

Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Treatment for Early Onset Colorectal Cancer

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INTRODUCTION

- Incidence of early onset colorectal cancer (eoCRC), defined as CRC diagnosed before the age of 50, is on the rise.
- The aim of this study was to examine racial and ethnic disparities in the treatment of eoCRC.

METHODS

Type: Retrospective Cohort Study

Timeline: 2000-2017

Patients: All patients age <50 at diagnosis of CRC

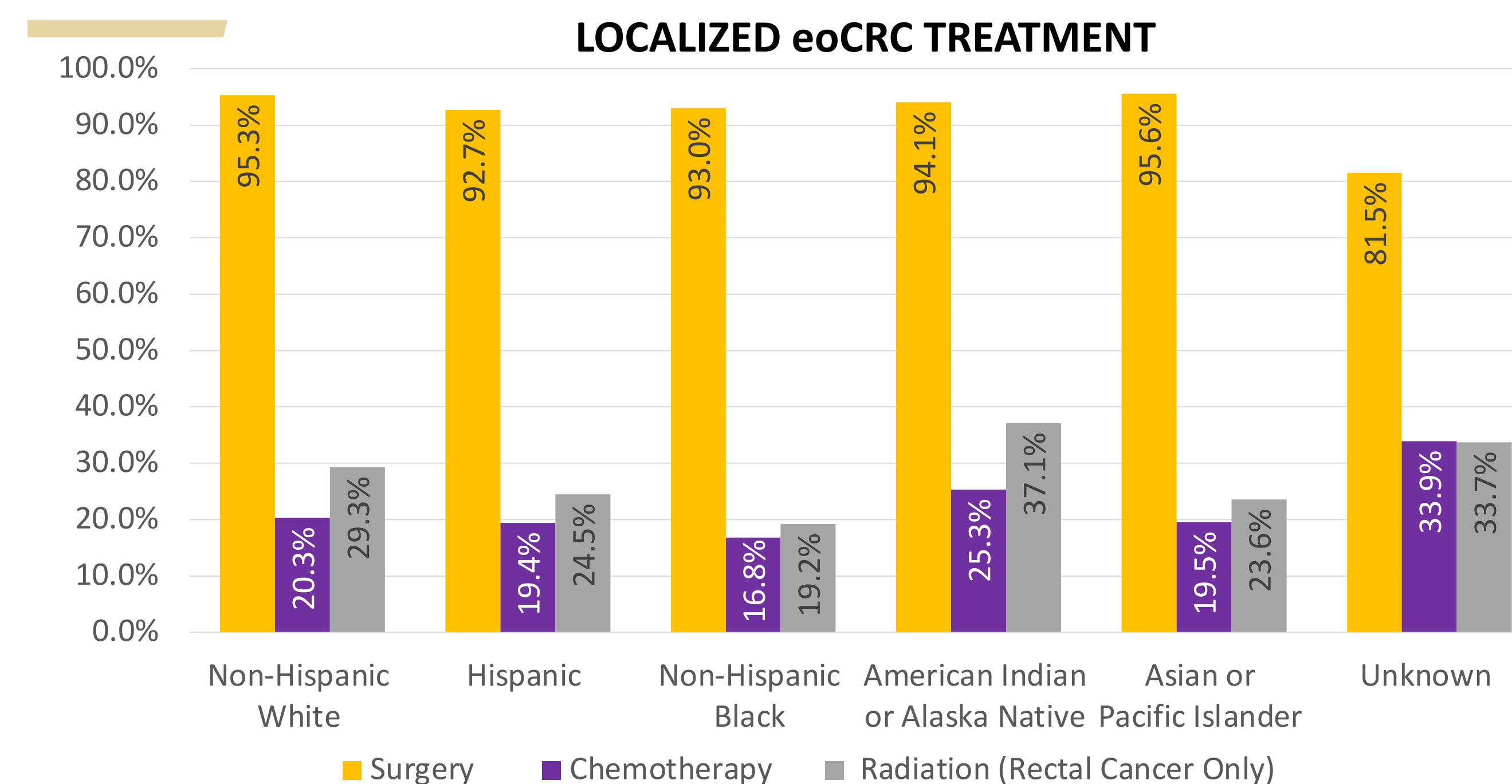
Size: eoCRC: 71,651 patients
rectal cancer only: 27,948 patients

Source: National Cancer Institute's Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results 18 Registries (SEER 18) Research Plus Database

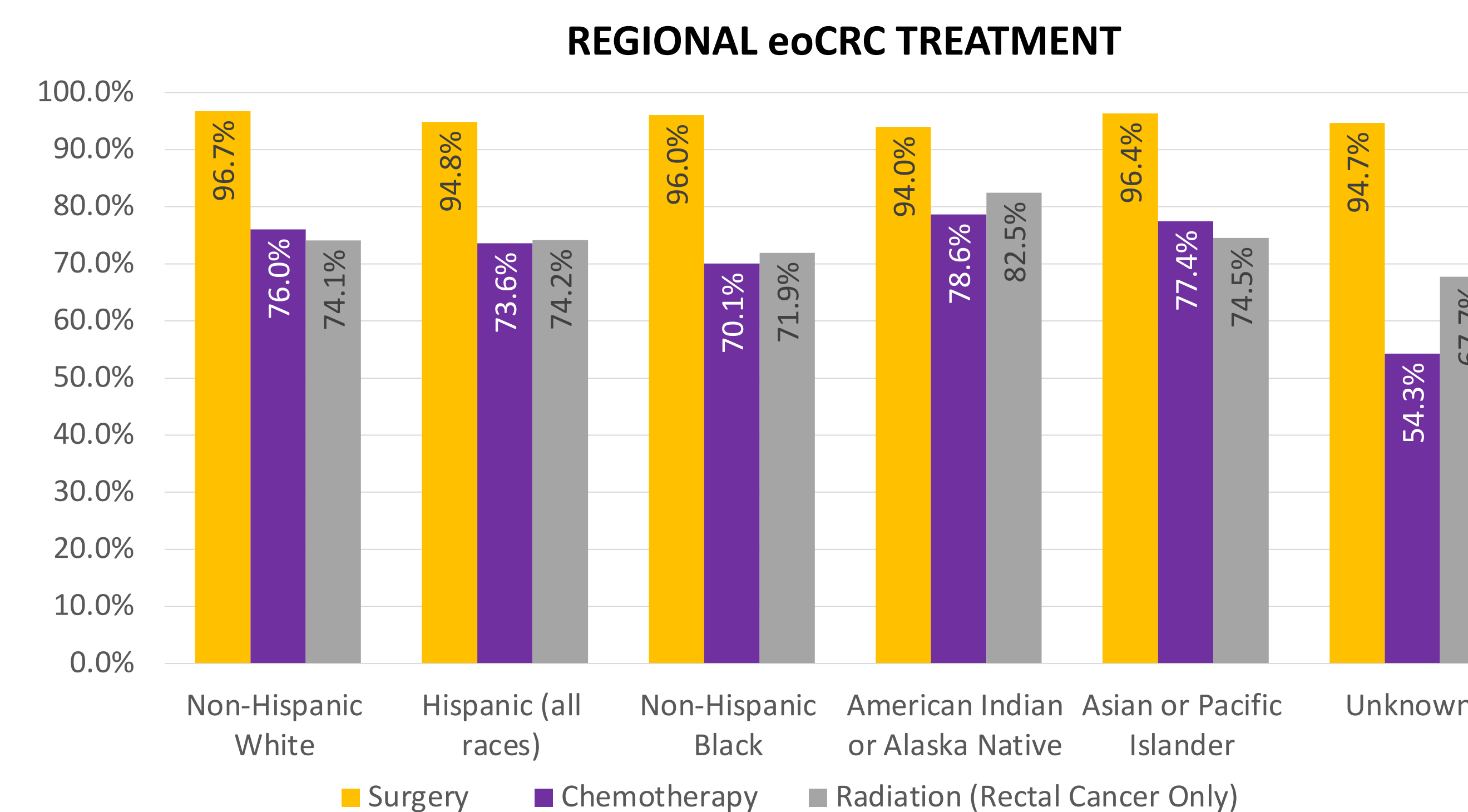
Analysis: Chi-Squared test for significance

Limitations: SEER Research Plus database may capture only first course treatment, possible that database did not capture chemotherapy or radiation therapy in some patients. No limitation for surgical treatment events

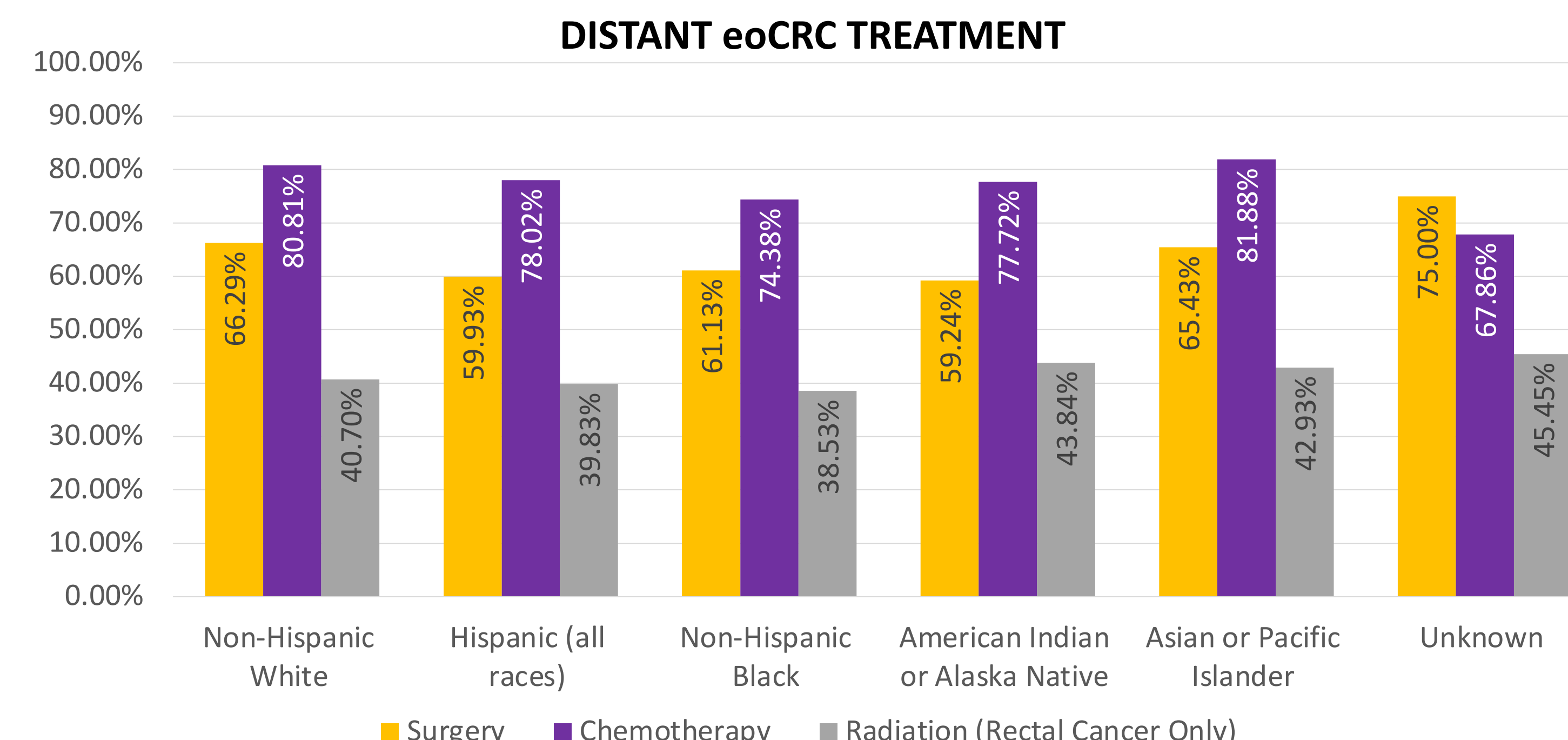
RESULTS



Significant differences in the proportion of patients with localized eoCRC undergoing surgery between whites and minority populations are seen. ($p < 0.05$)



Significant differences in treatment of regional eoCRC between whites and minority populations are seen. ($p < 0.05$)



Significant differences in rates of chemotherapy and surgery for distant eoCRC between whites and minority populations are seen. ($p < 0.05$)

CONCLUSIONS

- Significant differences in treatment received were seen between non-Hispanic Whites and racial/ethnic minorities.
 - These differences were seen across all stages of disease and treatment modalities.
- Non-Hispanic Black, Hispanic, and American Indian/Alaska Native patients were least likely to undergo surgery for localized disease or chemotherapy for distant disease.
- Further study is needed to understand the reasons for and clinical implications of these disparities.