WHI 2020
A Vision for Women’s Health
WHI Mission

To address the risk factors and prevention of the major causes of death, disability, and frailty in older women of all races and socioeconomic backgrounds

COVID-19 and related issues is a major health concern of WHI participants

*WHI is uniquely positioned to address the impact of the pandemic and associated preventive measures on a high risk population*
COVID-19 Survey of WHI participants assesses . . .

Living circumstances & restrictions

COVID-19 exposures, preventive measures, testing, diagnosis, hospitalization, treatment
COVID-19 Survey of WHI participants assesses . . .

Impact of the pandemic on
• Well-being & general concerns
• Access to medical care, medications & food
• Anxiety and stress
• Social activities
• Positive changes in life
• Alcohol & tobacco use
• Physical activity
• Family & community connections
COVID-19 Survey implementation

• RedCap survey sent to 37,000 on June 5
• Mail survey beginning in July
• Telephone survey of “phone contact only” participants and RedCap/mail survey non-responders planned, as budget permits
• Database freeze expected in September 2020
Preliminary results from early respondents

9906 RedCap forms received (by noon, 6/9)

- 874 (8.8%) tested for C19
- 23 tested positive
- 7 hospitalized for C19
- 1 ICU stay
- No reported use of hydroxychloroquine or Remdesivir

Overall well-being

- Excellent
- Very Good (dominant, showing highest value)
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- Very Poor

Preliminary and incomplete data for internal use only: not for publication or citation
Preliminary results from early respondents

- ~ 80% live in a private home
- Of the remaining
  - >12% cannot have visitors
  - > 6% cannot leave except for emergencies
  - 11% have food delivered
- 9% have close family members in care facilities
- Of those, 91% are not able to visit
- 5% report having someone in their family or close friend die of C19
Preliminary results from early respondents

• Of those with health care appointments
  • 35% reported 1+ cancellations
  • 43% reported 1+ rescheduled visits
  • 46% reported 1+ conversion to telehealth
• 29% reported not going to the doctor or hospital when they otherwise would have

• New actions to help others
  • 13% get food or meds
  • 2% provide childcare
  • 2% donate blood
  • 38% donate money
  • 16% make masks
  • 78% keep in contact

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Concerns ranked in order of prevalence

75% Nation and the economy generally
71% Family or friends getting C19
70% Ability to be with friends & family
67% Getting C19 myself
51% Health and safety of family & friends
29% Getting exercise/PA

14% My personal safety
13% Health care access
9% Financial security of family
8% Getting sleep/rest
6% My financial security
3% Having enough money for basic needs
2% Getting adequate food

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Additional ongoing WHI data collection

- Form 33--Comorbidities
- Form 151B
  - Physical Activity
  - Pain
  - Activities of Daily Living
  - Companionship
  - Major life events
  - Optimism & resilience
  - Depression
Ancillary studies on COVID-19

• RFP released this week
• Proposals will be reviewed on a rolling basis by ASC
• Proposals that would help fund a second survey in 6 months are particularly encouraged
• Collection of biospecimens for antibody testing are also of interest although logistics will need discussion.
Publication plans

• Manuscript to describe the overall incidence and mortality due to COVID-19 to be a group authored paper in 2021

• RFP for manuscript concept proposals released this week.
  • Quick turnaround time anticipated for concept proposals with goal of linking overlapping proposals

• P&P will begin reviewing formal manuscripts as they are submitted.

• Negotiations underway for a special journal issue – proposed papers selected for the issue will be given priority status