VOL. 2
Second Edition

EnrollNow

NATIONAL BLACK CHURCH INITIATIVE
www.naltblackchurch.com

AMERICAN CLINICAL HEALTH
DISPARITIES COMMISSION INC.

Clinical Trials

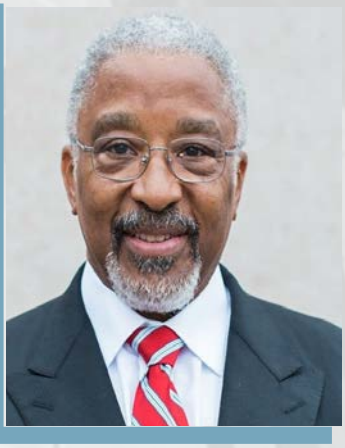
A Great Leap Forward

Passing the Baton to a New Generation with a Grander Vision Through The National Black Church Initiative National Clinical Trial Plan (NCTSP)

HONORING THE ANCESTORS AND LIVING LEGENDS CELEBRATING THE CURRENT AND FUTURE BLACK CLINICIANS AND RESEARCHERS IN PROMOTING DIVERSITY IN CLINICAL TRIALS

HONORING DR. JAMES H. POWELL AS THE FATHER OF AFRICAN AMERICAN CLINICAL TRIALS PARTICIPATION AND DIVERSITY

Rev. Anthony Evans
President, National Black Church Initiative



Dr. James H. Powell
Principal Investigator, NMA Project IMPACT

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PURPOSE OF THE ENROLL MAGAZINE

The purpose of the new online Enroll Magazine is to have a platform whereby we can publicize clinical trials on behalf of our future partners, editorials on health disparities, views from members of our congregations concerning clinical trials, a platform to publish from the members of the American Clinical Health Disparities Commission, and to illuminate critical data and especially to reprint with permission other critical scholarly articles from Black and Latino scholars. We have been working on this online project for one year, and we have accumulated over five thousand Black, White, and Latino researchers' emails. One point eight million NBCI members have signed up to receive the Enroll Magazine, in addition to our one hundred and fifty thousand churches.

Please submit your articles for review.
Rev Anthony Evans (dcbci2002@gmail.com)

Visit the National Black Church Initiative (NBCI) and the American Clinical Health Disparities Commission (ACHDC) Clinical Trial Portal blackchurchclinicaltrials.com, part of NBCI's Revolution in Black Health in realizing a National Black Health Agenda

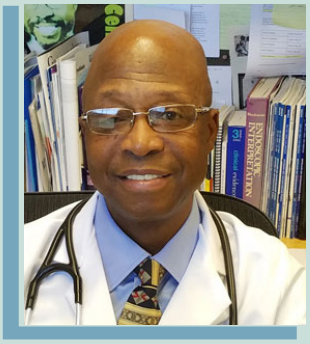
Welcome to the American Clinical Health Disparities Commission Clinical Trial Portal

https://achdc.net

NATIONAL BLACK CHURCH INITIATIVE MISSION STATEMENT AND THE AMERICAN CLINICAL HEALTH DISPARITIES COMMISSION MOTTO

The National Black Church Initiative (NBCI) is a coalition of 150,000 African-American churches, constituting 27.7 members, working to eradicate racial disparities in healthcare, technology, education, housing, and the environment. NBC's mission is to provide critical wellness information to its members, congregants, churches, and the public.

"WE NEED TO FIND OUT WHETHER OR NOT THE MEDICINE WORKS ON AFRICAN AMERICANS AND LATINOS. THIS IS THE SOLE REASON WE MUST INCREASE OUR PARTICIPATION IN CLINICAL TRIALS!"



Dr. Joseph Webster
Chair of ACHDC

Dr. James McCoy
Co-Chair of ACHDC

The National Black Church Initiative's methodology utilizes faith and sound health science. We also offer our member congregants and the public helpful and healthy science-based tips on developing and maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

The National Black Church Initiative aims to partner with major organizations and officials whose primary mission is reducing racial disparities in the abovementioned areas. NBCI offers faith-based, out-of-the-box, and cutting-edge solutions to stubborn economic and social issues. NBCI's programs are governed by credible statistical analysis, science-based strategies and techniques, and methods that work.

NBCI AND ACHDC ARE USHERING IN A NEW ERA OF BROADENED ENGAGEMENT OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN AND LATINO COMMUNITIES IN CLINICAL TRIALS. PARTICULARLY GIVEN THE UNETHICAL AND ILLEGAL BEHAVIORS INVOLVED WITH THE TUSKEGEE EXPERIMENT AND THE INTENTIONAL ABSENCE OR LACK OF CRITICAL INFORMATION FOR THE INVOLVED SUBJECTS BY GOVERNMENTAL OFFICIALS, NBCI ENGAGES IN A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO UTILIZE IMPORTANT LESSONS LEARNED FROM HISTORIC MEDICAL ABUSES FOR GENERATING ROBUST INTEREST IN SUBSTANTIALLY IMPROVING CLINICAL TRIAL PARTICIPATION AND HEALTH OUTCOMES.

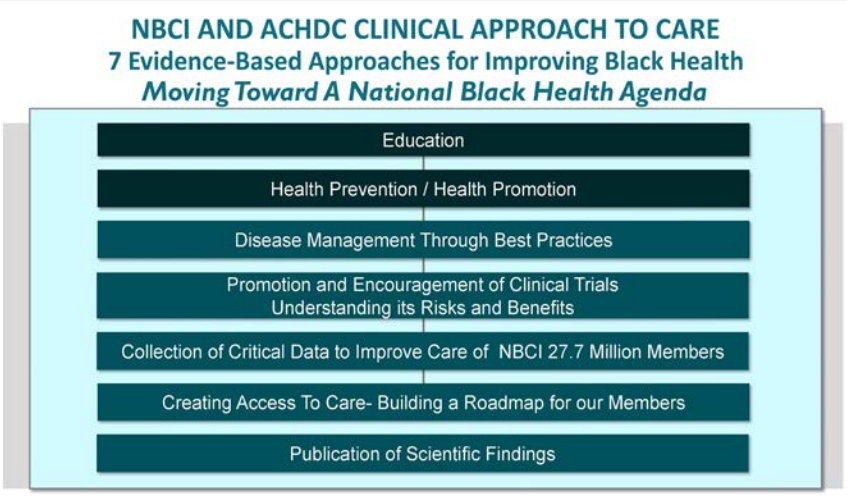
HISTORY OF NBCI CLINICAL TRIAL INITIATIVE AND HOW THE FDA IS TRYING TO UNDERMINE IT

The National Black Church Initiative took twenty years of its thirty-year history to launch the National Clinical Trial Strategic Plan. Building a national health delivery structure within the Black Church was difficult because it was not its primary focus of the Black Church. The marriage between faith and medicine has never been difficult in the Black Church, because we never saw it as a philosophical debate. We clearly understand that everyone needs faith to succeed, and medicine is no different. In 2015, we made a major program decision to focus our efforts through our 150,000 churches, constituting 27.7 million members in five separate areas. They are: Prevention, Health Promotion/Education, Disease Management, clinical trials, and data collection. In 2018, we received a call from Ms. Cassandra Smith of Jassen Pharmaceutical. They were impressed with our clinical trial program booklet, the NBCI Clinical Trial Education Awareness and Participation Program (CTEAPP). naltblackchurch.com/health/pdf/cteapp-book.pdf. They offered NBCI a multi-year grant to develop an educational program for our 150,000-member churches. This was the impetus for building our current national community service delivery structure.

A year before, in 2017 , NBCI met with and delivered to the FDA recommendations on what needed to be included in an effective clinical trial for African Americans. naltblackchurch.com/health/pdf/fda-final.pdf NBCI has been promoting clinical trials for the past 25 years.. The Clinton, Bush, Obama, and the first Trump administration ignored the cries of NBCI, Dr. James A. Powell, the National Medical Association, and the National Academy of Sciences, the need for and the importance of diversity in clinical trials. The pharmaceutical industry was against diversity of clinical trials before they were for it. They were focused on cost and not the science. It is unclear where the industry stands today, given the Trump Administration's war against DEI.

The multi-year grant allowed us to harden and implement the NBCI community service delivery structure. After six years of implementing the NBCI community service delivery structure, it took us an additional four years to build a website to write a clinical trial curriculum and to launch and conclude a six-year clinical trial Pilot Program while educating over 52,000 African American churchgoers on the risks and benefits of participating in clinical Trials. Against the backdrop of the history of the Tuskegee Experiment, we are now ready to launch the National Clinical Trial Strategic Plan. We were going to launch in 2020, but we were faced with the COVID pandemic. We were also set to launch in 2022, but were stopped because of the opioid crisis, and we eventually launched on March 26, 2025, at Cornerstone Baptist Church in Brooklyn, New York. Our current fight with the Trump Administration could have been avoided if the Phama, BIO, Obama, Clinton, and Biden White Houses had done their job to honor the black voters and their demand for access to healthcare. We would not be facing the dismantling of the current rules, making and regulations regarding diversity in clinical trials.

Those rules on diversity in clinical trials could have been permanently in place beforethe NBCI recommendation in 2017, and we would not have been subject to the current Trump administration's political war against DEI.



View full size image at blackchurchclinicaltrials.com/img/nbci-updatefinal-approaches.webp

View full size image at www.naltblackchurch.com/about/service-structure.html

US FDA DROPS WEB PAGES ON IMPROVING CLINICAL TRIAL DIVERSITY

CHICAGO (Reuters) - The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has pulled draft guidance from its website requiring companies to test medicines and devices in diverse populations as part of a purge of diversity, equity and inclusion efforts at U.S. health agencies.

The FDA's Diversity Action Plan draft guidance to drug and medical device companies stems from the 2022 Food and Drug Omnibus Reform Act.

Martin A. Makary, M.D., M.P.H.
U.S. FDA Commissioner

The move, first reported by health website STAT, follows President Donald Trump's executive order on Tuesday directing agency chiefs to dismantle diversity, equity and inclusion policies largely relating to employment at federal agencies, federal contractors and in the private sector.

Read more at tinyurl.com/ytxvedrh

COME AND CELEBRATE WITH NBCI THE KICK-OFF OF THE NATIONAL CLINICAL TRIAL STRATEGIC PLAN ON MARCH 26 AT CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH IN BROOKLYN, NY

The NBCI Launches Historical National Clinical Trials Strategic Plan (NCTSP) Through 150,000 Black Churches

The National Black Church Initiative (NBCI), a coalition of 150,000 African American churches and 27.7 million members, has launched the National Clinical Trials Strategic Plan (NCTSP) to inform, empower, educate, enroll, and maintain African Americans in Clinical trials. This will be one of the most significant efforts to improve health in the African American community. This is truly a historical moment for the Black churches as they seek to build and sustain an interdisciplinary approach. NCTSP's sole objective is to increase the recruitment and enrollment of African Americans in clinical trials, as well as to present the availability of the array of clinical trials to NBCI's 27.7 million members. NBCI aims to have 200 long-term clinical partners to produce the critical data to move the science forward to make medical products more effective in treating African American people and join with the American Clinical Health Disparities Commission (ACHDC) to create and deliver quality clinical trial experiences for NBCI's 27.7 million members.

Rev. Anthony Evans, President of NBCI, stated: "NBCI and our partners are committed to ensuring the lessons of history are never forgotten.We are ushering in a new era of increased engagement and transparency in clinical research that centers the needs of African American and Latino communities." The organization references historical medical injustices, including the Tuskegee Syphilis Study, as a driving force behind its comprehensive and interdisciplinary approach. The initiative aims to build trust, provide accurate information, and promote equitable access to clinical research opportunities. NBCI welcomes collaboration with biopharmaceutical companies and research institutions to address disparities in health outcomes and participation. Studies have shown that African Americans and Latinos remain significantly underrepresented in clinical research, contributing to gaps in treatment development and medical equity.

The NCTSP aligns with key recommendations outlined by the National Academies in its report "Improving Representation in Clinical Trials and Research", and NBCI encourages the U.S. Food and Drug Administration {FDA) to consider the plan as a strategic resource. NBCI's 2024 Congressional report, "Moving Toward a National Black Health Agenda: What African Americans Want from The Democratic and the Republican Party in Healthcare", outlines the continued impact of health disparities and the importance of faith-based engagement in addressing systemic inequities. The Black church, through its long-standing community presence and trust, continues to be a leading advocate for inclusive research.

NBCI looks forward to continued collaboration with its partners in the pharmaceutical and biotech industries to support representative clinical research. By working together, the organization believes the U.S. can take meaningful steps toward better health outcomes for all communities.

NBCI LAUNCHES THE NATIONAL CLINICAL TRIAL STRATEGIC PLAN (NCTSP) THROUGH 150,000 AFRICAN AMERICAN CHURCHES

The Goals of NCTSP

1. Provide First Class Clinical Trials Education and Empowerment to NBCI's 27.7 million Members.
2. Triple the Participation Rate of African Americans in Clinical Trials in all disease categories
3. Working within an interdisciplinary approach to strengthen the Data Collection of African Americans

The health equity gap in the US is so vast that you could refer to it as a chasm. Marginalized groups, especially African Americans and Latinos, have worse outcomes with various health conditions, and worse, when it comes to clinical research to treat and prevent, these groups are grossly underrepresented. Closing that gap has taken greateffort, and the Black church has stepped up and taken the lead. The National Black Church Initiative National Clinical Trials Strategic Plan (NCTSP) (https://naltblackchurch.com/pdf/nbci-ntc-sp-slides3.pdf) has mirrored the call by the National Academies report on Improving Representation in Clinical Trials and Research, and the organization urges the FDA to use it as a blueprint.

The National Black Church Initiative (NBCI) (https://naltblackchurch.com), a coalition of 150,000 African American and Latino churches, has established a program to help close that gap. NBCI, representing 27.7 million members, is dedicated to eliminating racial disparities in healthcare, technology, education, housing, and the environment.

This program is in keeping with NBCI National Black Health Agenda (https://naltblackchurch.com/pdf/blackhealthagenda-congress.pdf). This report was sent to Congress, spelling out the needs of African Americans before the 2024 election election. The report is our bellwether on Black health. Through the NBCI, the Black church has developed the most comprehensive program to educate, empower, recruit, and sustain maximum participation of African Americans—along with African American physicians—in clinical trials. This initiative, known as the American Clinical Health Disparities Commission (ACHDC) (https://achdc.net/), marks the first serious and holistic effort to build on past attempts that failed to engage the Black community effectively.

Given the ongoing healthcare crisis affecting African Americans, which has worsened over the past 400 years, as highlighted by NBCI in its 2024 report to the U.S. Congress, "Moving Toward a National Health Agenda", this initiative demands full support from both industry and government.

National studies consistently show that the Black church's faith-based, science-driven approach has the most potential for success, owing to its deep-rooted position within the Black community.

NBCI's mission is to deliver essential wellness information to its members, congregants, churches, and the broader public. NBCI employs innovative and impactful solutions to address persistent economic and social challenges by combining faith with evidence-based health science. The organization seeks partnerships with key entities and officials committed to reducing racial inequalities in these critical areas. NBCI's programs are driven by credible data, scientifically supported strategies, and proven methods that produce measurable results.

With the help of health experts, NBCI has developed a seven-part approach for improving Black health, and a major one encourages participation in clinical trials. This approach educates on trials and the conditions that greatly impact Black and Latino communities. That education also includes evidence-based insight on preventing and managing certain conditions.

With that in mind, NBCI is trying to solve a decades-old problem. Why do African Americans refuse to participate in clinical trials?

The complicated and yet straightforward answer is the fraught relationship between the US healthcare system and the strides made at the detriment of people of color.

That is where the Black church comes in. The creation of the blackchurchclinicaltrials.com (https://blackchurchclinicaltrials.com/) website is an innovative and interactive tool that, alongside the seven-clinical approach, is exactly what is needed in the Black church toolkit to provide its 27.7 million members with the critical information necessary to make informed decisions about participating in clinical trials.

One example of the website's content is the NBCI Clinical Trials Education Awareness Interactive Booklet, which helps members understand the risks and benefits of clinical trials. This booklet is specifically designed for African Americans by African American educators who are familiar with their various learning styles and approaches, as outlined by the NBCI Literature Review Committee.

Historic Mistreatment
The most famous case of mistreatment is the Tuskegee syphilis study, which stripped Black men of informed consent and available treatment options. The mistreatment did not stop there, and from the 1950s to 1970's predominantly Black prisoners were experiment subjects for a renowned dermatologist who discovered tretinoin. Even centuries before, the country's earliest medical advances were achieved at the expense of enslaved people. For instance, J. Marion Sims, who has been dubbed the "father of gynecology," performed vaginal fistula surgeries on enslaved women without the use of anesthesia. Further, the controversial treatment also extends to Native Americans and Latinos. In the 1970's, up to 42% of native women of childbearing age were sterilized. Also, in the 1950s, up to 1/3 of child-bearing-aged Puerto Rican women were sterilized and unknowingly used as test subjects for the development of modern birth control.

Fortunately, in modern times and with better government oversight, clinical trials have been crucial for developing weight loss drugs, treating various cancers, and in late 2023, finally developing an effective treatment for sickle cell anemia.

Treating many conditions is important for diverse representation, since some groups may face worse outcomes or have a complex presentation of the disease. Diversity helps to uncover social determinants of health,including barriers to treating and complying with care. Nonetheless, the distrust in clinical trials persists. Treating many conditions is important for diverse representation, since some groups may face worse outcomes or have a complex presentation of the disease. Diversity helps to uncover social determinants of health, including barriers to treating and complying with care. Nonetheless, the distrust in clinical trials persists.

The Role of the Black Church
The Black church has been a refuge for its community and has built trust with Black people through commonality and shared customs. NBCI comprises 150,000 Black and Latino churches with 27.7 million members.

The Black church has the duty of facilitating meaningful conversations around faith and starting conversations around the community's overall wellbeing. That's why Black churches have been effective in combating issues such as COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy. NBCI has also successfully distributed information to and educated over 50,000 congregants who might not otherwise participate in clinical trials.

Considering its impact, NBCI has taken on a more significant task of fighting for health equity through trial access. This is NBCI's solution: **NBCI National Clinical Trial Strategic Plan (NCTSP)**. The NCTSP aims to promote an interdisciplinary collaboration involving the pharmaceutical industry, government, and public health organizations to boost African American enrollment in clinical trials significantly. Additionally, the goal is to strengthen the roles of both NCTSP and ACHDC as trusted and effective partners while enhancing African Americans' awareness and understanding of clinical research. This education can help to eliminate unethical practices through informed consent.

The NCTSP fits within the recommendations of NBCI and the American Clinical Health Disparities Commission (ACHDC), a task force comprising 42 African American physicians. The ACHDC's objective is to oversee the strategic plan, lending guidance, technical support, ethical clinical trial protocols, and standards for critical data collection, education, literature, video development, program management, and safety.

The seven-part approach, as outlined in the plan includes the following:
1. Health education
2. Disease prevention and health promotion
3. Establishing best practices for disease management
4. Explaining risks and benefits to encourage clinical trial participation
5. Critical data collection
6. Providing church members with access to care
7. Publication of scientific findings

Health Education
NBCI is educating the church through various modes of communication. The website currently offers modules and other online tools for congregants. NBCI even provides a glossary of common medical words that prospective participants may not understand. The website also maintains a database of up-to-date trials sorted by condition and the first-of-its-kind course on clinical trials.

To go even further, NBCI has plans to distribute a newsletter called CLINICALNEWS. It will be a single-sheet news briefing to inform low-income Black and Latino communities about clinical trials. It will provide essential information on the basics of clinical trials, including their benefits and risks, in simple language. This news brief will be distributed to 150,000 churches nationwide and shared through human and civil rights organizations. Additionally, it will be published on social media, included as a supplement in 274 Black newspapers, and shared with regional dailies targeting African-American and Latino communities.

Increasing education leads to more informed consent, which can boost confidence in those considering the risks and benefits of participating in clinical trials.

Disease Prevention and Health Promotion
These practices should be carried out with insight from health professionals and government agencies. That is why NBCI collaborates with the ACHDC to disseminate accurate health information, which is shared through various channels, reaching congregants in whatever way best serves them. Along with this step is establishing best practices for disease management, which is evidence-based and also overseen by physicians and qualified health professionals.

NBCI will also appoint a Black and Latino surgeon general. The purpose of the Surgeon General is to serve as the Chief Medical Officer for both the Black and Latino church and the broader communities, supported by 37 major Protestant denominations. These individuals will address health priorities and strategies tailored to high-disease states within the community. Additionally, they will act as a spokesperson for the community, engaging with the White House, federal agencies, pharmaceutical companies, and Congress, to help shape fair and unbiased health policies for African-Americans.

Explaining Risks and Benefits to Encourage Clinical Trial Participation

Trust is missing in Black people and the healthcare industry. To build trust between researchers and study participants, transparency will be necessary. That is why trials are vetted for their potential risks and benefits before they become a part of the database. If information is not provided in a way that congregants can understand, they can not consent.

Critical Data Collection

NBCI keeps an extensive database of clinical trials related to 11 chronic health conditions prevalent in the Black and Latino communities. Data collection is just as important as providing information on various conditions readily available for church members to explore their care options, and to discover best practices for treating their conditions, with social determinants of health taken into consideration. Through the databases and resources provided, vulnerable community members may find more straightforward access to care.

These seven approaches bolster the measures already taken by NBCI to ensure health equity. In 2017, the organization submitted a recommendation to the FDA for navigating the lack of participation in trials and at the height of COVID, distributed over 3.5 million first and second editions of Vaccnews to congregants.

While the NBCI has made great strides to help close the healthcare gap, their long term goal is to facilitate record participation in trials. Moving forward, that will take buy-in from the NIH, FDA, and pharmaceutical companies that recruit and carry out trials. Within the next five years, with the help of government and private entities, they hope to educate 150,000 to 300,000 people.

THERAPEUTIC AREAS OF INTEREST TO THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN AND LATINO COMMUNITIES: NBCI CLINICAL RESEARCH APPROACH

There are thirteen (13) pillars of NBCI Clinical Research Approaches to be used:

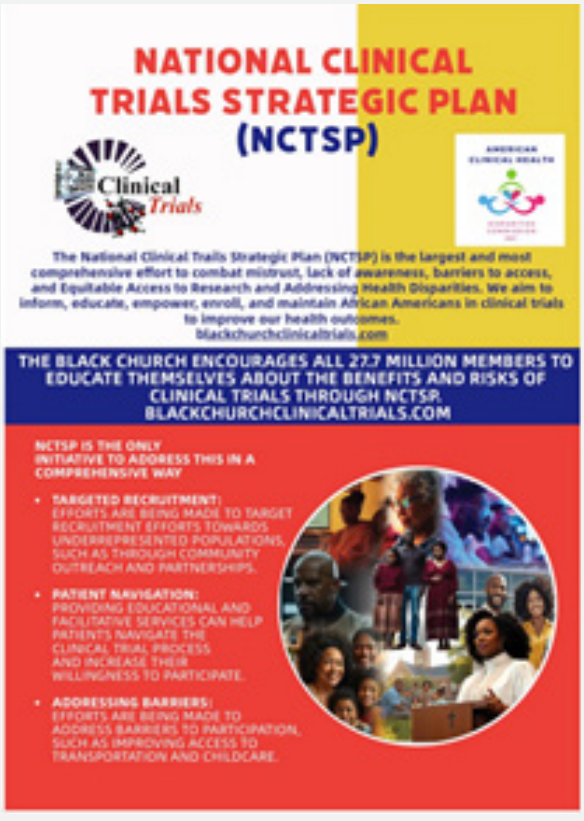
1. Cardiovascular Diseases/Stroke and
2. Hypertension Blood pressure
3. Cancer (Liver/ Kidney/ Lung)
4. Diabetes
5. Blood Diseases
6. Genetic Disease (Sickle Cell)
7. Mental health
8. Access to Care/ lifestyles/ Selfcare
9. Parkinson Disease
10. Rare Disease
11. Alzheimer's Disease
12. Kidney Disease
13. Collection of Health Data

The NBCI Launches Historical National Clinical Trials Strategic Plan (NCTSP) Through 150,000 Black Churches

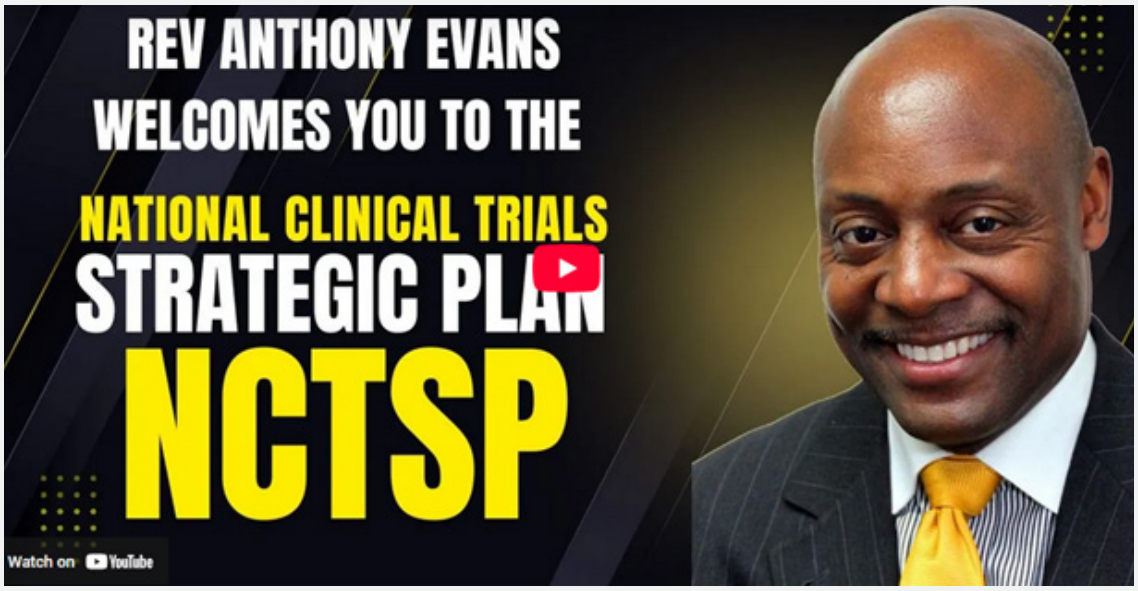
The National Black Church Initiative (NBCI), a coalition of 150,000 African American churches and 27.7 million members, launches the National Clinical Trials Strategic Plan (NCTSP) to inform, empower, educate, enroll, and maintain African Americans in Clinical trials.

This will prove to be one of the most significant efforts to improve health in the African American community. This is truly a historical moment for the Black churches as they seek to build and sustain an interdisciplinary approach.

Download a copy of the NCTSP brochure today at https://naltblackchurch.com/health/pdf/ntcsp-booklet-v4.pdf



NCTSP EXPLAINED



Rev Anthony Evans Welcomes You to the National Clinical Trials Strategic Plan (NCTSP)

Rev Anthony Evans welcomes viewers to the National Clinical Trials Strategic Plan (NCTSP)with a roll out presentation that starts March 26th, 2025 in Brooklyn, NY at Cornerstone Baptist Church. He explains the purpose and particulars for the plan and how it will be implemented.
www.youtube.com/watch?v=ST4oRMTDbzk

What is the objective of ACHDC?

AMERICAN CLINICAL HEALTH DISPARITIES COMMISSION INC.

ACHDC's chief objective is to provide NBCI and NCTSP with overall scientific direction and guidance in education, literature and video development, clinical trial protocols, and guidelines for critical data collection.

Vision
To create a world where every individual, regardless of background, has equal access to health opportunities, clinical research reflects our society's diversity and barriers to health equity are dismantled through collaborative efforts among the clergy, healthcare practitioners, and communities.

Mission
We aim to empower minority communities by increasing their participation in clinical research, advocating for equitable health policies, and addressing systemic barriers to health equality. We aim to foster an inclusive environment where health, education, economic stability, cultural enrichment, and environmental sustainability intersect to support the well-being of all individuals.

Goals and Methods for Measuring Evidence-Based Outcomes

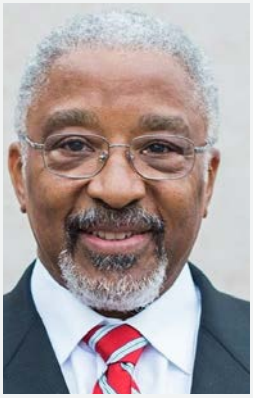
Health
Goal: Increase minority participation in clinical research and improve health outcomes across diverse populations.

Methods for Measuring Outcomes:
- Participation Metrics: Track and analyze the demographic diversity of participants in clinical trials.
- Health Outcome Data: Monitor changes in health outcomes related to specific research studies, comparing pre- and post-intervention health indicators among minority groups.
- Surveys and Interviews: Collect participant feedback regarding barriers faced and their experiences.
- Partnerships with Research Institutions: Assess the impact of collaborative research efforts on health equity through joint reports and research findings.

Clinical Research Education
Goal: Enhance educational opportunities and awareness of clinical research and health equity in minority communities.
Methods for Measuring Outcomes:
- Educational Programs: Measure the reach and effectiveness of educational programs through pre- and post-program assessments.
- Scholarship and Training Data: Track the number of scholarships and training programs provided and evaluate the success rate of participants in pursuing careers in health and research.
- Community Feedback: Use surveys and focus groups to assess changes in community knowledge and attitudes towards clinical research

SCAN THIS QR CODE TO VISIT
blackchurchclinicaltrials.com

NBCI NCTSP Salutes and Honors Dr. James H. Powell as the Father of African American Clinical Trials Participation and Diversity



Dr. James H. Powell
Principal Investigator,
NMA Project IMPACT

Dr. James H. Powell received his B.S. in Chemistry from Virginia Union University, and his M.D. from Weill Cornell Medical College. He trained in clinical pharmacology at Weill-Cornell, where he was an Assistant Professor of Pharmacology before joining the pharmaceutical industry.

He left the industry in 2006 after 24 years as a clinical research executive directing global clinical trials. These included initial human exposure research for many new chemical entities, Phase 1 through 4 clinical trials and Rx to OTC switches, and establishment of molecular pharmacology and biomarker capability in support of clinical drug trials. He is a former member of the Board of Trustees of the Academy of Pharmaceutical Physicians and Investigators and recipient of its Lifetime Honorary Membership Award.

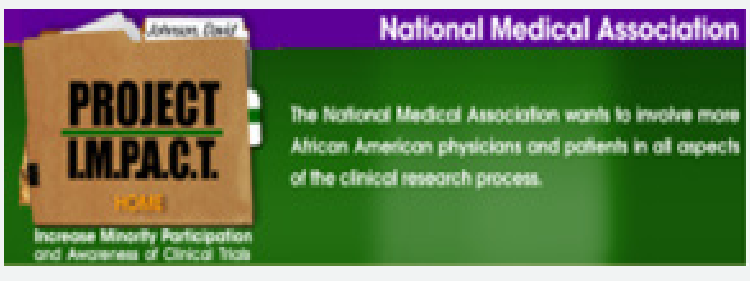
Beginning in 2000, Dr. Powell served as Principal Investigator for the National Medical Association's Project IMPACT (Increase Minority Participation and Awareness of Clinical Trials) – directing a national effort to educate African American and other physicians and consumers on clinical research participation.

In this project, he designed and led programs to educate more than a thousand diverse physicians in skills, ethics, cultural competence, business aspects, and regulatory understanding required for becoming investigators for clinical trials in diverse communities.

He was also a member of Baylor College of Medicines EDICT Project (Elimination of Disparities in Clinical Trials) and was appointed to the Secretary of U.S. Health and Human Services Advisory Committee for Human Research Protection (SACHRP).

He serves on the Board of "Closing the Health Gap" of Greater Cincinnati, a local health advocacy organization, is a former member of Harvard and Brigham's Multi-Regional Clinical Trials Diversity Roundtable and was a founding member and contributor to the Alliance of Multicultural Physicians (A nonprofit organization developed as a collaboration between the National Hispanic Medical Association, the Association of American Indian Physicians, the National Council of Asian and Pacific Islander Physicians).

In 2007, Dr. Powell founded Strategic Medical Associates to consult with clinical developers of new drug products and other organizations to educate diverse patients/consumers about clinical research and enable physician and patient influence, engagement, and inclusion for speed, efficiency, and diversity in clinical trials. He has authored many publications on molecular pharmacology and basic and clinical research and has conducted numerous lectures and scientific presentations, including several on clinical trials in people of color.



NMA
Since 1895
National Medical Association

HONORING THE ANCESTORS AND LIVING LEGENDS CELEBRATING THE CURRENT AND FUTURE BLACK CLINICIANS AND RESEARCHERS IN PROMOTING DIVERSITY IN CLINICAL TRIALS

Dr. Kizzmekia S. Corbett
Coronavirus Vaccines & Immunopathogenesis Team at the National Inst. of Health (NIH)

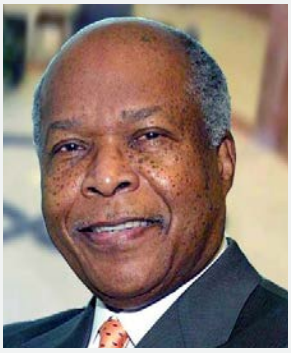
Dr. Roger A. Mitchell, Jr.
President Elect of NMA

Dr. Ramona Burress
Head of Patient Engagement & Insights, Takeda

Dr. Randall C. Morgan, Jr.
President & CEO of the Cobb/NMA Health Institute

Dr. Worta McCaskill-Stevens
Medical oncologist specialized in cancer disparities research

Dr. David Satcher
16th Surgeon General of the United States



Dr. Louis W. Sullivan
17th United States Secretary of Health and Human Services

Dr. Thomas LaVeist
Dean of the Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine

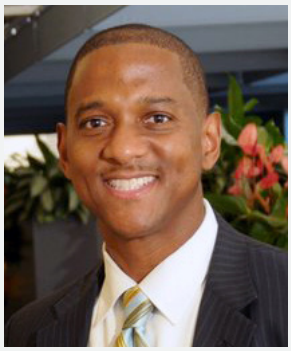
Dr. E Horace Smith
Pastor, Apostolic Faith Church, Physician specializing in Pediatric Hematology/Oncology

Dr. James R. Gavin III,
Past-President, Morehouse School of Medicine, Chairman, National Diabetes Education Program

Dr. Griffin P. Rodgers
Director, National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases

Cassandra Smith, MBA
Advocacy Relations Director, Health Equity at Amgen

Gary H. Gibbons
Director, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute



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THE NATIONAL BLACK CHURCH INITIATIVE CALLS FOR $2.25 TRILLION IN SPENDING FOR AFRICAN AMERICAN HEALTHCARE IN NEW REPORT

The National Black Church Initiative (NBCI), a coalition of 150,000 African American churches, which constitute over 27.7 million churchgoers, has released its National Black Health Agenda Report - tinyurl.com/yjppuak4, calling for $2.25 trillion in additional spending for African American healthcare. The report was sent to the White House, GOP, and the 118th US Congress, urging immediate action to address the disparities in healthcare faced by the Black community.

The report highlights the alarming statistics of the current state of African American healthcare, including higher rates of chronic diseases, lower life expectancy, and inadequate access to quality healthcare. It also emphasizes the impact of systemic racism and discrimination on the health outcomes of Black Americans. According to the Washington Post article titled, "Black Communities Endured a Wave of Excess Deaths in the Past 2 Decades", America's Black communities experienced an excess of 1.6 million deaths (not counting the COVID-19 deaths) compared with their White counterparts during the past two decades. This is a devastating loss that comes at a cost of hundreds of billions of dollars, according to two recent studies by the JAMA Network that build on a generation of research into health disparities and inequity.

Rev. Anthony Evans, President of NBCI, stated, "The disparities in healthcare faced by the Black community are a national crisis that requires urgent attention. The Black Church must stand up and use its 27.7 million votes to protect the health of Black people in this 2024 election." Citing the reduced quality of life and economic burden resulting from lack of access to high-quality, affordable healthcare is a primary concern of forty-two million African American voters. Rev Evans continued, "We will vote according to our health interests irrespective of political party. It is time for our government to take bold and decisive action to address these disparities and ensure equitable access to healthcare for all." Joseph L. Webster, Sr., MD, MBA, FACP Clinical Director, NBCI American Clinical Health Disparity Commission (ACHDC) added, "At this pivotal moment in the survival of humankind as we know it, the 'church' again has stepped up to call upon the seat of Government to 'heal the land.'"

The NBCI is calling for the $2.25 trillion in additional spending to be allocated towards initiatives such as expanding Medicaid, increasing funding for community health centers, and investing in programs to address social determinants of health. The report also urges for the implementation of policies to address racial bias in healthcare and increase diversity in the healthcare workforce.

Since the 1985 Heckler Report, issued by then Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare Margaret Heckler, there have been only words and studies. With expert analysis, for the first time since her report, the National Black Health Agenda has moved to change those words into solid, concrete action, starting in 2025. The NBCI is hopeful that the release of this report will spark meaningful discussions and actions towards achieving health equity for African Americans.

The organization is committed to working with government officials and other stakeholders to ensure that the needs of the Black community are addressed and that all Americans have access to quality healthcare.

Dr. David Satcher, former director of the Health Leadership Institute and Center of Excellence on Health Disparities at Morehouse School of Medicine and the 16th Surgeon General of the United States, and Dr. Thomas LaVeist, Dean of the Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, have both emphasized the critical need for an investment in African American health for the moral and economic future of our nation. Both leaders emphasized the need for a multi-faceted approach to addressing health disparities, including increasing access to quality healthcare, addressing social determinants of health, and promoting health equity. They also called on policymakers, healthcare providers, and communities to work together to create sustainable solutions for improving African American health.

Watch this discussion on the **National Black Health Agenda Report** with Rev. Anthony Evans, Dr. Joseph Webster, MD and Dr. James McCoy on YouTube - https://tinyurl.com/blackhealthagenda