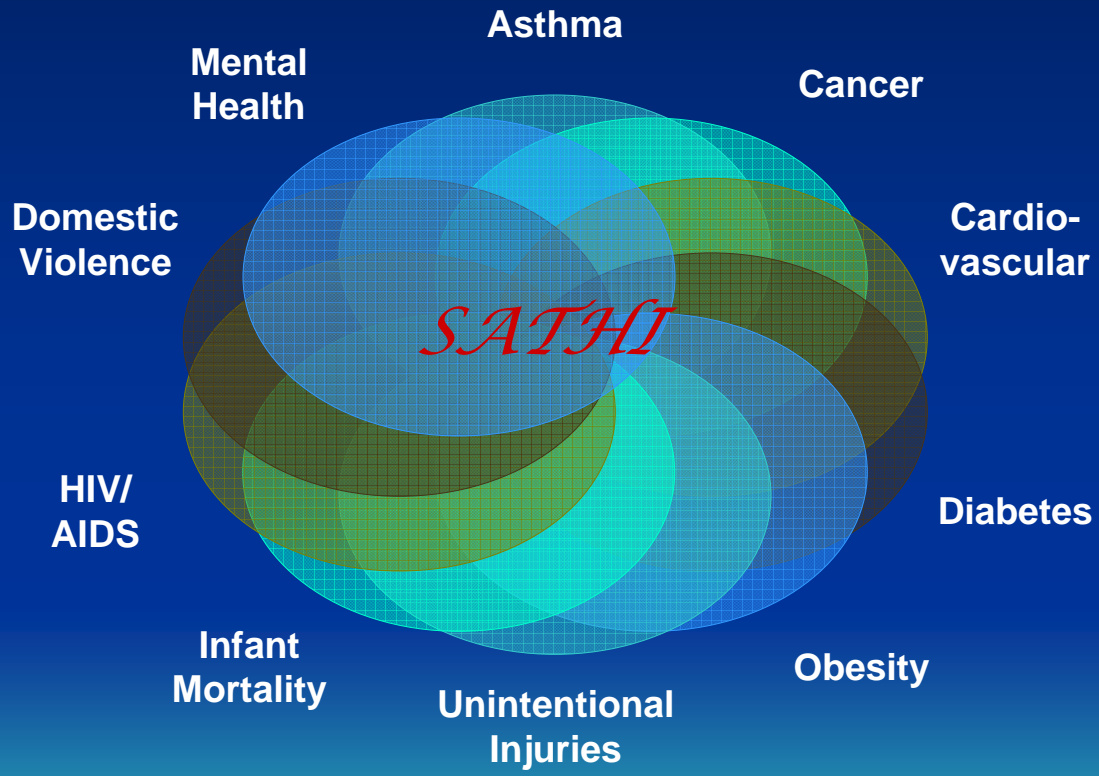


Key Diseases Affecting the South Asian immigrant population



Inspired by Healthy NJ 2010

ASTHMA

- Approximately 11 percent of NJ population suffers from asthma.
- Significant racial/ethnic differences exist in asthma mortality and hospitalization rates
- Poor education and understanding of the disease
- In accord with NJ 2010, goal will be to increase awareness of the disease through education and to reduce asthma morbidity and prevent asthma mortality
- Collaborate with UMDNJ Department of Pediatrics/
Division of Pulmonary



Cancer

- Significant barriers to cancer care exist in the South Asian population
- Psychological factors including fear, denial, and stigma of the disease
- In accordance with NJ 2010, the goal will be to increase awareness of cancer initiatives and promote screenings within the South Asian population.
- Potential Collaborators: Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, NJ CEED, and ACS



Cardiovascular Disease

- Heart disease is the leading cause of death in the United States
- Prevalence of coronary heart disease is much higher in the South Asian population
- Goal will be to further research and education of the South Asian community and to reduce the number of deaths due to cardiovascular disease
- Potential Collaborators: Dr. Rohit Arora (North Chicago VA hospitals, and Dr. Virender Sethi (Hackensack Hospital)



Diabetes

- Prevalence of diabetes and impaired glucose tolerance is much higher in the South Asian population
- Genetic predisposition may exist in the Indian population
- Goal is to increase awareness, improve diagnosis, increase prevention strategies, and increase research
- Potential collaborators: Dr. Raghuwanshi (Division of Endocrinology at UMDNJ RWJMS)



OBESITY

- 2005 data show that more than half of New Jerseyans are overweight
- 13 percent of youth of sixth to eighth graders were overweight
- NJ 2010 goal is to decrease disparities in obesity and increase healthy eating and physical
- Potential collaborators: Weight Management Program RWJMS



HIV/AIDS

- HIV disease is the ninth leading cause of death over all ages
- Among Asians, AIDS incidence are very low
- Goal is to reduce the incidence of HIV/AIDS among minority populations through increased education
- Potential Collaborators: RWJ AIDS Program



Infant Mortality

- Racial/ ethnic disparities occur among many of the infant health indicators
- Birth rate to Asian teens is half the rate among whites
- Infant mortality rates in Asians are about the same as the white population
- Goal is to decrease in birth outcomes
- Potential collaborators: Division of Neonatology RWJUH



Unintentional Injuries

- Sixth leading cause of death
- One HNJ 2010 objective is to reduce the incidence of traumatic brain injuries
- Goal is to reduce excess morbidity and mortality due to unintentional injuries among minorities
- Potential collaboration with Childrens' Specialized Hospital



Mental Health

- Stigma and its impact on seeking help
- Lack of knowledge about mental illness and lack of information on resources
- Experiences of immigrants and their mental health needs
- Collaboration with SAMHAJ project (South Asian Mental Health Awareness)



Domestic Violence

