



The Spanish-Speaking Community Advisory Board: Integration and Collaboration in HIV Care and Research

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Introduction



- Community based participatory research (CBPR) allows communities to be involved in the development and implementation of interventions by researchers through selected individuals from the community (Bogart & Uyeda, 2009).
- Community input is important in research because only members who are involved in the community understand the challenges, stigmas, and perspectives of their community (Norris et al., 2007).
- The use of Community Advisory Boards (CABs) promotes the development of interventions and resources that communities will be receptive to (McQuiston et al., 2005).
- CABs are now standard practice in global health for clinical care and research trials.
- In Los Angeles County (LAC) it is important that the HIV community, in particular minorities, be involved in the prevention, control, and resolution of the pandemic.





Methods



- The Maternal, Child, and Adolescent/Adult Center for Infectious Diseases and Virology (MCA) is a center within the Los Angeles County + University of Southern California (LAC+USC) Medical Center that provides a range of services to HIV infected and affected people, including medical care, case management, and opportunities to participate in research.
- We implemented and sustained a Spanish language community advisory board (SCAB) within MCA.
- The participants were Latinx, primarily monolingual Spanish-Speaking HIV+ patients from the MCA Clinic who wanted to be involved in the relationship between HIV/AIDS clinical and research areas.
- The SCAB's approach was to create horizontal and vertical community entity linkages and understand the nature of institutional interactions.
- Goals:
 - 1. Build the relationship between researchers and the community by facilitating communication and access to other community resources.
 - 2. Ensure the needs and views of HIV communities are represented in the design and implementation of programs and interventions in their spaces.





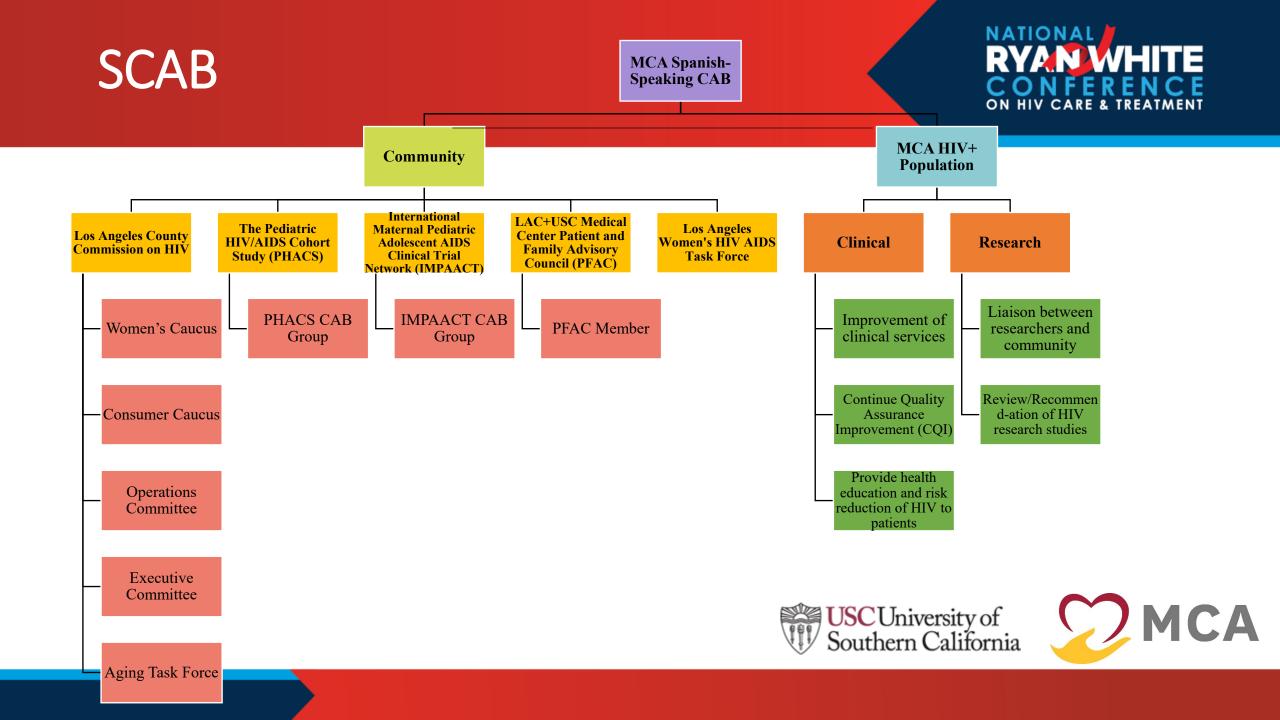


Results





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Results



- The SCAB served as a bridge between research, clinical care, and community, leading to collaboration and partnership.
- It improved clinical trials on prevention, facilitated the involvement of the HIV community in formulating research agendas, resolved ethical issues, focused attention on HIV-related health problems, and addressed policy issues relating to interpretive services, childcare, financial assistance programs, and mental health issues.





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Conclusion

- The SCAB facilitates community involvement in patient care and support to improve implementation and sustainability of HIV prevention and control strategies.
- It provides a mechanism for community consultation that contributes to protecting the HIV population and fostering meaningful research.
- The SCAB is an example of a successful partnership between healthcare services providers, researchers, and the community in HIV prevention and control.
- A CAB that includes Spanish-speaking patients provides an opportunity to engage vulnerable populations, which may impact health care disparities.









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Thank You!

¡Gracias!





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