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## Early Stage or Curable Cancer Diagnoses in Minorities: A Journey of Survivors

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## *Early Stage or Curable Cancer Diagnoses in Minorities: A Journey of Survivors*

### Abstract:

For some individuals, a routine checkup with the family physician may turn into a life-changing diagnosis. As of today, there are over 1,918,030 new estimated cancer cases that will be revealed. Due to significant technological advancements in the medical field, there have been increased amounts of screening measurements taken to improve the chances of catching cancer in its early stages. While various modes of cancer treatment should be accessible to individuals from all walks of life, previous studies have demonstrated that minorities, as well as other individuals from underrepresented communities, do not receive the same level of care in comparison to their non-minority counterparts who also receive cancer treatment. Often times, cancer experiences from underrepresented patients are overlooked; however, it is essential that each of their journeys is properly defined. Due to this disconnect, my study aims to seek an understanding of early-stage curable cancer diagnoses in underrepresented communities. Due to a lack of extensive research, it is paramount that we develop alternative methods for allowing optimal treatment and patient care to our cancer patients, particularly patients in underrepresented communities. To emphasize the need for more minority-based studies for improving their health and the future of healthcare, this study serves a purpose to understand the effects of early-stage curable cancer diagnoses in minorities and underrepresented communities.

*Keywords:* cancer, curable, diagnosis, early stage, health disparities, minorities, oncology, psychology, screening, underrepresented communities