

# Increasing Health Disparities Knowledge and Improving Health Disparities Research through Online Teaching



Reducing health disparities  
by preventing or delaying  
diabetes in American Indians  
and Alaskan Natives.

This project is part of the American Indian Diabetes Prevention Center's activities to train researchers, students and health care providers to raise awareness of health disparities that may exist among American Indians, a population that has been historically underserved by medical providers for a number of diverse reasons. The purpose of this effort is to increase the knowledge and understanding among health care providers regarding the causes and systems that have resulted in health care disparities for American Indians by creating an online course through the College of Nursing. In the 2002 Institutes of Medicine report, unequal treatment has resulted in curriculum changes around the nation in schools of medicine, nursing, public health, and others. These curricula are generally designed to reach to very large segments of society with little to no specificity to American Indian issues. Improved knowledge among health care providers has the potential to increase their cultural sensitivity, create more meaningful research processes, and increase understanding for the need for health disparities reduction research. This effort targets the research teams on the Health Sciences Center campuses and their collaborators, health sciences center students, and interested tribal participants.

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*Oklahoma has the second largest  
population of American Indian's in  
the nation and is primarily rural.*



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