



Charlie Crist  
Governor

Ana M. Viamonte Ros, M.D., M.P.H.  
State Surgeon General

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**PINELLAS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**“Man Up for Your Health” in April**  
***National Minority Health Month Focuses on Men’s Health***

April is National Minority Health Month and males are asked to ***Man Up for Your Health*** by taking the right steps to move communities to improved wellness.

These sobering statistics point out the health disparities that minority men have to overcome:

- 55 percent of Latino men and 45 percent of African American men do not have a doctor they see regularly.
- In 2005, all men were 30 percent more likely to be uninsured for the previous year, as compared to women.
- Within this group, African American men were 75 percent more likely to be uninsured than white men, and Latinos were almost three times more likely to be without health insurance.
- In 2007, the life expectancy for African American males reached 70 years for the first time, which is still 5.3 years less than the general population.
- African American men have higher death rates than women for all the leading causes of death.
- African American men have higher rates of prostate cancer, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, hypertension, stroke and other chronic illnesses
- Men are employed in the most dangerous occupations, such as mining, fire fighting, construction and fishing.



(more)



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- For young African American men 15-35 years of age, homicide is the number one cause of death, for Latinos, it's number two.

For more information on Minority Health Month and the health challenges in minority communities, go to <http://minorityhealth.hhs.gov>.

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