

Health and Skin Color in Cuban Women

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ABSTRACT

The variable skin color is rarely used in health research in Cuba, nor does it appear in official sources of the national health system, unlike the variables sex, age and place of residence. Apparently, this situation is the result of some important barriers.

Objective: To show evidence on the health situation of non-white women in Cuba, in the period 2010-2020.

Material and Method: An on-line search (Google and Google Scholar search engines) was carried out to locate the scientific production of Cuban researchers and scholars on the topic "health and skin color of non-white women" in the period 2010-2020.

Results: 32 publications distributed in: 15 articles, 12 books six of them in print, 2 thesis and 3 documents were reviewed. These publications were grouped into three blocks according to the coincidence of titles and text with the subject of the review; matching title and text not matching the topic and texts about the topic without keywords in the title. Contents of the publications in each block were analyzed and discussed.

Conclusions: The evidence that was found stimulates the design of more accurate investigations, which contribute to broadening the knowledge about the health level of non-white Cuban women, because as shown, this level of health does not depend on the more or less dark hue of her skin, rather it is related to its social and economic conditions at any stage of its life cycle.

Keywords: Skin color, Raciality, Racism, Afro-descendant woman, Non-white woman, Black or mixed-race woman, Gender and health

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