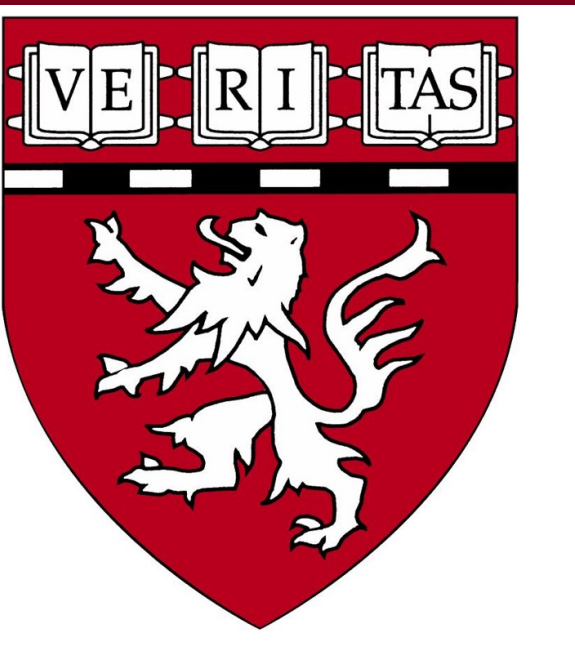




# Establishing Benchmarks for Cardiac Surgery at Minority Serving versus Non-Minority Serving Hospitals in the United States: Are We Bridging the Racial Disparity Gap?



P. NEWELL, S. HIRJI, A. OKOH, S. SINGH, S. GOEL, S. COHEN, E. PERCY, M. HARLOFF, F. YAZDCHI and T. KANEKO  
Division of Cardiac Surgery, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA

## INTRODUCTION

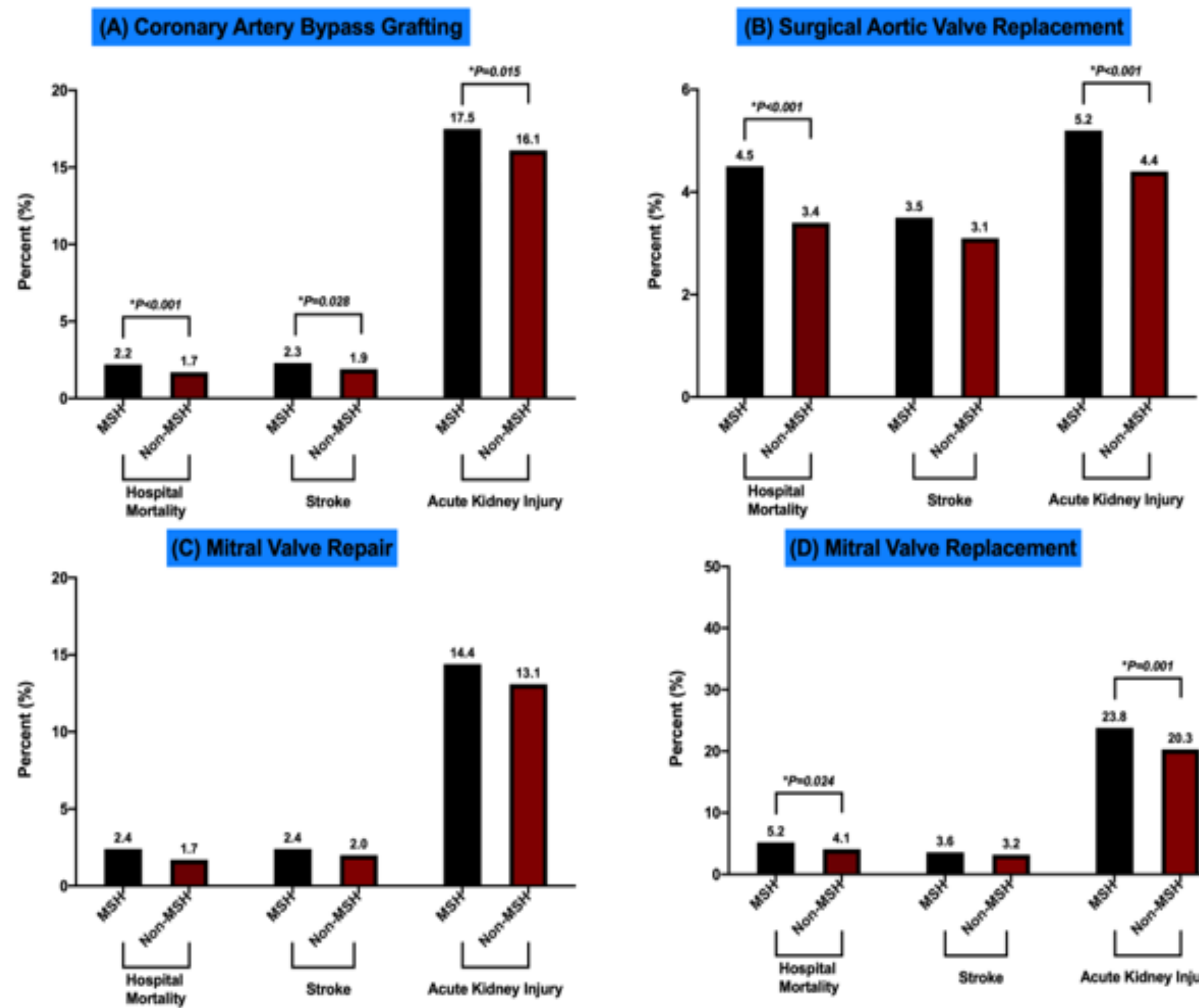
- Previous studies in non-cardiac surgery have shown links between **minority utilization of low-quality hospitals** and **worse outcomes**.
- This study investigates the effect of treatment at minority serving hospitals (MSH) and its implication on race-based disparities.

## METHODS

- Data from 2012-2015 National Inpatient Sample for the following surgeries were collected.
- Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting (CABG)
- Surgical Aortic Valve Replacement (SAVR)
- Mitral Valve (MV) Repair or MV Replacement.
- Patient characteristics and in-hospital outcomes were compared between MSH and non-MSH.
- MSH was defined as the **top 20%** of hospitals serving African American and Hispanic patients.

## RESULTS

### Comparison of Cardiac Surgery Outcomes at Minority Serving Versus Non-Minority Serving Hospitals



- **MSH were mainly (p<0.001):**
  - Small or medium-sized hospitals
  - Non-teaching hospitals
  - Government-owned hospitals
  - Rural hospitals
  - South region
- **MSH > non-MSH (p<0.05):**
  - Preoperative **diabetes, renal failure, and heart failure**
  - **Increased odds of in-hospital mortality for SAVR and MV replacement** after adjustment.
  - **Longer length of stay and higher overall hospitalization cost** for all procedures.

## Conclusions

- Cardiac surgery outcomes at MSH appear to be **worse** with higher associated length of stay and costs.
- Understanding system-level policies to improve care at these hospitals may help **narrow existing race-based disparities gap**.

## Disclosure and Contact Info:

**Conflict of Interest:**  
Nothing to disclose

**Contact Information:**  
Paige C. Newell MD



pnewell@bwh.harvard.edu

