

1125-VH-1217 **Mariama J. Abramson*** (mariama.abramson@cameron.edu), 2800 W Gore Blvd, Lawton, OK 73505, and **Jean-Jacques Kengwoung-Keumo** (jkengwou@cameron.edu), 2800 W. Gore Blvd, Lawton, OK 73505. *Disparities in Cutaneous Melanoma Hazard Rates between Whites and Black/African Americans in the U.S.A. from 1973 through 2014*. Preliminary report.

There are five different types of skin cancers and melanoma is one of them. Melanoma occurs in the melanocytes (melanin producing cells). Melanoma spans pre-dominantly in the skin but can also be found in the ears, eyes, gastro-intestinal tract, and oral and genital mucus membranes. Melanoma is the deadliest leading cancer diagnosed in the U.S.A. It occurs predominantly among Whites (95%), followed by Hispanics, American Indians/Alaskan Natives (AI/AN), Asians/Pacific Islanders (API), and African Americans/Blacks (Wu, 2011). Melanoma cases have increased more rapidly than all other cancers combined over the past few decades. This has resulted one in five Americans developing melanoma in the course of a lifetime and death of one American almost every single hour. The results of Kengwoung-Keumo et al. (2016) indicate that Blacks had higher survival rates than Whites and women had higher survival rates than men in both racial groups. We are interested in investigating whether these results still hold on hazard rates. (Received September 15, 2016)