

# Eye Care Month

## January QUESTION OF THE MONTH

What percentage of blindness in the US is caused by accidents vs. common eye diseases?

A. 3%: 97% B. 13%: 87% C. 23%: 77%

**Email your response to** [cnwosu@etsu.edu](mailto:cnwosu@etsu.edu) **by 4:30 pm on January 24th.** Please include your full name and telephone number with your response. One person who answers correctly will be selected to receive the prize.

The answer to the **December** question: all the health professionals listed have been imprisoned for protesting against human rights violations in their countries. Source: Website of [Physicians for Human Rights](#) under "Colleagues at Risk."

### December Winner

Shantha Pandian, M.D.  
Department of Psychiatry

### Did You Know?

- Around the world, females at all ages have a significantly higher rate of blindness than men.
- Southeast Asia has the highest percentage of the world's blind population: 32%.
- Up to 75% of blindness is due to preventable or treatable causes, i.e. cataract, glaucoma, diabetic retinopathy, onchocerciasis, trachoma and eye conditions in childhood. Source: [WHO Fact Sheet No 282](#).

### Arts, Cultural, and Health Awareness Events on Campus

Event	When	Where
MLK Day Celebration	1/18 11AM—1 PM	Culp Atrium
<a href="#">Tri-Cities Television History</a>	1/20 7 PM	Reece Museum
<a href="#">Lunch Break Seminar: Investing By the Book—A Winning Strategy for Women</a>	1/25 12 PM	Culp, E Tennessee Room

## JANUARY OBSERVANCES

### Topics of Interest In this Issue

Eye Care Month

Cataract Awareness Month

Cultural Competence Tools

Birth Defects Prevention Month

Pharmacists' Day, 12

### Other Observances in January

Cervical Health Month

Thyroid Awareness Month

New Year's Day, 1

Guru Gobind Singh's Birthday, 5  
(Sikh)

Epiphany, 6 (Christian)

World Religion Day, 16 (Baha'i)

Martin Luther King Day, 17

### Cultural Competence Tools

Want to explore issues of cultural competence in health care? Visit The [Providers Guide to Quality & Culture Website](#)

What is cultural competence?

Evaluate yourself

Avoiding Stereotypes

Cultural Competence Pointers

Quality & Culture Quiz



## Article of the Month

Blanchard J, Lurie N. R-E-S-P-E-C-T: Patient reports of disrespect in the health care setting and its impact on care. *The Journal of Family Practice* 2004; 532: 721– 730. Link through Quillen COM Library Portal to [http://www.jfponline.com/content/2004/09/jfp\\_0904\\_00721.asp](http://www.jfponline.com/content/2004/09/jfp_0904_00721.asp)

Summary: The Commonwealth Fund 2001 Health Care Quality Survey sought to determine patients' perceptions of respect in the health care encounter and how patients' negative perceptions would influence health care utilization. This study was conducted as a telephone survey of 6722 adults who all had a regular doctor. Interviews were conducted in the language preferred by the respondent: English, Spanish, Mandarin, Cantonese, Vietnamese, or Korean. The survey revealed that racial and ethnic minorities were significantly more likely to report being treated with disrespect than were white patients: 14.1% of blacks, 19.4% of Hispanics and 20.2% of Asians perceived disrespect in the health care encounter compared with 9.4% of whites. The factors associated with perceived disrespect were: male gender, persons for whom English was not the primary language, and less than a college education. Respondents who reported being treated with disrespect were less likely to have had a physical exam in the prior year. Patients who thought they would have received better care had they been of another race were more likely to report not following the doctor's advice, and were also less likely to have received optimal chronic disease screening.

## HEALTH LINKS ON DIVERSITY

The listing below represent just a few of the resources intended to promote knowledge, awareness and discussions on diversity in health care for our students and faculty. We encourage you to use some of these as a beginning for classroom discussion, outside assignments, or student research.

TOPIC	TITLE & LOCATION
<b>EYE CARE</b> 	<b>Cataract diagnosis and treatment</b> <a href="http://www.nei.nih.gov/health/cataract/cataract_risk.asp">http://www.nei.nih.gov/health/cataract/cataract_risk.asp</a> <b>Glaucoma awareness</b> <a href="http://www.preventblindness.org/eye_problems/glaucoma_faq.html">http://www.preventblindness.org/eye_problems/glaucoma_faq.html</a> <b>Racial Disparities in the Quality of Care for Enrollees in Medicare Managed Care</b> <a href="http://www.cmwf.org/publications/publications_show.htm?doc_id=221513">http://www.cmwf.org/publications/publications_show.htm?doc_id=221513</a>
<b>PHARMACISTS</b> 	<b>What is the occupational outlook for pharmacists?</b> <a href="http://stats.bls.gov/oco/ocos079.htm">http://stats.bls.gov/oco/ocos079.htm</a> <b>What resources are available from pharmaceutical companies to help needy patients get the medications prescribed for them?</b> <b>RxAssist organization</b> <a href="http://www.rxassist.org/default.cfm">http://www.rxassist.org/default.cfm</a> ; <b>RxHope</b> <a href="http://rxhope.com">http://rxhope.com</a> <b>HelpingPatients.org</b> <a href="https://www.helpingpatients.org/Intro.php">https://www.helpingpatients.org/Intro.php</a> .
<b>PREVENT BIRTH DEFECTS</b> 	<b>Birth Defects Health Topics</b> <a href="http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/bdlist.htm">http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/bdlist.htm</a> <b>How can surveillance of birth defects contribute to the prevention effort?</b> The Metropolitan Atlanta Congenital Defects Program <a href="http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/bd/bdsurv.htm">http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/bd/bdsurv.htm</a> <b>Birth Defects Surveillance: States Graded on Birth Defects Prevention</b> —Find out where your state ranks. <a href="http://healthyamericans.org/state/birthdefects/">http://healthyamericans.org/state/birthdefects/</a> <b>California—Program to prevent birth defects through research</b> <a href="http://www.cbdmp.org/index.htm">http://www.cbdmp.org/index.htm</a>

For more information or assistance contact Elaine Evans, Reference Assistant, COM Library, [evanse@etsu.edu](mailto:evanse@etsu.edu).