

The American Clinical Health Disparities Commission and NBCI Reject the ACS VOICES of Black Women Study Clinical Wisdom

This Study Is Totally Unnecessary

WASHINGTON, DC, UNITED STATES, October 24, 2025

The [National Black Church Initiative \(NBCI\)](#) is a coalition of 150,000 African American and Latino faith communities, comprising 27.7 million members. NBCI and the [American Clinical Health Disparities Commission \(ACHDC\)](#) challenge the wisdom of the VOICES of Black Women study. The [American Cancer Society \(ACS\)](#) has collected over \$2 billion on behalf of African Americans in this country, but they have nothing to show for it.

We all know what the study is going to say and what ACS and the country will say about it. We do not have the money! This was noted in a recent report we wrote to Congress: NBCI's ["Moving toward a National Black Health Agenda"](#). Rev. Anthony Evans, president of the National Black Church Initiative and the Chairman of the Board of ACHDC, says, "We refuse to go along with the agenda of ACS, which has done virtually nothing tangibly for the African American community in terms of fighting cancer other than providing lip service and an empty study. Just look at the morbidity and mortality data. We will urge all of our women not to participate in the VOICES study!"



**Rev Anthony Evans, President of
the National Black Church Initiative**

“

We refuse to go along with the agenda of ACS which has done almost nothing tangibly for the African American community in terms of fighting cancer other than providing lip service and an empty study”— Rev. Anthony Evans, President of the National Black Church Initiative

Black women face higher cancer mortality and morbidity rates compared to other racial groups, particularly White women, despite having slightly lower incidence rates for some cancers like breast cancer. Factors contributing to this disparity include inequities in access to quality healthcare, social determinants of health, and a higher proportion of more aggressive tumor subtypes.

Mortality and Morbidity Rates

Breast Cancer: Black women have a higher mortality rate for breast cancer than do White women, and this gap has been widening even as overall survival rates increase. Black women are about 38% more likely to die of this disease than White women.

Other Cancers: Black women also have higher death rates for other cancers, including multiple myeloma, uterine corpus, stomach, colorectal, and liver cancer, compared to White women.

Tumor Aggressiveness: Black women are more likely to be diagnosed with poorly differentiated breast cancers, which are more aggressive and harder to treat.



**Shane Jacobson, CEO - American
Cancer Society**

These are the crucial questions NBCI would like to ask the American Cancer Society:

Can the ACS produce a report on what they have done with the roughly \$2 billion they have collected concerning African Americans and cancer? They cannot, and we must wonder if this is because they spent the money on someone else. Will the truth be told that they have given most of it to White universities?

Why has ACS not had a continuous educational outreach program in the African American community that has lasted over fifteen years? They have no answer and no data to prove otherwise.

Has ACS developed a comprehensive, strategic cancer plan that has existed for the last 25 years, has the buy-in of every segment of the Black community, and has produced data to support the claim that the VOICES study is the logical next step?

ACS has no credible answer to any of these questions. Their data cannot even back this study, only provide educational hints. The study is a good idea of what White people thought about Black people in the past. You can always find a Black researcher who wants to become a principal investigator just to put their name out and grow their research, while African American women continue to die. This study is a shot in the dark. In truth, after its many years of research, ACS does not have any idea what to do with African American people and cancer, not a clue!

The big problem here is that this has all been done before in small pieces of studies. After it is written and peer reviewed, the findings of this report are going right to the shelf because ACS and this country have never been willing to spend the dollars necessary to solve the problem of African American health disparities.

About NBCI

The National Black Church Initiative (NBCI) is a coalition of 150,000 African American and Latino churches, comprising 27.7 million members, that works to eradicate racial disparities in healthcare, technology, education, housing, and the environment. NBCI's mission is to provide critical wellness information to all of its members, congregants, churches, and the public. The National Black Church Initiative's methodology utilizes faith and sound health science. We also offer our member congregants and the public helpful, science-based tips on developing and maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

The National Black Church Initiative's purpose is to partner with major organizations and officials whose primary mission is to reduce racial disparities in various areas, as cited above. NBCI provides faith-based, innovative, and cutting-edge solutions to complex economic and social challenges. NBCI's programs are guided by credible statistical analysis, science-based strategies and techniques, and proven methods.

About ACHDC

The American Clinical Health Disparities Commission (ACHDC), National Black Church Initiative (NBCI), and CME Outfitters (CMEI) today announced the launch of a partnership to address the dismally low recruitment, participation, and retention of African Americans in clinical trials. Additionally, the partnership aims to address health inequities and improve health literacy, messaging transmission, and the amplification of the voice of the patient, particularly in marginalized and under-resourced communities.

Anthony Evans
National Black Church Initiative
+1 202-744-0184

Visit us on social media:

[Instagram](#)

[Facebook](#)

[YouTube](#)

[TikTok](#)

[X](#)

