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Assessing the Health Care Needs of Filipino Americans in Greater Long Beach

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Objectives: The main goal of this study was to investigate the perceptions of Filipino American population in the greater Long Beach area regarding their current health status and health care needs. The objectives are (1) to conduct a survey to determine their perceived health conditions as well as their health care needs and (2) to summarize health concerns within the Filipino American community so that health disparities can be addressed. **Study Design:** In order to assess the health status and health care needs of Filipino Americans in Long Beach, a survey questionnaire (Filipino American Community Health Survey) was developed following a thorough literature review. The survey consisted of 62 questions which included demographics, quality of care in Long Beach healthcare system, access to healthcare, health behaviors, and personal health issues within the Filipino American community. In some cases, the survey results were compared to the findings in the literature review. **Methodology:** The survey was distributed to a convenience sample of Filipino Americans in two events: the U.S. Philippines 2006 Expo and at the 15th Annual Festival of Philippine Arts & Culture. At both events, prospective participants who appeared to be compatible with the inclusion criteria were approached by researchers who verbally introduced the study and explained the purpose of the survey. The inclusion criteria of the study were that participants be (1) self-identified as having Filipino ethnicity, (2) at least 18 years of age, (3) and resided within the greater Long Beach area. The survey data was entered and analyzed in Statistical Package for the Social Science (SPSS) A total of 193 surveys were collected from consenting adult participants. Descriptive statistics are computed for each survey question. The study results are shown mostly in bar charts and a few occasion results are given in table form with mean scores.

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