

Cancer Patient Navigator Program

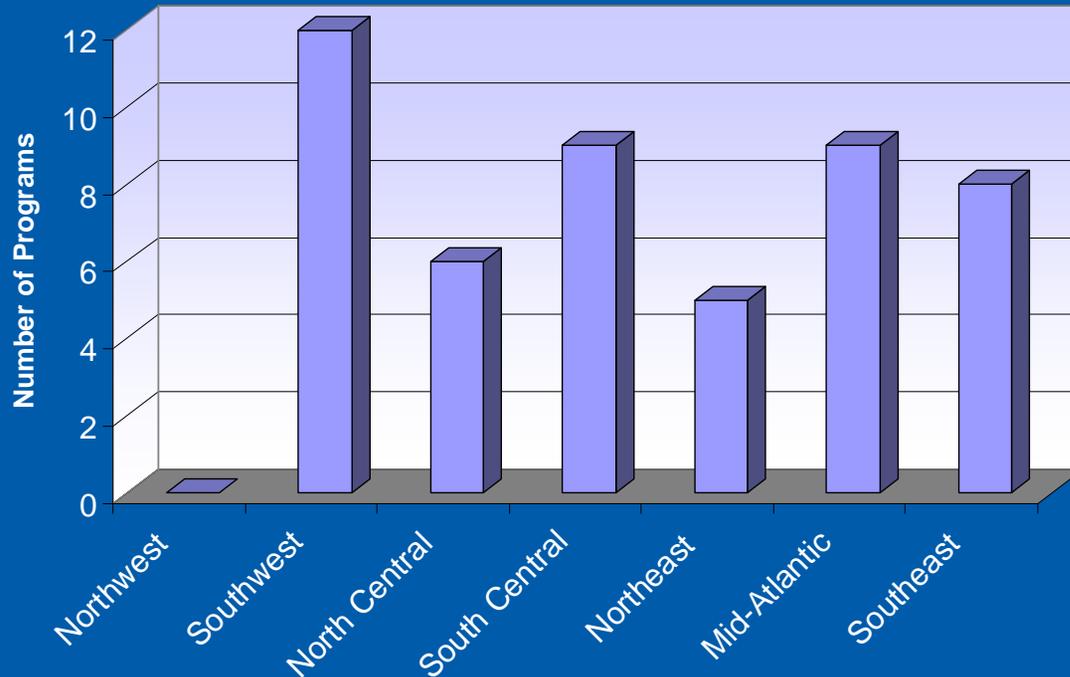
Roland Garcia, Ph.D.

Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities



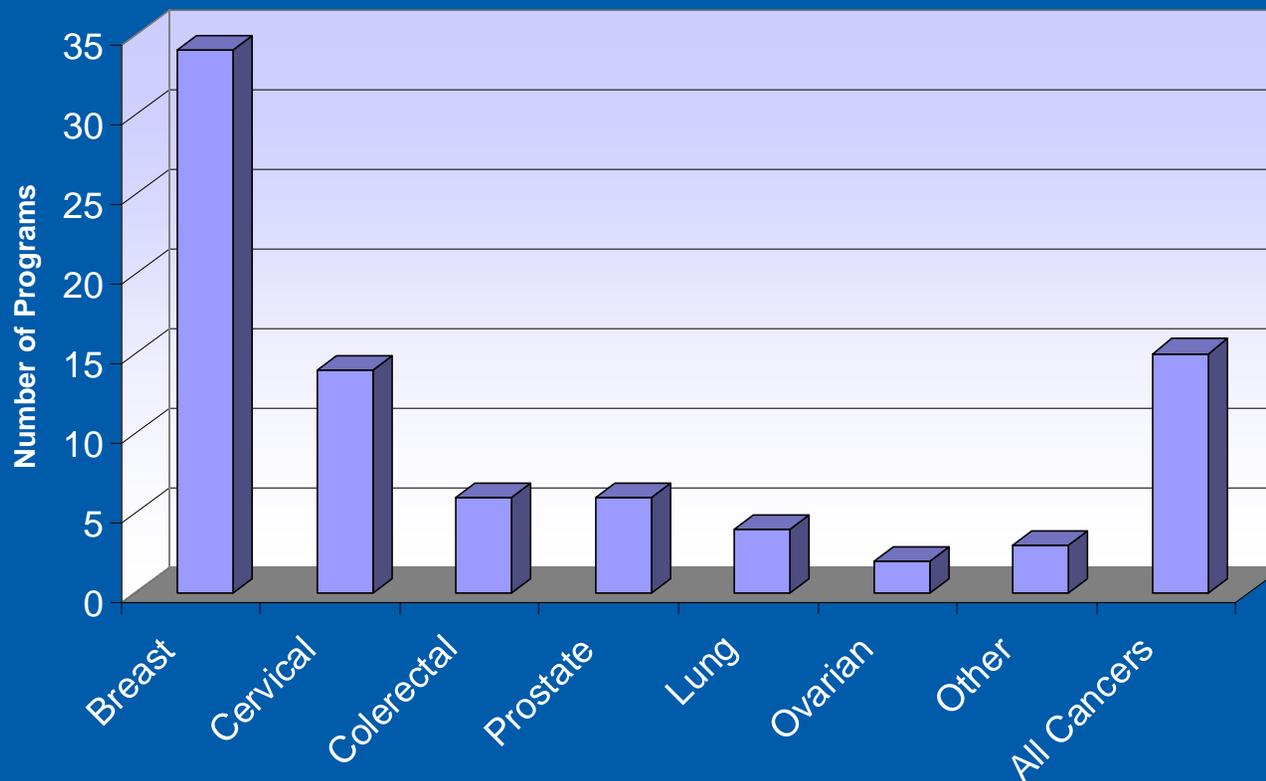
2003 Community-Based Cancer Patient Navigator Survey

- 51 patient navigation programs responded
- 75% began between 1997 & 2003



2003 Community-Based Cancer Patient Navigator Survey

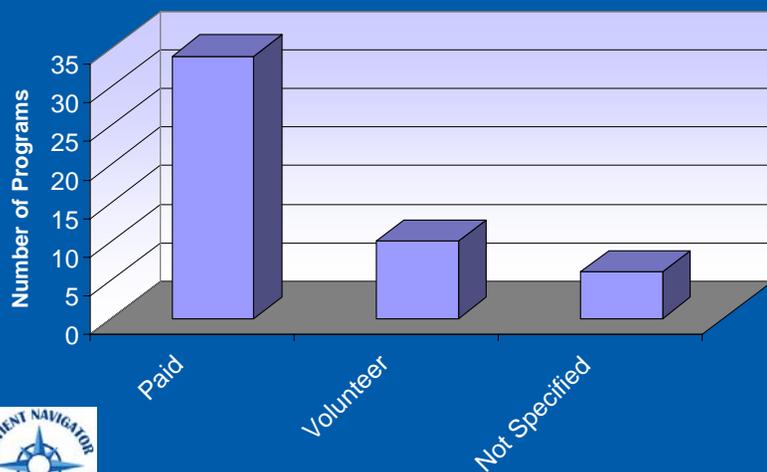
- 70% of programs serve patients with specific types of cancers such as breast and cervical cancer



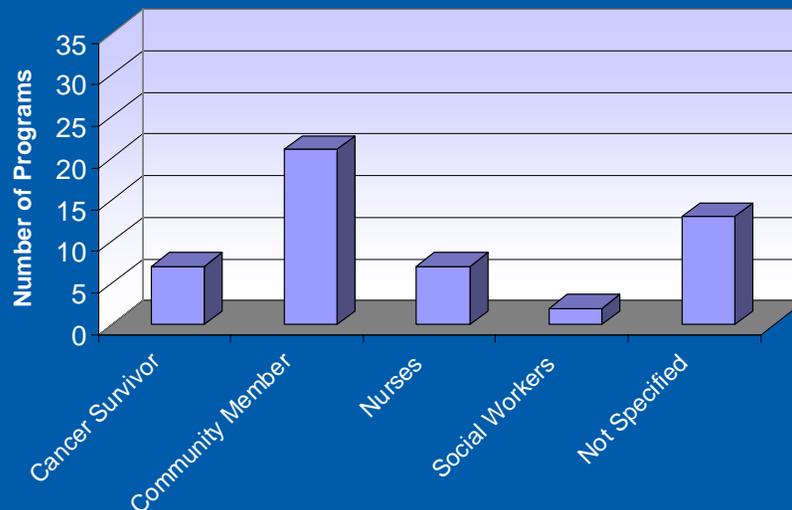
2003 Community-Based Cancer Patient Navigator Survey

- Most Programs report using paid navigators
- Navigators come from a variety of backgrounds & professional experience

Navigator Pay Status



Type of Navigator



Patient Navigator Background



There is a critical disconnect between cancer discoveries and cancer care delivery to all American people.



General Framework of Patient Navigator Program

PATIENT NAVIGATION

OUTREACH

Abnormal Finding

Initial Contact

- Abnormal finding/diagnosis to resolution
- Eliminate critical delivery gap for populations experiencing disparities
- Test feasibility of Patient Navigation intervention concept
- Identify, test, and measure delivery improvement interventions that use Patient Navigators

Resolution
Conclude Navigation

REHABILITATION

Abnormal results/
Diagnosis

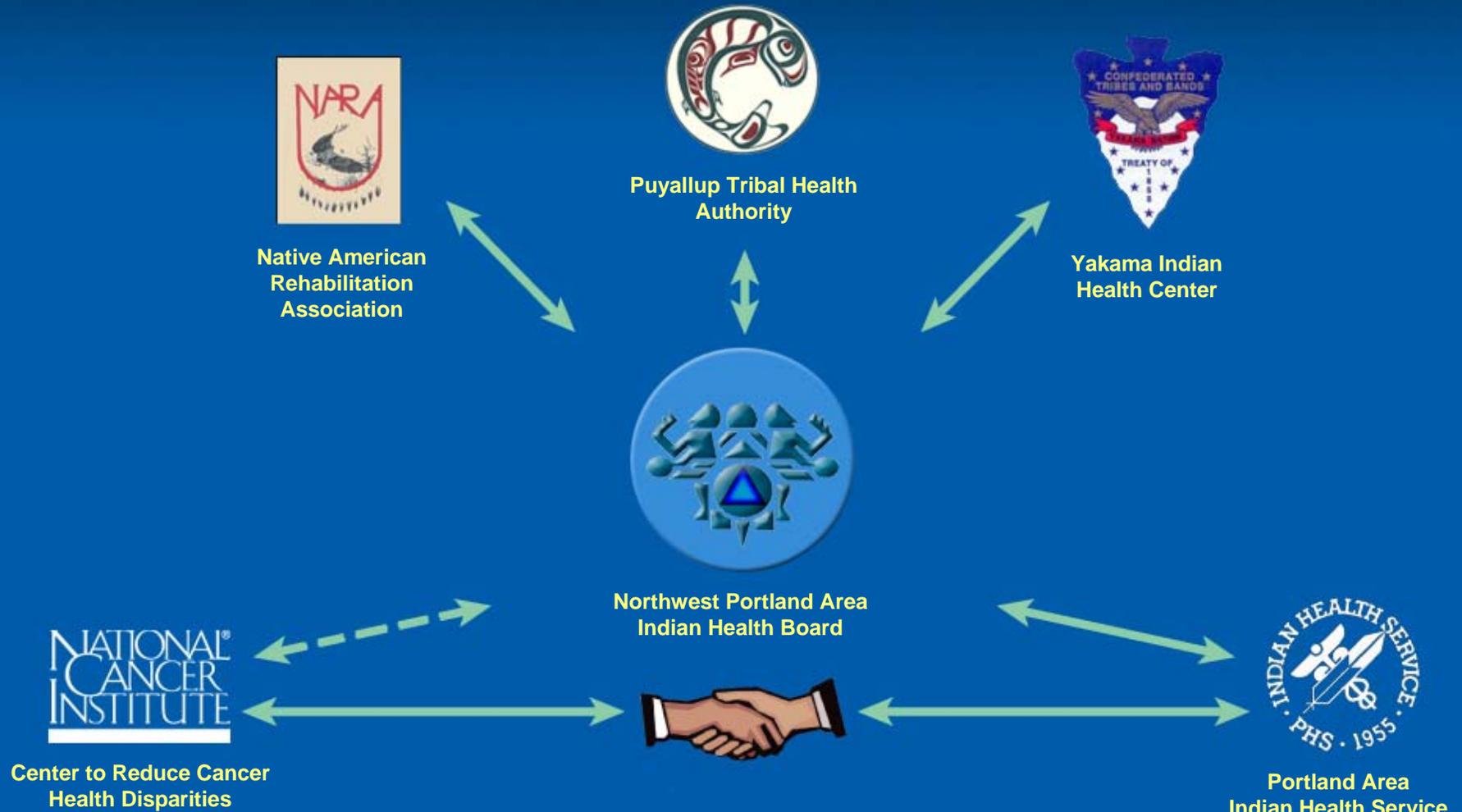
→ Diagnosis

→ Treatment

→ Survivorship



Northwest Native American Patient Navigator Pilot Program



Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board (NPAHB)



Northwest Native American Patient Navigator Pilot Project AIMS

- Examine the efficacy of the Navigator program as an intervention to reduce cancer health disparities among Native populations
- Increase adherence to cancer treatment
- Decrease time from abnormal screening or diagnosis to treatment
- Decrease time from treatment to resolution
- Increase survival rates for cancer patients
- Encourage a greater sense of empowerment during treatment
- Improve coordination of care

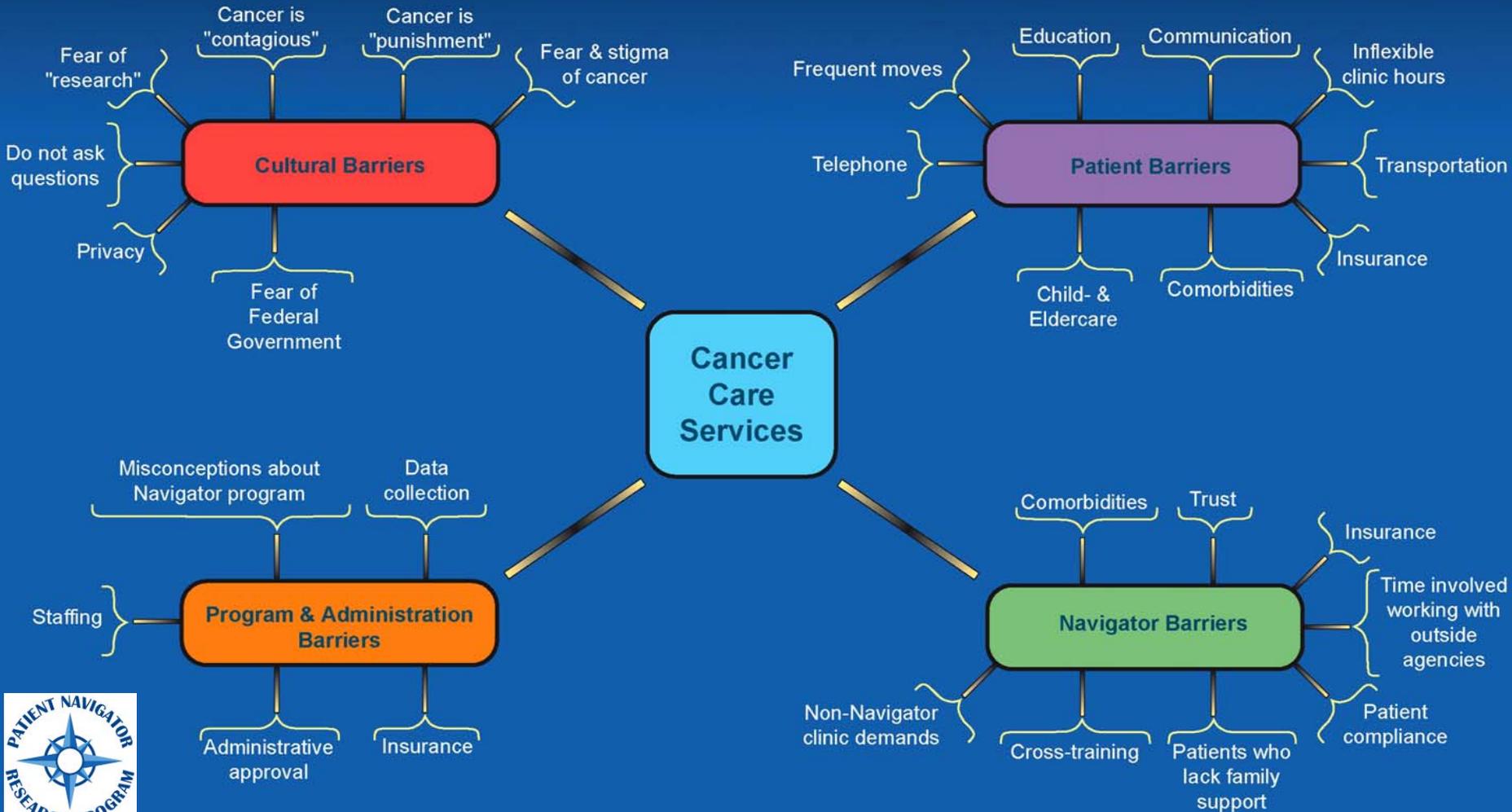
Doctor-Speak

The doctor says “Your margins are clear; you are PR positive; and you have clear nodes.”

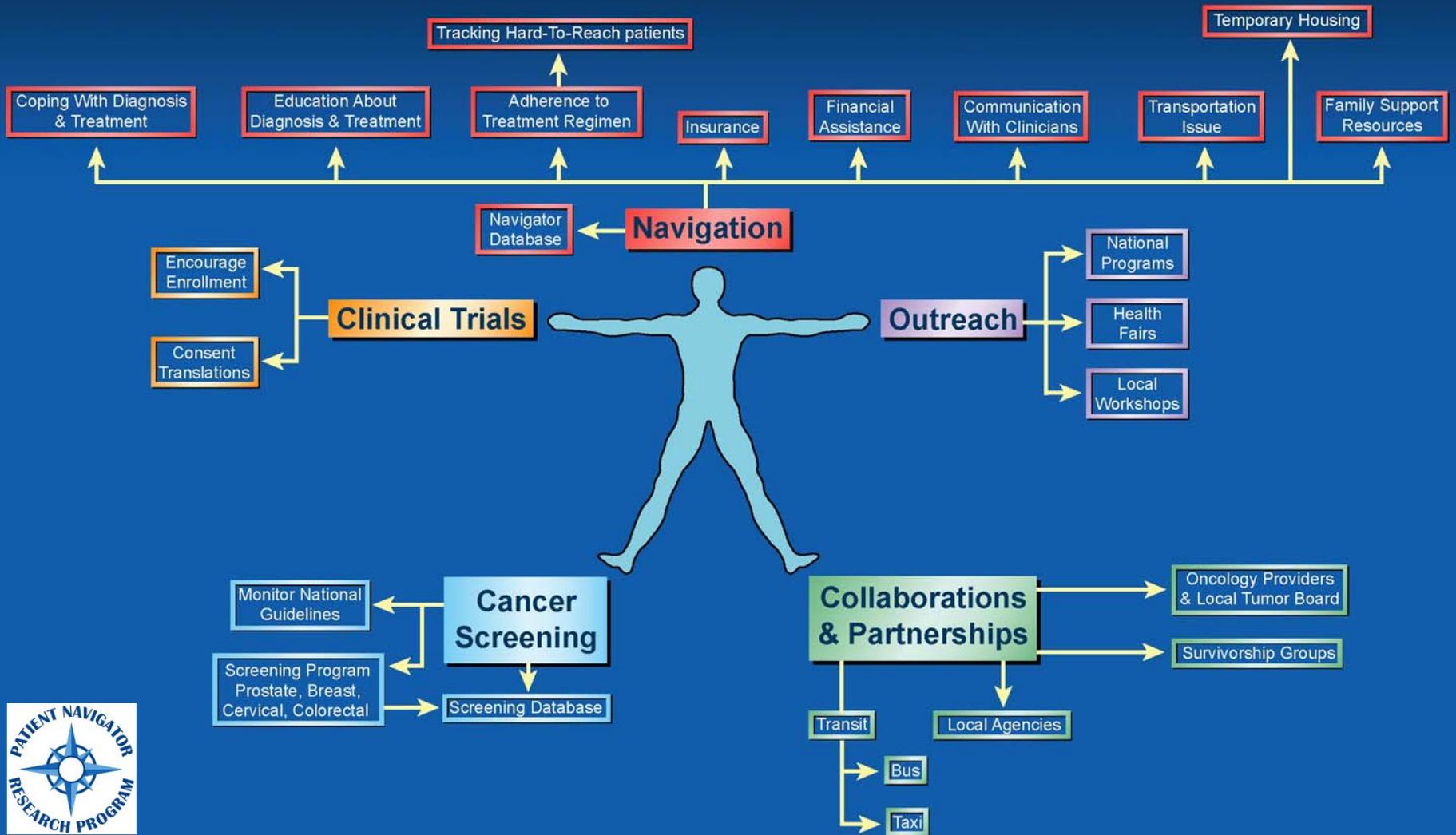
The patient turns to me for interpretation.
I say “That’s good news! That means the cancer has not spread.”

*Christine Merenda, RN
Patient Navigator at Yakama*

Cancer Care Barriers



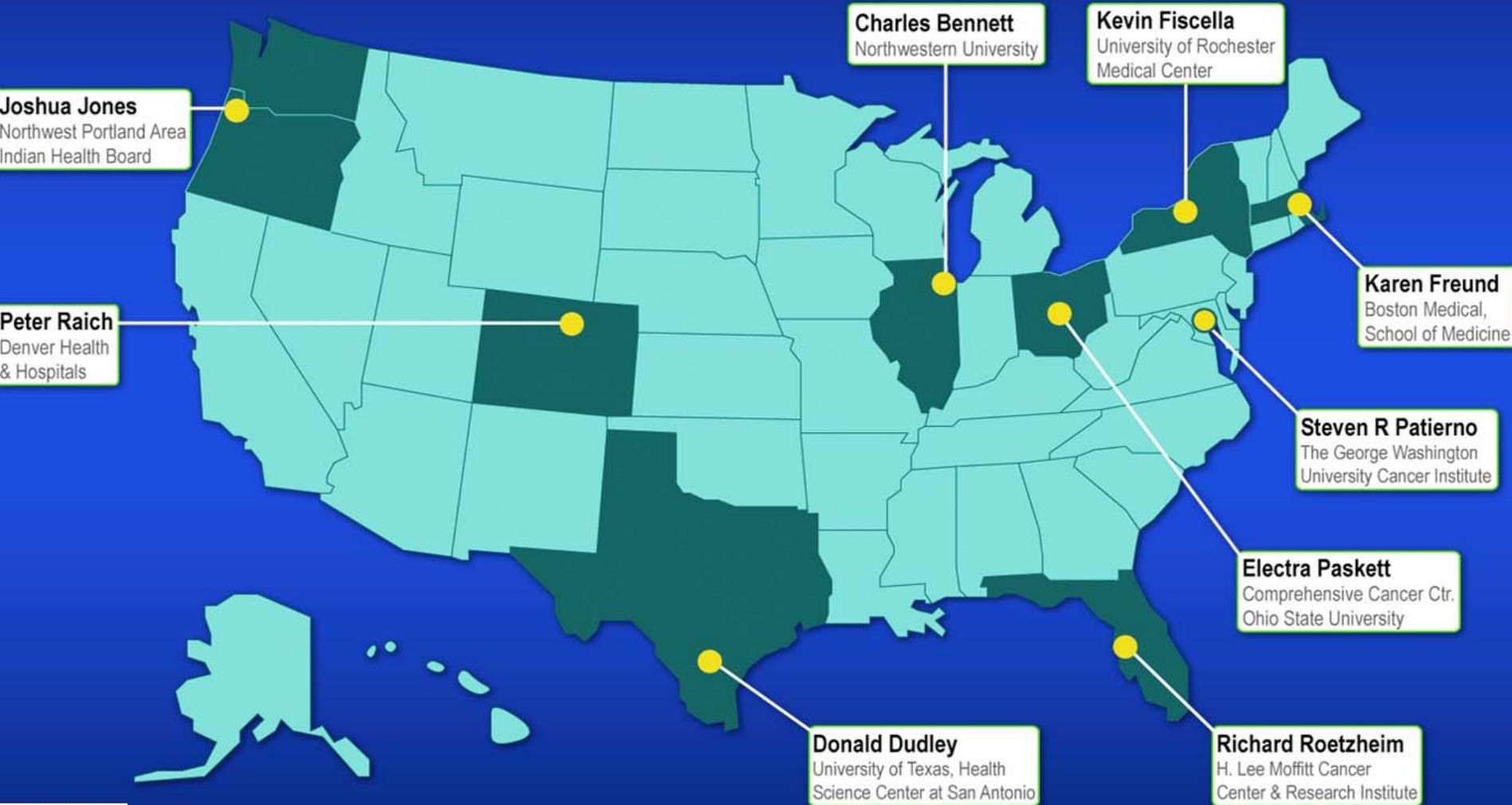
Patient Navigator Possible Roles



Highlighted Changes Since Initiation of Patient Navigator Pilot Program

- Improved patient trust
- Improved patient adherence to cancer treatment protocols
- Increased patient-provider communication and understanding
- New reservation-based cancer outreach programs
- Improved transportation options

PNRP Grantee Sites



Definition

- Underserved Populations include:
 - Racial/ethnic minorities
 - People of lower socioeconomic status
 - Residents of rural areas
 - Members of other underserved populations for whom the unequal burden of cancer continues to be documented through the nation's cancer surveillance networks

Navigator Definition

- Support and guidance offered to persons with abnormal findings in accessing timely cancer care and overcoming barriers to quality, standard care
- Examples of navigator services may include:
 - Arranging financial support
 - Arranging transportation to and childcare during scheduled diagnosis and treatment appointments
 - Identifying and scheduling appointments with culturally sensitive caregivers

Navigator Definition

- Continuing examples of navigator services may include:
 - Coordinating patient's medical tests, laboratory results, and both cancer care and general medical care among providers
 - Arranging for translation/interpretation services and appropriate information and education services

Definition

- One or more of the following eligible cancer sites:
 - Breast
 - Cervical
 - Prostate
 - Colorectal

Formal Arrangements

- There must be formal arrangements between community outpatient settings and a hospital that offers quality, standard cancer treatment. This formal arrangement will assist the patient navigators health care system access barriers.

Requirements

- Must include a significant number of racial/ethnic minorities, people of low socioeconomic status and members of other underserved populations.
- Required to identify, coordinate and collaborate with other local Federal and State funded programs that could augment successful interventions- such as CDC, HRSA, CMS.
- Reminder- PNRP does not pay for screening, diagnosis, or treatment costs, existing systems are to be used for this purpose.

Requirements

- Must present methodologies and techniques for overcoming barriers to timely access to cancer diagnosis and treatment services.
- Must demonstrate the treatment hospital has a service area with adequate cancer screening rates.
- Must address plans for conducting a needs assessment, training navigators, tracking pts, conducting a rigorous program evaluation and dissemination of findings.

Application Requirements

- Applicants must:
 - Present techniques for overcoming patient access barriers
 - Propose approaches to develop and implement formal referral and care arrangements between community outpatient settings and hospital(s)
 - Identify other local Federally funded cancer care services programs that could augment successful interventions
 - Demonstrate that treatment hospital has a service area with adequate cancer screening rates to enroll sufficient patients to evaluate proposed patient navigator research questions/hypotheses

Cancer Sites To Be Examined

	Breast	Cervical	Colorectal	Prostate
Northwestern—Chicago	✓	✓	✓	✓
UT—San Antonio	✓	✓		
University of Rochester	✓		✓	
Boston University	✓	✓		
Northwest Indian Health	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ohio State (ACS funded)	✓	✓	✓	
GWU—Washington, DC	✓			
Denver HHA	✓		✓	✓
Moffitt—Tampa	✓		✓	

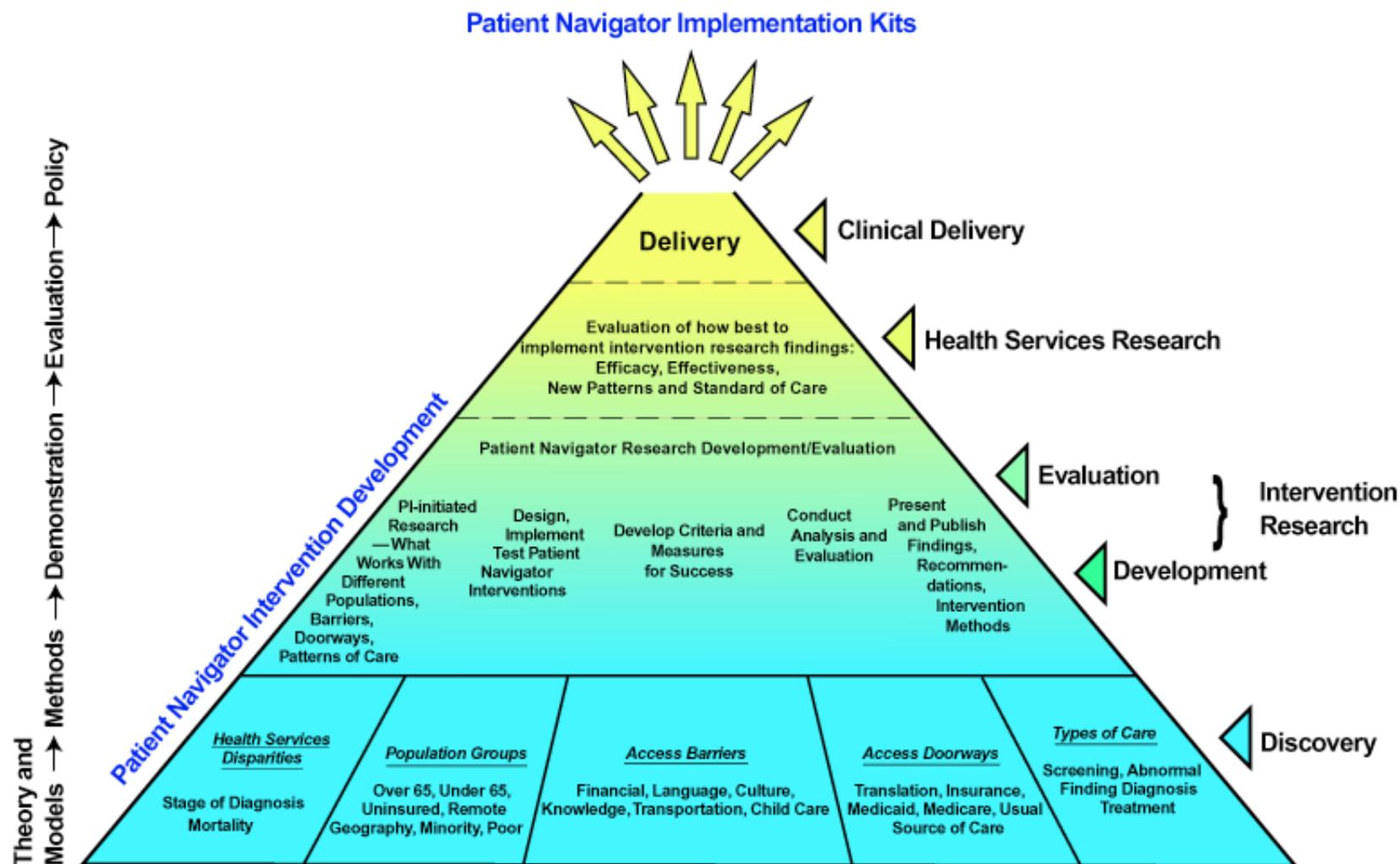
Target Populations

	<i>Black</i>	<i>Hisp</i>	<i>AI/AN</i>	<i>Underserved</i>
Northwestern—Chicago	✓	✓		
UT—San Antonio		✓		
University of Rochester				✓
Boston University				✓
Northwest Indian Health			✓	
Ohio State (ACS funded)				✓
GWU—Washington, DC	✓	✓		✓
Denver HHA	✓	✓		✓
Moffitt—Tampa	✓	✓		✓

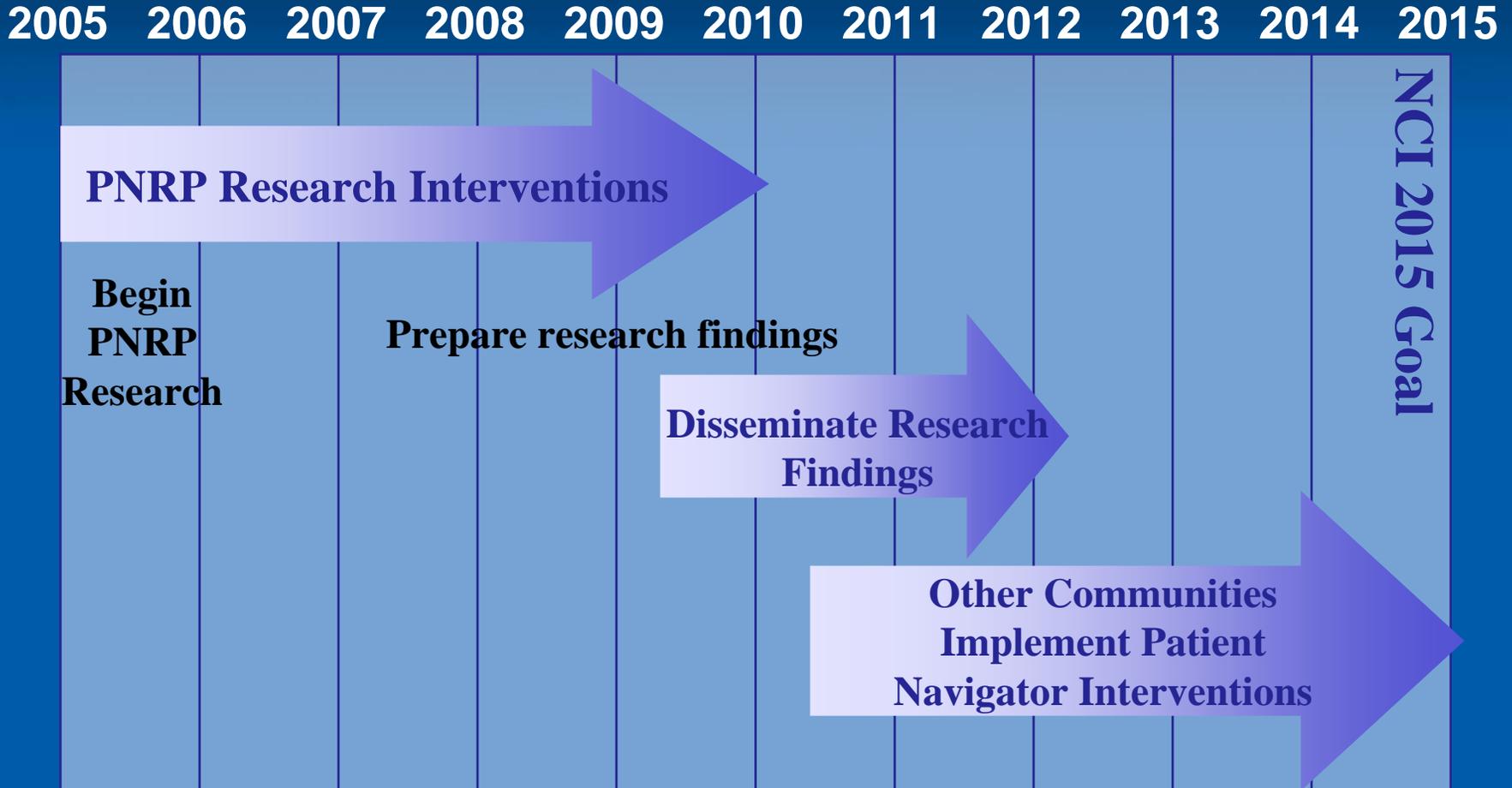
Types of Navigators

	<i>Nurse Clinician</i>	<i>RN</i>	<i>SW</i>	<i>CHW</i>	<i>Health Educator</i>	<i>Phone Counselor</i>	<i>Med Asst</i>
Northwestern—Chicago	✓		✓	✓			
UT—San Antonio				✓			
University of Rochester		✓		✓			
Boston University		✓					✓
Northwest Indian Health		✓		✓			
Ohio State (ACS funded)							
GWU—Washington, DC				✓	✓		
Denver HHA				✓		✓	
Moffitt—Tampa				✓			

Patient Navigator Intervention Research



Patient Navigator Intervention Research Critical Timeline



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For Further Information

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