HYSTERECTOMIES OF HISPANIC AND WHITE WOMEN

Abstract

A hysterectomy, the surgical removal of the uterus, is a common procedure for women in the United States. Most research focuses on the largest disparity in factors leading to hysterectomies between African American and non-Hispanic White women. However, research on the disparity between Hispanic and non-Hispanic Whites is not only lacking, but also necessary to create tailored healthcare policies that directly address potential differences. This literature review explores 24 articles published in the past 10 years to highlight differences between Hispanic and Non-Hispanic White women with hysterectomies within four key topics: access and prevalence of surgical methods, adjustments and calculations regarding hysterectomy prevalence, complications of childbirth, and the perception of hysterectomies of Hispanic women. Overall, the literature review shows that Hispanic women are more likely to have disadvantages associated with surgical procedures, underestimations in research due to adjustments, and higher rates of complications during childbirth resulting in a hysterectomy. The literature review clearly highlights the limitations and lack of understanding of Hispanic women with hysterectomies as well as the need to accurately depict the disparity between the two populations to create tailored and population specific healthcare policy to combat the differences.