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Reply to It Is Not All Black and White: Future Incidence of Stomach Cancer Will Be Substantially Higher Than Projected Due to the Effects of Immigration and Increasing Hispanic and Asian Populations in the United States

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Drs. Hillard and Graham have provided thoughtful comments on our article,¹ and we agree that we might have underestimated the projected incidence of stomach cancer. As they note, the results of our analyses were limited to the 2 major racial groups in the United States (blacks and whites) and did not include predictions of the cancer burden for other racial and ethnic groups. The age-period-cohort models that we used require a minimum of 20 years of incidence data to generate reasonable estimates for predicting future trends in cancer incidence.² The data for these models came from 9 Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) population-based cancer registries, which cover approximately 10% of the US population.³ In more recent years, both SEER registries and those participating in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Program of Cancer Registries have been collecting more detailed information regarding race, including Asian/Pacific Islander subpopulations and ethnicity (Hispanic and non-Hispanic).⁴ In addition, cancer registries are now in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.⁴ In the future, with expanded population coverage and more detailed information concerning race and ethnicity, it will be possible to predict the cancer incidence burden for Asian/Pacific Islander and Hispanic individuals and thus improve the projections for cancers that disproportionately impact these populations.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES

The authors made no disclosures.

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