

**Access and availability of care in a Central Florida community: A pilot study**

Khristen Holmes  
University of Central Florida, USA



**Abstract**

This qualitative study, which is informed by community-based participatory research (CBPR), is a collaboration between the University of Central Florida and the City of Orlando to identify the health needs of a community in central Florida. The community is considered a vulnerable population, with 1 in 4 residents unemployed and the average income of the community under \$10,000 per year.

This pilot study conducted focus groups sessions and surveys with 23 residents, which examined how the access and availability of health care providers effect health outcomes of the community. Results showed income effected insurance status, decision to seek medical services, provider relationship, and health outcomes. Overall, the results of this current study support the findings of previous literature related to the financial concerns faced by residents in need of health care services and the lack of available health care providers for this vulnerable population.



The goal of the model is to show how condom usage affects women’s chances of receiving the virus in the hope of being able to reduce the number of women infected. In the end, the model demonstrates that condoms offer significant protection to women from the virus. Since fewer women are infected with the virus when

Condoms are used, in turn, fewer males are infected. Since Herpes Simplex Type-2 affects the carrier for their whole life, a small increase could lead to large ramifications. Over time. Specifically, a small increase at a young age, such as college, could have a very big effect on the long-term number of people infected with the virus.

**Biography:**

Khristen Holmes is a third-year doctoral student from the University of Central Florida. She is pursuing her PhD in Public Affairs with a specialization in Health Service Management and Research. Her research interests include the Affordable Care Act, social determinants of health, access to health care, and the opioid crisis. Her presentation today will focus on her research surrounding access to care and health coverage for a low-income community in Central Florida.

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