

Title: Selecting and Training Contact Tracers to Address Minority Health Disparities: Lessons from COVID-19

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"Some factors to take into consideration:

- Low success rate of contact tracing was generally due to the fact that local county health department, who organize the contact tracing program, could not keep up with the pace of increases in the positive cases, which led to delay in contacting the positive and suspected cases.
- While some people certainly did not answer the contact tracing call at all or did not answer the questions truthfully, it is also true that COVID-19 contact tracing frequently did not lead to capturing a large social network and prevention of further exposure and outbreak because, people just went specific places (e.g., work, grocery store, and doctor's office) and often named none or a few people due to stay home order and social distancing guideline. This was frequently construed as 'not telling the truth' but that was often not the case.

Consider specifically pointing to the data that suggests that contact tracing was less successful among racial minorities or less effort was made by the county or state for the community of color. I do agree with the authors, though, that capability to quickly activate contact tracing workforce who are well-trained in culturally sensitive conversation skills would be important to prepare for a similar public health crisis in the future."

"Focus more on the type of minority health disparities that contact tracers can help mitigate. Additionally, it would be great to include examples or findings from other studies of contact tracing to further illustrate the merits of relying on personnel psychology for workforce development. If there are studies that point to the relevance of other theoretical perspectives, those could be mentioned in a future research/other considerations section."