



BARRIERS & FACILITATORS

TO CANCER SCREENING PROGRAMS



Approximately
1 in 4
adults of screening
age were not up to
date with breast,
cervical and
colorectal cancer
screening in 2021.

Sabatino SA, Thompson TD, White MC, Villarreal MA, Shapiro JA, Crosswell JM, et al. Up-to-Date Breast, Cervical, and Colorectal Cancer Screening Test Use in the United States, 2021. Prev Chronic Dis 2023;20:230071. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.5888/pcd20.230071>

BARRIERS

FACILITATORS



Reimbursement policies and coverage guidelines, regulatory requirements, external policies, Medicaid

Socioeconomic factors such as low income or lack of health insurance



Lack of awareness or understanding of the screening program limited knowledge about the importance of cancer screening

Cultural or social norms that discourage participation, religious reasons, staff insensitivity to cultural modesty



Fear and stigma of a cancer diagnosis, apprehensions about the screening process, and societal stigmas associated with cancer can act as deterrents

Language barriers in communication efforts can hinder the engagement of diverse communities in screening initiatives



Distrust in health system based on personal experience and negative experiences reported in the media

Feeling discriminated on the basis of their race; belonging to African American race; ethnicity increases distrust in health systems



Long waiting times for screening appointments can hinder program implementation

Healthcare system challenges inadequate healthcare infrastructure, shortage of trained personnel

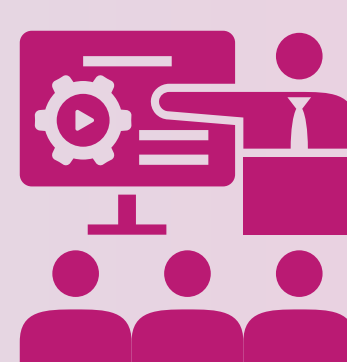


Discomfort of being treated or examined by a male doctor; negative or cold attitudes from providers



Supportive policies and funding allocations aimed at enhancing screening infrastructure to reduce financial barriers

Comprehensive data collection and evaluation for effective cancer screening programs to engage in meticulous data collection and analysis to monitor participation rates, screening outcomes, and post-screening care



Education and training initiatives equipping healthcare professionals, community health workers, and the target population with comprehensive knowledge about the importance of cancer screening



Adherence to quality assurance standards with stringent adherence to established quality assurance protocols; regular monitoring, proficiency testing, and strict adherence to best practices in screening protocols

Robust follow-up and referral mechanisms is indispensable to ensure that individuals necessitating further evaluation or treatment subsequent to screening receive prompt and appropriate care



Knowledgeable champions involving community leaders, local organizations, and trusted individuals within communities can facilitate the development of culturally tailored outreach efforts and enhance program accessibility

Tailored interventions like screening programs to address the specific needs and preferences of diverse population groups can enhance participation and improve program effectiveness

