## The 12th Conference on Health Care of the Chinese in North America San Francisco, California October, 2004

## Men's Health Day: An Opportunity for Monolingual Chinese Men to Receive Early Cancer Detection Messages

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The purpose of the event was to provide opportunities for monolingual Chinese-speaking men to receive cancer education and screening in their language and culture. There are dramatic racial and ethnic differences among Californians in receiving potentially lifesaving cancer screening. According to the California Health Investigation Study 2001, 79.1% Chinese males have never heard of a PSA test compared to White males at 51.5%; and 69.9 % have not had a colorectal exam compared to White males at 52.1%. Some contributing factors are the stigma associated with cancer, language and cultural barriers, lack of insurance, and poverty. Because male Chinese immigrants are less likely to utilize cancer screening and detection services than females, the Chinese Community Health Resource Center (CCHRC) created a Men's Health Day in 2003. Using a convenience sampling method, all participants were invited to participate in a survey regarding their health knowledge and practices especially on hepatitis B, colorectal cancer, prostate cancer, and smoking habits. Out of the 530 completed surveys, 61.9% were male (N=328). Sixty-six percent were born in China. Forty-six percent had annual household income below \$20,000. Twenty percent had no health insurance; only 12.3% have ever tested for hepatitis; 31.1% for colorectal cancer; and 24.3% have had a PSA test. Out of 60 participants screened for hepatitis, 4 tested positive. Eighteen out of 116 males tested for PSA had an elevated PSA level. In addition, 89% of the respondents indicated that the event was the only opportunity for them to receive health information and screenings in their language and culture. The Men's Health Day reached an underserved population that has limited access to preventive health services such as cancer screening. The disparity for early cancer detection confronting the Chinese community should be addressed by offering such intervention regularly.