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Journal Publishes Essay Addressing Racial Disparity of COVID-19 Infection and Death Rates

The *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved* has published an article which addresses the disproportionate rate of Covid-19 infection among African Americans and people of color.

The African American Petri Dish was authored by **Dr. Ronald Braithwaite**, Professor of Community Health and Preventive Medicine, Family Medicine, and Psychiatry at Morehouse School of Medicine, and **Dr. Rueben Warren**, Director of the Tuskegee University National Center for Bioethics in Research and Health Care.

The essay traces the racial/ethnic inequalities in morbidity and mortality from COVID-19 as well as the inadequate response by the federal government to address mediation of the spread of the virus. It has been made available online via Project MUSE prior to the journal issue's official publication: <https://muse.jhu.edu/article/754693/pdf>

“The number of Black and Brown deaths and infections has exponentially increased since the online release of this publication,” Dr. Braithwaite notes. As of May 6, 72,050 Americans have died from COVID-19. Growing data indicates the rate of infection and death is substantially higher among African Americans and people of color. “What the data say about the disparate, adverse impact of the coronavirus pandemic on African Americans, is not surprising. The ethical question is, what are we going to do about it?” Dr. Warren added.

Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved (JHCPU) is a peer-reviewed journal focusing on contemporary health care issues of medically underserved communities, and is the official journal of the Association of Clinicians for the Underserved (ACU). It is published quarterly by Johns Hopkins University Press.

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