

# Anesthesiology & Pain Medicine September EDI Brief

## Hispanic Heritage Month September 15–October 15

### HISTORY

Spanish-speaking peoples have been a part of the Pacific Northwest since the **18<sup>th</sup> Century**. In the 1930s, large groups of Latinos settled in the Yakima Valley, growing and harvesting fruits and vegetables that feed the nation. Over the last three decades, **Central and South American immigrants** have diversified communities around the state, particularly Seattle and King County.

### FACT

In WA state, Hispanics account for **13%** of the population, yet they account for **27%** of cases of active Covid-19 cases and **21%** of hospitalizations. Luckily, vaccination rates approach **77%** of the total Hispanic population. Because the Hispanic population makes up a large percentage of essential workers, COVID cases have been higher than other communities.

Of 14,731 active physicians in the state, only **3.1%** identify as Latino. In 2019, the AAMC found that about **5%** of medical school graduates identify as Latino.

### INTERVENTION

Patient translators and navigators work with families to improve access to care. While **racial concordance** has shown improvements in patient engagement, learning about other cultures and communities creates stronger **patient-provider relationships**.

## Diversity Council Highlights

### Responding to Microaggressions Workshop

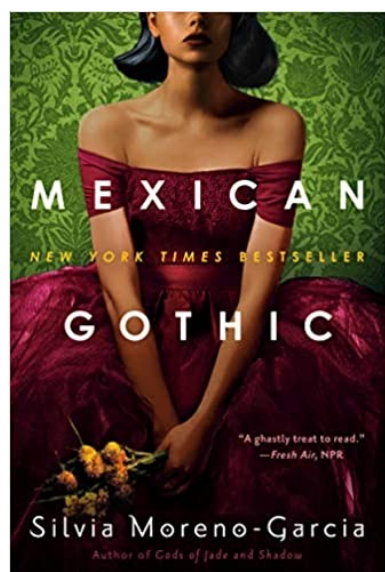
- Thank you, Drs. Gentry, Scott, Jimenez, Anderson, Patrao, Cervantes & Muldowney for leading the training!

### Funded Clerkship Rotations:

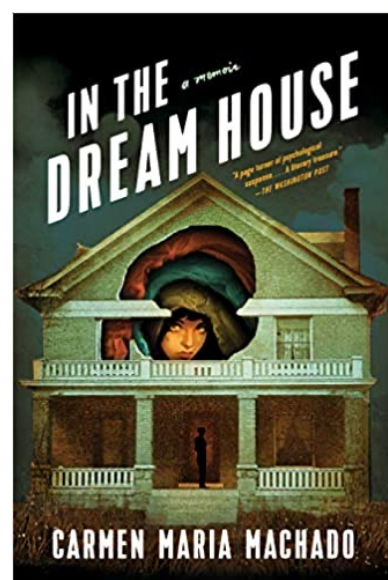
- Say hello to Yiqing Dong when she joins us for her clerkship at UWMC from 9/27-10/22!

## Resources

### Recommended Reading:



[Mexican Gothic](#),  
Silvia Moreno-Garcia



[In the Dream House](#), Carmen  
Maria Machado

### [King County Library System Celebrates NHHM](#)

- **October 6:** [Silvia Moreno-Garcia](#)

### **October 8-17:** [Seattle Latino Film Festival](#)

### **September 1-27:** Alfredo Arreguín Exhibition at the [Rob Schouten Gallery](#)