

## **PS1.100**

### **Vulnerable populations in healthcare: immigrants, race/ethnicity, and socioeconomic position**

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**Background & Aim:** An important proportion of the population in Europe is immigrant and the international literature indicates their inadequate access to health services.

This review is designed to update on recent discussions and research regarding vulnerable populations in medicine, including patients who are newly arrived, patients who have difficulties in communication. Also, they have a system of beliefs related to health and disease that makes difficult for health care professionals to comprehend their reasons for consultation, especially when consulting for somatic manifestations. Consequently, this is an important barrier to achieve optimum care to these groups.

This review will provide better knowledge of these populations and will improve the comprehension and the efficacy of the health care providers in prevention, communication, care management and management of resources.

**Method:** Review of original papers published (2013-2015) on access to health services of the immigrant population, immigrants, race/ethnicity, and disadvantage socioeconomic position, in Europe published in Pubmed.

**Conclusions:** Access to health care in immigrants has been scarcely studied, using different approaches and the barely analysed factors related to the services. No clear patterns were observed, as differences depend on the classification of migrants according to country of origin and the level of care. However, studies showed less use of specialized care by immigrants, higher use of emergency care and the existence of determinants of access different to their needs.