 40: 1165-1172.

Our results provide critical, community-specific insight into better understanding the drivers of low guideline-adherent screening rates and inform local healthcare providers and community leaders of context-specific strategies to improve CRC screening in Zuni Pueblo. Given the manuscript’s focus on cancer prevention and control and the health disparities faced by a rural, relatively isolated American Indian community, we believe these results will be of particular interest to your journal’s readership.

Regarding conflicts of interests, none of the authors have any commercial associations that pose, or have the appearance of posing, a conflict of interest in connection with the submitted manuscript. This study received approval from the Zuni Pueblo Tribal Council, the Southwest Tribal Institutional Review Board (IRB) (SWT-2018-004), and the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center IRB (HRRC # 18-264). This manuscript describes original work and is not under consideration by any other journal, nor has it or its abstract been previously published in any language. All authors and Zuni Pueblo leadership approved the manuscript and this submission.

Thank you for receiving our manuscript and considering it for review. We appreciate your time and look forward to your response.

Thank you,

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