Race and Ethnicity:
Two Important but Illusive Data items

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Race Code Guidelines

◆ **Race Codes**

◆ Code the patient's race. Race is coded separately from Spanish/Hispanic Origin. All tumors for the same patient should have the same race code. If a patient is multiracial, code all races. The following guidelines are for the SEER Program based on many years of data collection. NAACCR defaults to SEER when no specific guidelines exist. See the <u>SEER Program Code Manual</u>, pages 79-80.

Race Code Guidelines

◆ Persons of Mexican, Puerto Rico or Cuban origin are usually white.

◆ When the race is recorded as "Oriental," "Mongolian" or "Asian" and the place of birth is recorded as China, Japan, the Philippines, or another Asian nation, code the race based on birthplace information. For example: if the person's race is recorded as "Asian" and the place of birth is recorded as "Japan," code race as "05."

Race Codes

- 01 White
- 02 Black
- 03 American Indian, Aleution or Eskimo
- 04 Chinese
- 05 Japanese
- 06 Filipino
- 07 Hawaiian
- 08 Korean

Race Codes

- 09 Asian Indian, Pakistani
- 10 Vietnemese
- 11 Laotian
- 12 Hmong
- 13 Kampuchean
- 14 Thai
- 20 Micronesian, NOS

Race Codes

- Guamanian, NOS
- 25 Polynesian, NOS
- 26 Tahitian
- 27 Samoan
- 28 Tongan
- 30 Melanesian, NOS
- 31 Fiji Islander
- 32 New Guinean

Race Codes

- Other Asian, incl. Asian, NOS and Oriental, NOS
- 97 Pacific Islander, NOS
- 98 Other
- 99 Unknown

Ethnicity Guidelines

Spanish/Hispanic Origin

Code identifying person of Spanish or Hispanic origin. The code is used by hospital and central registries to show the "best guess" as to whether or not the person should be classified for purposes of calculating cancer rates. If the patient has multiple tumors, all records should have the same code.

Spanish/Hispanic Code Guidelines

◆ All information resources should be used to determine the correct code, including:

- Stated ethnicity in the medical record
- Stated Hispanic origin on the death certificate
- Birthplace
- Information about life history and/or language spoken found during the abstracting process
- Patient's last name or maiden name

Spanish/Hispanic Ethnicity Codes

- **Codes**

- 0 Non- Spanish or non-Hispanic

- 1 Mexican (includes Chicano)

- 2 Puerto Rican

- 3 Cuban

- 4 South or Central American (except Brazil)

Spanish/Hispanic Ethnicity Codes

- 5 Other specified Spanish/Hispanic origin (includes European)

- 6. Spanish, NOS

- Hispanic, NOS

- Latino, NOS

- **There is evidence, other than surname or maiden name, that the person is Hispanic, but he/she cannot be assigned to any of the categories 1-5**
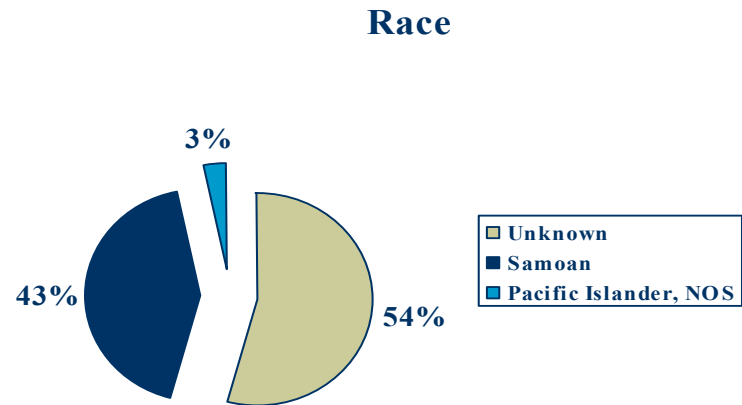
Spanish/Hispanic Ethnicity Codes

- 7. Spanish Surname only

- **The only evidence of the person's Hispanic origin is the surname or maiden name and there is no contrary evidence that the patient is not Hispanic**

- 9. Unknown whether Spanish or not

Question 1
Patient's chart has raced coded as unknown but patient was born in Samoa. What is correct race?
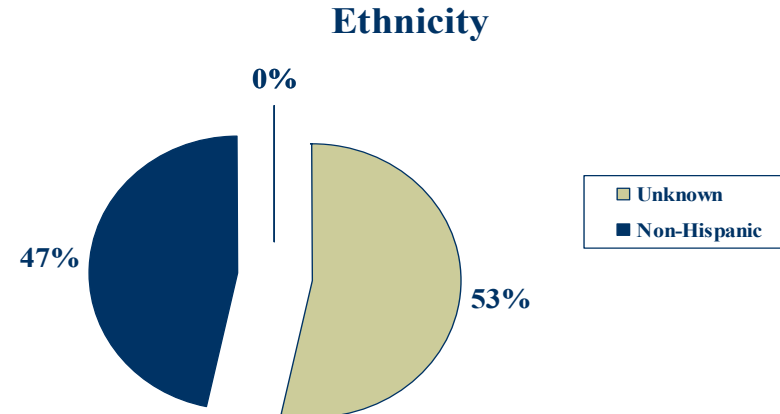
- Choices were:
  - Unknown
  - Asian
  - Pacific Islander, NOS
  - Samoan
- Expert panel answer:
  - Samoan

Race

- 3%
- 43%
- 54%

Legend:
- Unknown
- Samoan
- Pacific Islander, NOS

Question 1B
What is the Spanish/Hispanic code for this person?

◆ Expert panel answer:

- Non-Hispanic

Ethnicity

0%

47%

53%

☐ Unknown
■ Non-Hispanic

Question 2
Patient's birthplace is Iran and the patient's last name is Hazzim. What is the correct race code?

♦ Choices were:
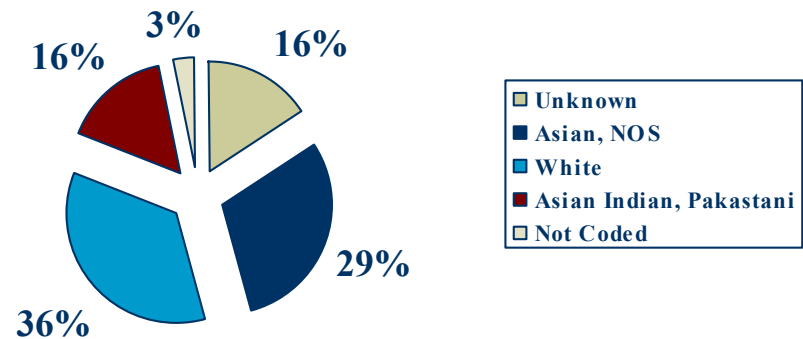- Asian
- Asian Indian
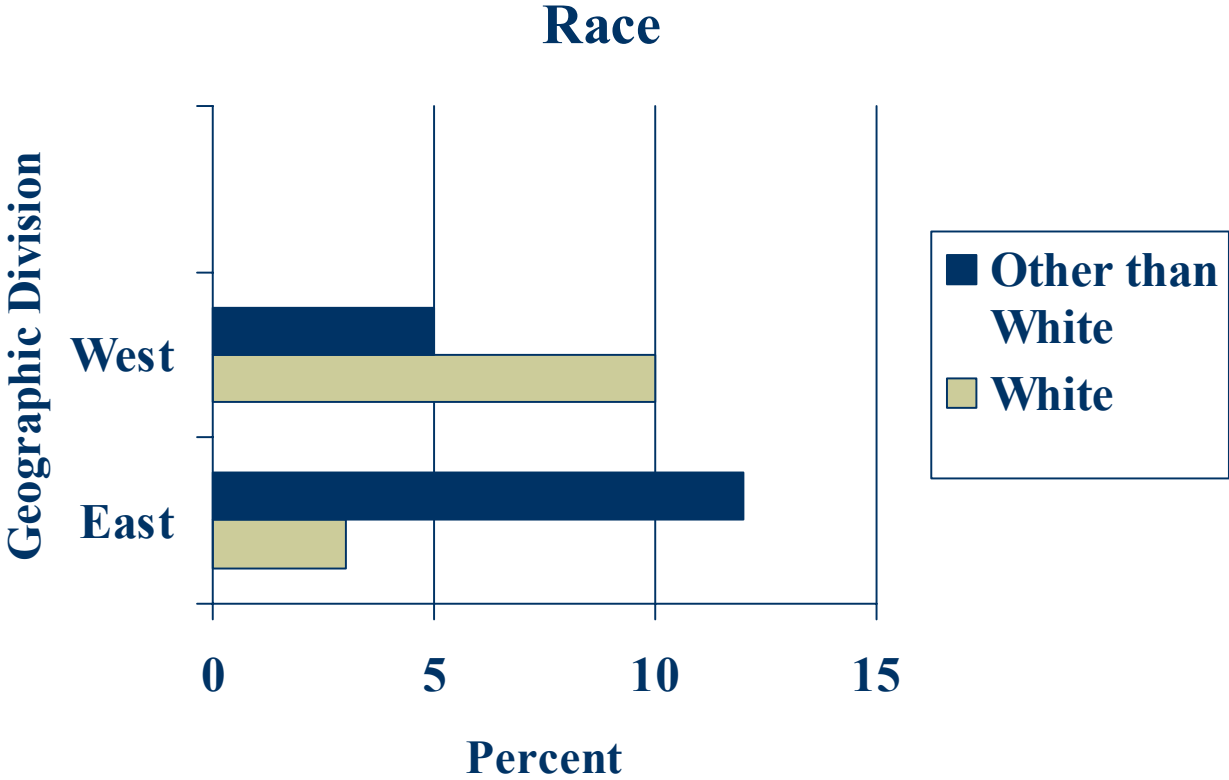- Pakistani
- White
- Unknown

♦ Expert panel answer:
- White

Race

Legend:
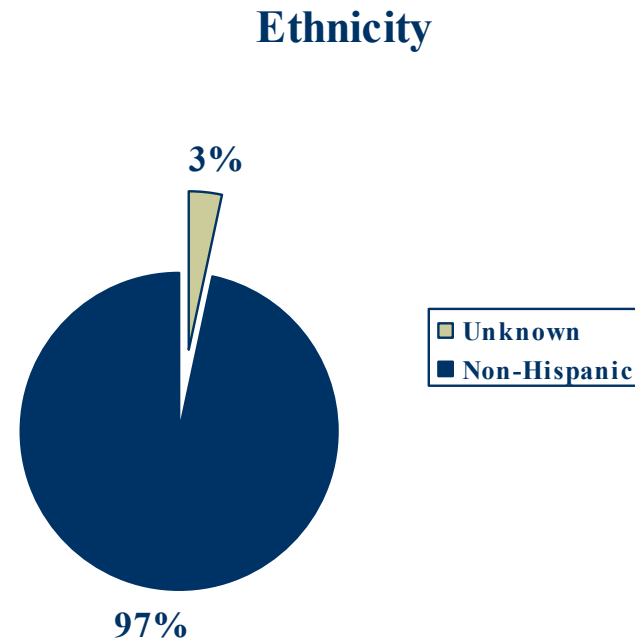- Unknown
- Asian, NOS
- White
- Asian Indian, Pakastani
- Not Coded

3%, 16%, 16%, 29%, 36%

Question 2 Breakdown

Race

Chart axes: Geographic Division (West, East) vs Percent (0, 5, 10, 15)

Legend:
- Other than White
- White

Question 2B
What is the Spanish/Hispanic code for this patient?

◆ Expert panel answer:
  ■ Non-Hispanic

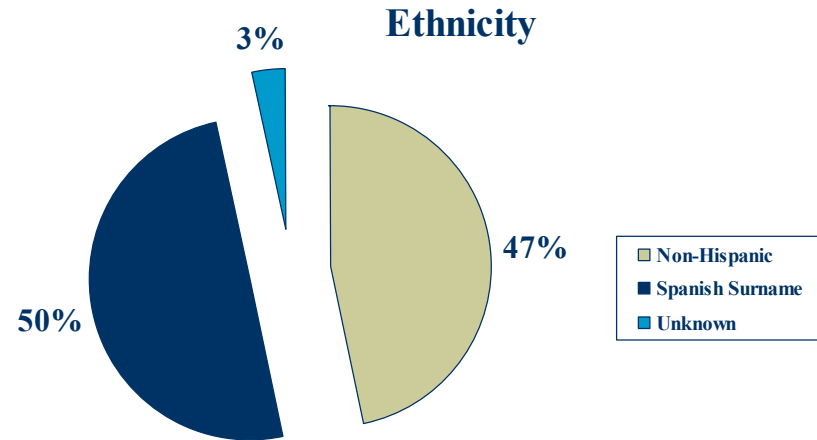**Ethnicity**

3%

☐ Unknown
■ Non-Hispanic

97%

Question 3

- ◆ Face sheet for patient states name to be Joseph Sanchez. Physician's notes states patient is Apache.
  - What is the correct race code for this patient?
- ◆ Choices were:
  - White
  - American Indian, Aleutian, Eskimo
  - Black
  - Unknown
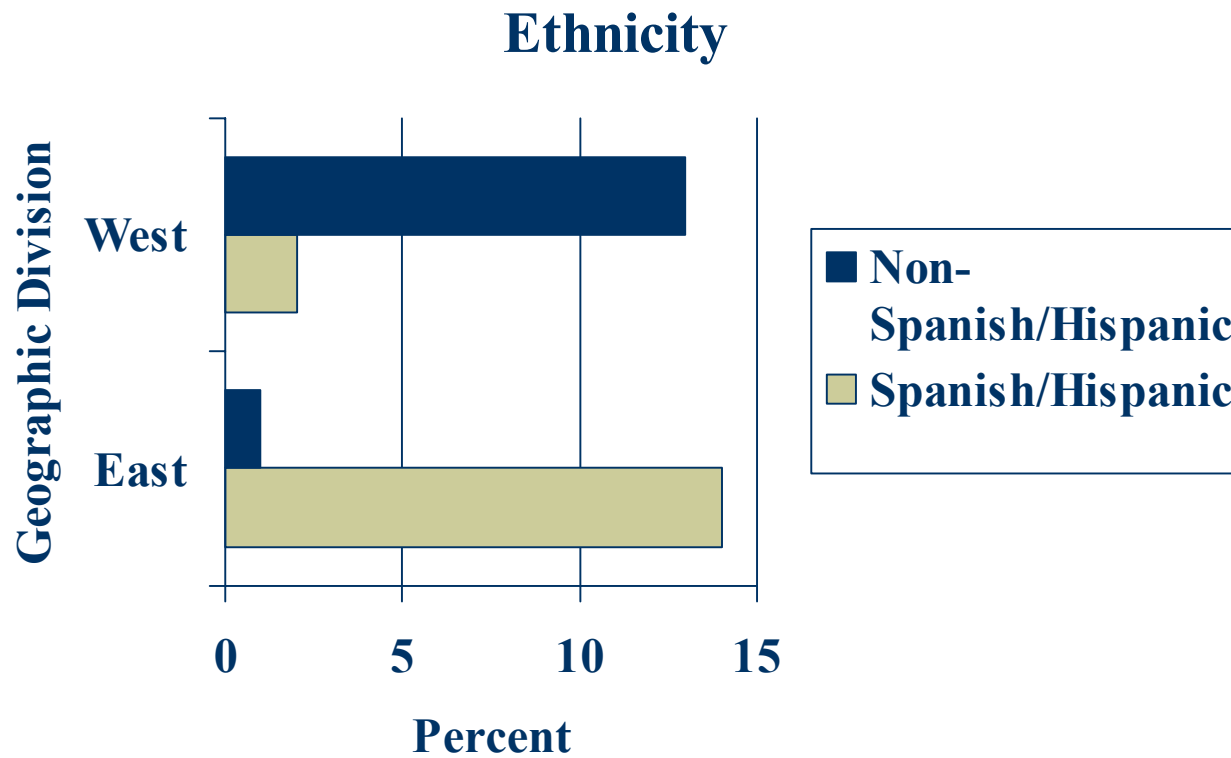- ◆ 100% Agreement on American Indian, Aleutian, Eskimo

Question 3B
What is the Spanish/Hispanic code for this patient?

◆ Expert panel answer:
  ▪ Non-Hispanic

Ethnicity

3%
50%
47%

Legend:
☐ Non-Hispanic
■ Spanish Surname
☐ Unknown

Question 3B Breakdown

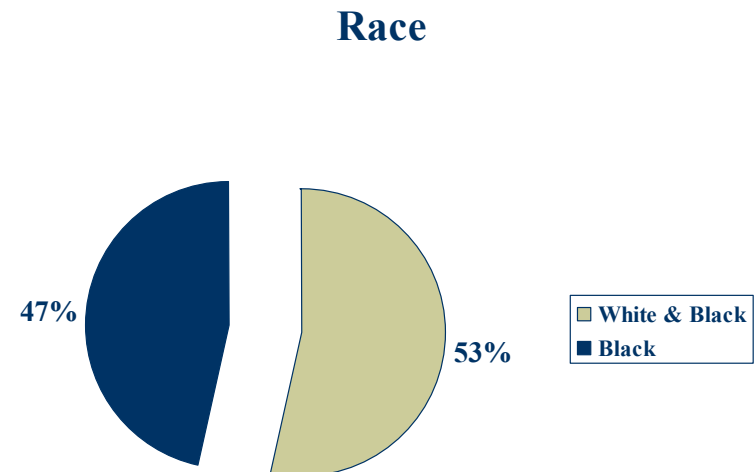Ethnicity — bar chart of Percent vs Geographic Division (West, East) for Non-Spanish/Hispanic and Spanish/Hispanic

Question 4
Patient's birthplace is Puerto Rico. Patient's mother is white and the father is black. What is the correct race code?

◆ Choices were:
  - White, only
  - Black, only
  - Black and White
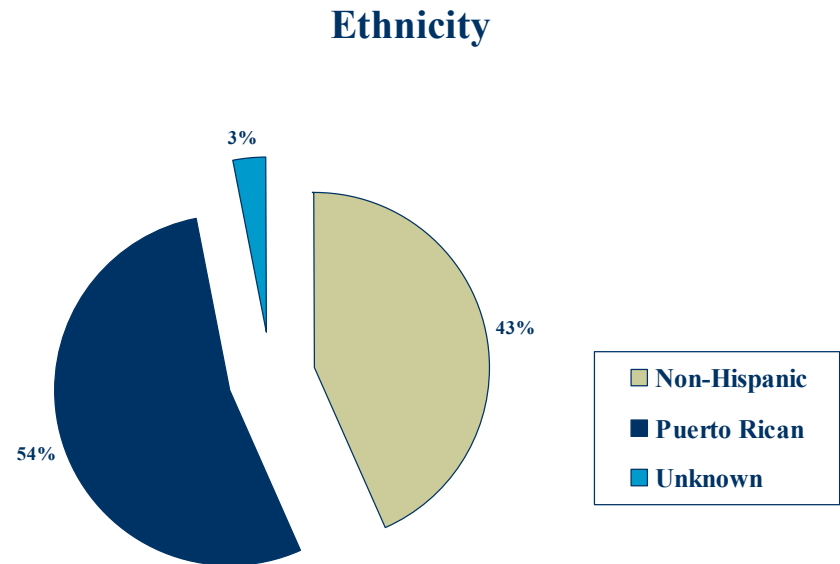 - Other
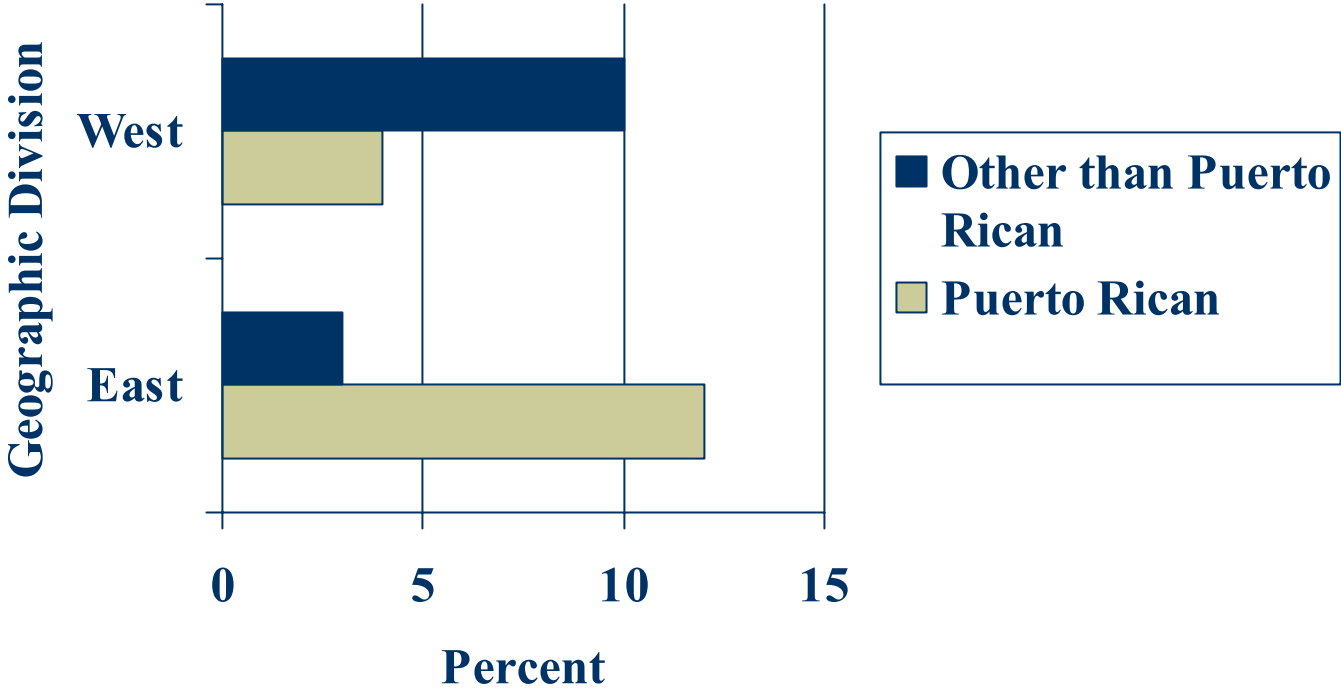 - Unknown

◆ Expert panel answer:
  - Black and White

Race

47% 53%

White & Black
Black

Question 4b
What is the Spanish/Hispanic Origin

◆ Expert panel answer:
  ■ Puerto Rican

Ethnicity

- Non-Hispanic
- Puerto Rican
- Unknown

Question 4b Breakdown
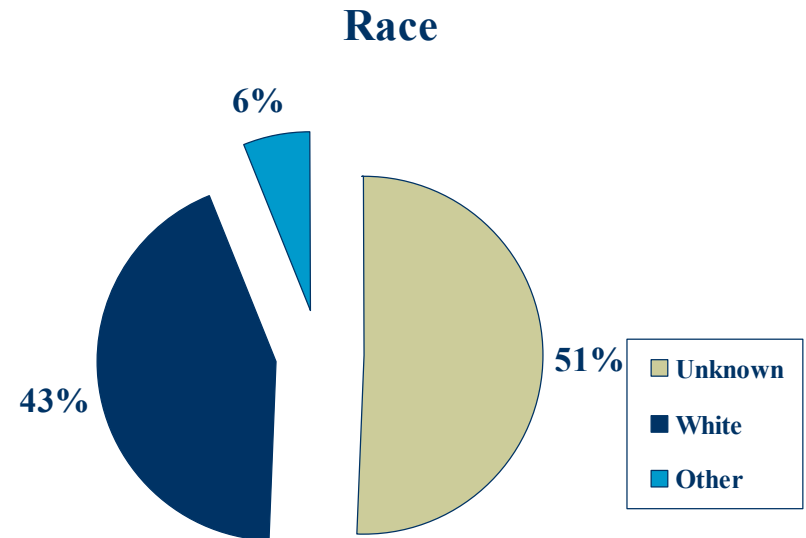
Ethnicity

Question 5
Patient's name is Sabina Fitzsimmons and birthplace is Brazil. What is the correct race code?

- Choices were:
  - White
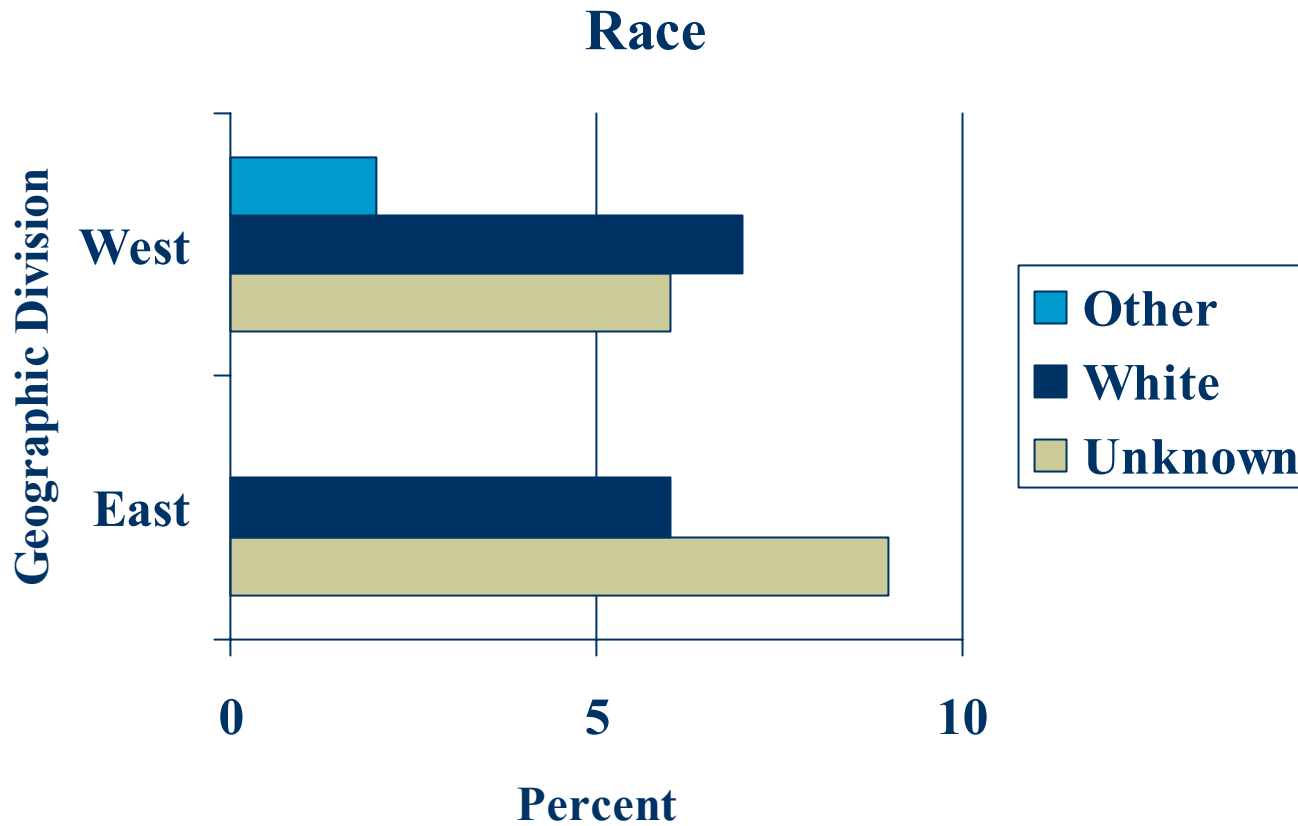 - Black
  - Polynesian
  - Other
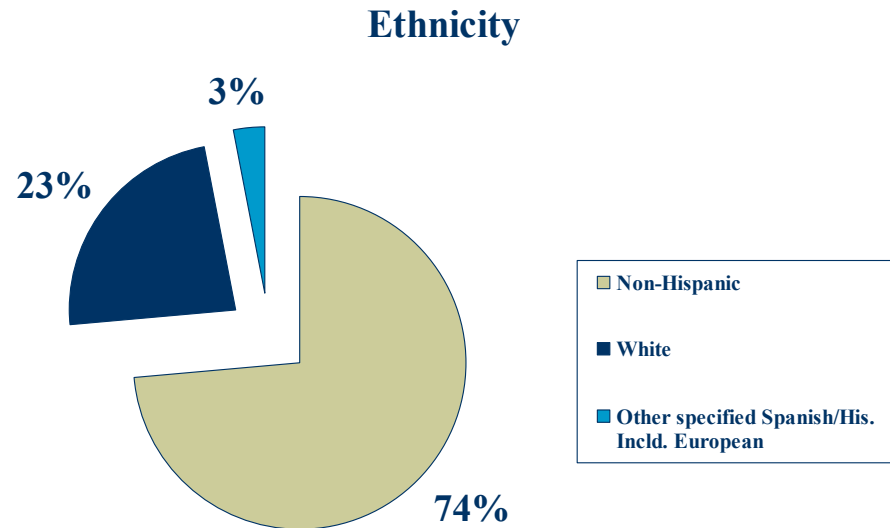 - Unknown

- Expert panel answer:
  - Unknown

Race

6%	
51%	Unknown
43%	White
	Other

Question 5

Question 5B
What is the Spanish/Hispanic code for this patient?

◆ Expert panel answer:
  ■ Non-Hispanic

Ethnicity

3%

23%

74%

Legend:
- Non-Hispanic
- White
- Other specified Spanish/His. Incld. European
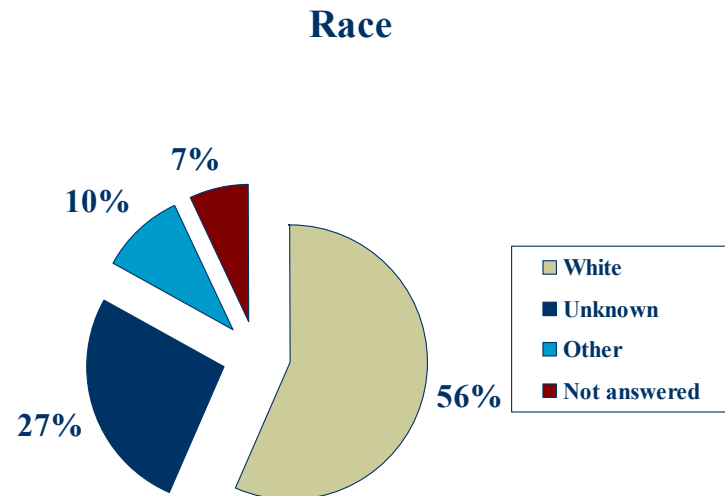
Question 6
Face sheet for patient states name as Francesca Chuicol and the birthplace is Guatemala. What is the correct race code?
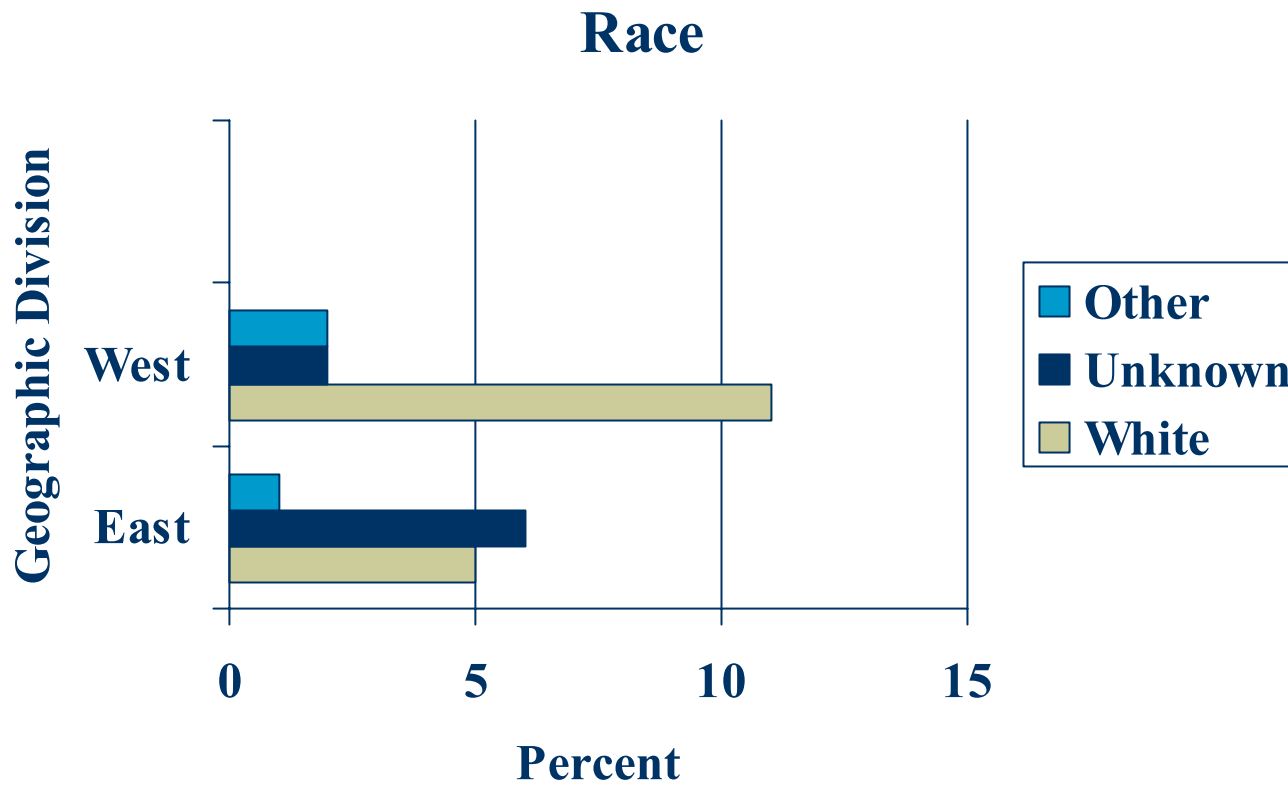
- Choices were:
  - White
  - Black
  - Pacific Islander
  - Other
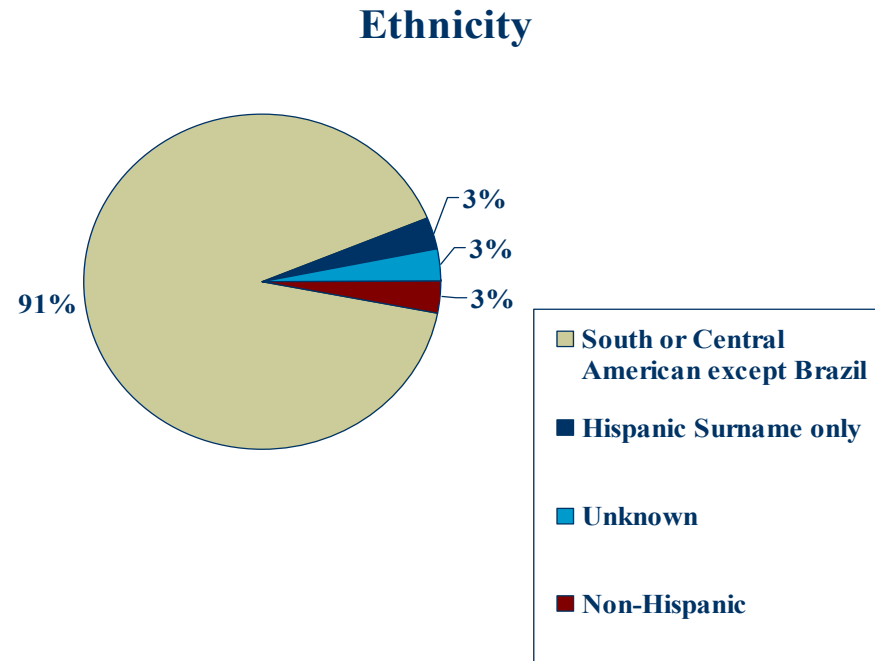 - Unknown

- Expert panel answer:
  - Unknown

Race

■	White
■	Unknown
■	Other
■	Not answered

7%
10%
56%
27%

Question 6 Breakdown

Race

Question 6B
What is the Spanish/Hispanic code for this patient?

◆ Expert panel answer:
  ■ South or Central American except Brazil

Ethnicity

91%

3%

3%

3%

□ South or Central American except Brazil

■ Hispanic Surname only
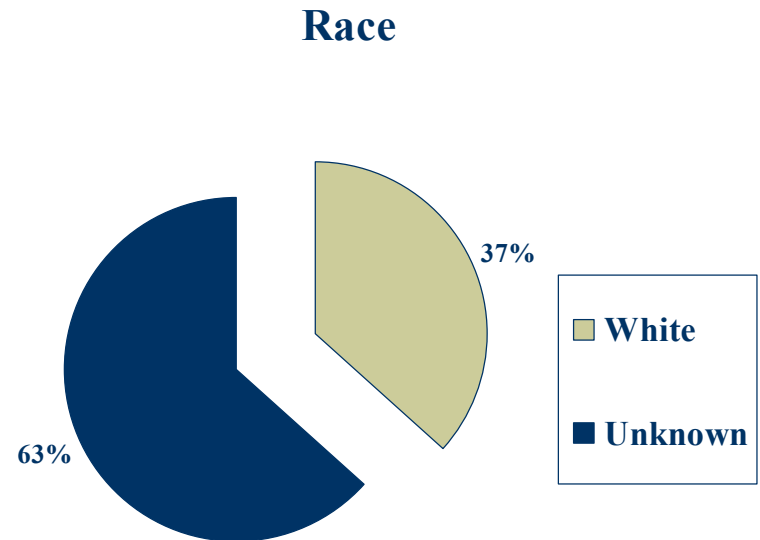
■ Unknown

■ Non-Hispanic

Question 7
Patient's name is Alice Gomez. Birthplace listed as Indiana. No other information is available. What is the correct race code?
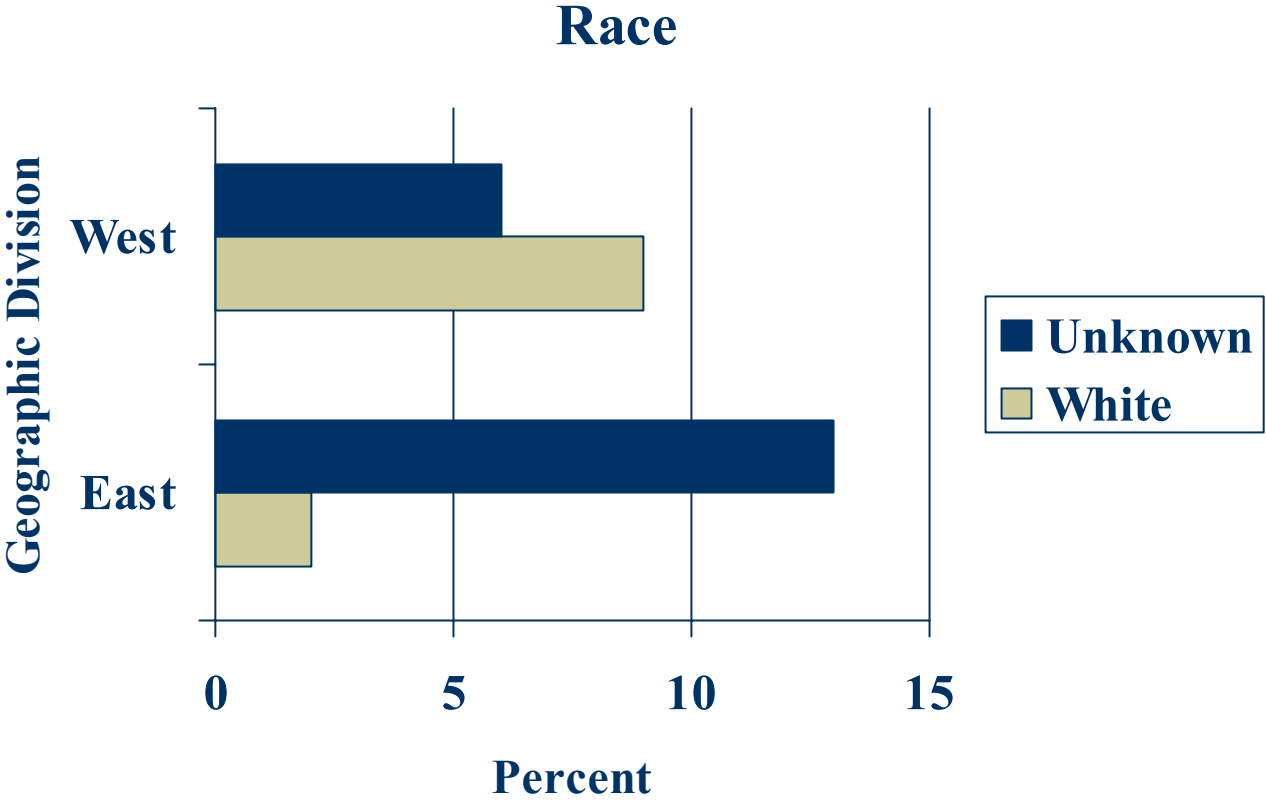
◆ Choices were:

- White
- Black
- Filipino
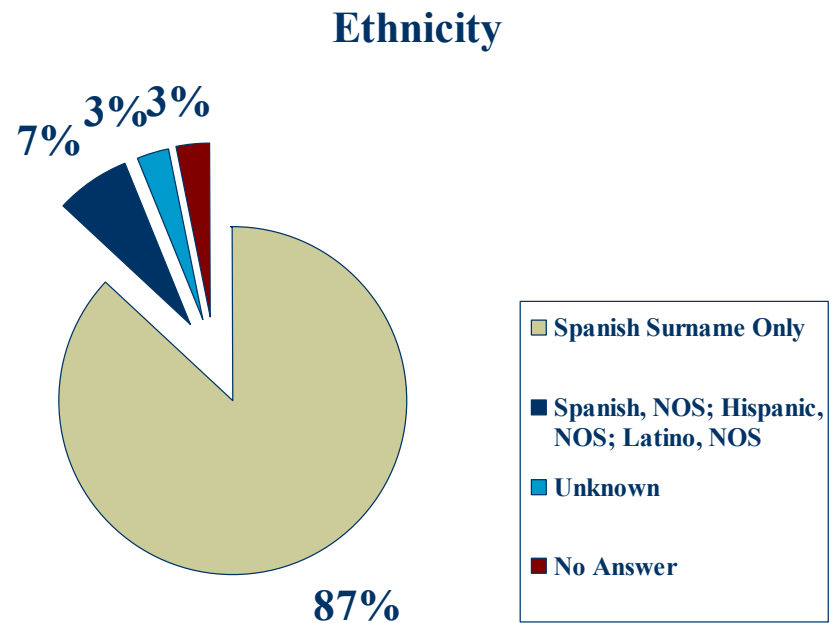- Other
- Unknown

◆ Expert panel answer:

- Unknown

Race

37% White

63% Unknown

Question 7 Breakdown

Race

Question 7B
What is the Spanish/Hispanic code for this patient?

◆ Expert panel answer:
  ■ Spanish Surname only

Ethnicity

7% 3%3%

87%

Legend:
- Spanish Surname Only
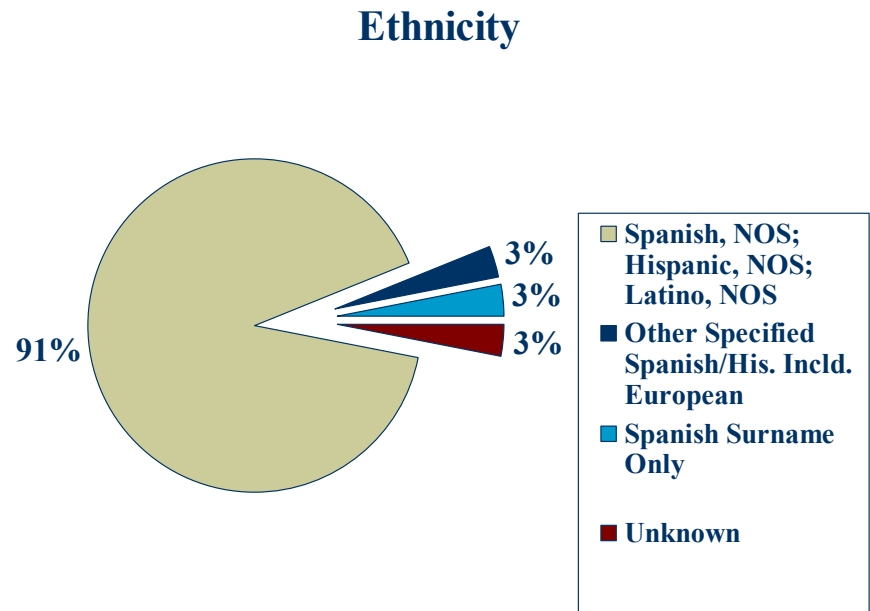- Spanish, NOS; Hispanic, NOS; Latino, NOS
- Unknown
- No Answer

Question 8

- Patient's medical record states that the patient is white. The death certificate states that the patient is Hispanic and that the birthplace is Los Angeles, California
  - What is the correct race code?
- Choices were
  - White
  - Black
  - Filipino
  - Other
  - Unknown
- 100% agreement that race is White

Question 8B
What is the Spanish/Hispanic code for this patient?

◆ Expert panel answer:

  ▪ Spanish, NOS; Hispanic, NOS; Latino, NOS

Ethnicity

91%

3%
3%
3%

- Spanish, NOS; Hispanic, NOS; Latino, NOS
- Other Specified Spanish/His. Incld. European
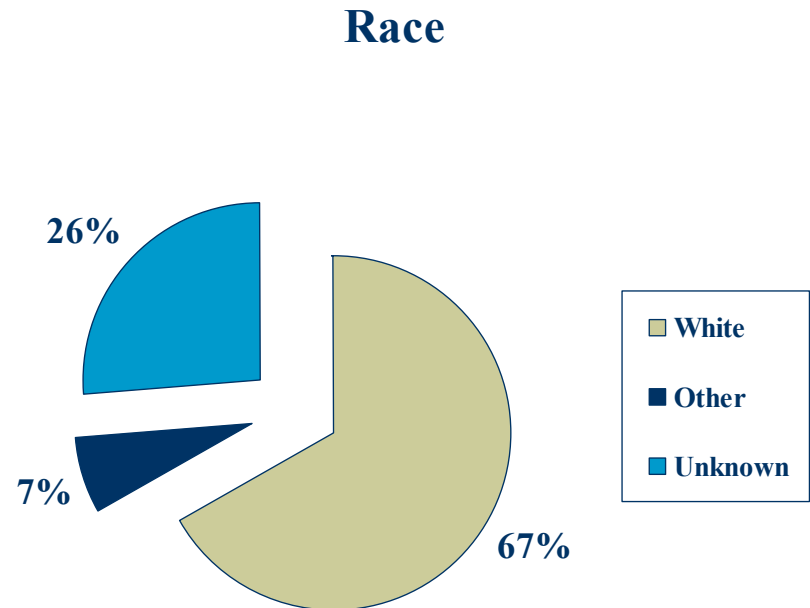- Spanish Surname Only

- Unknown

Question 9
Race not coded in medical record. Patient's name is Lupe Guadalupe. Birthplace is El Salvador. What is the correct race code?

- Choices were:
  - White
  - Black
  - Other
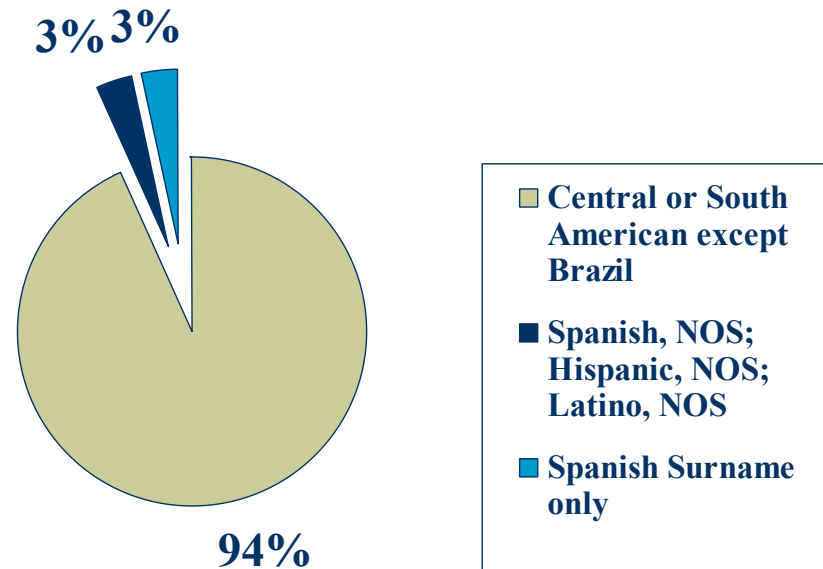 - Unknown

- Expert panel answer:
  - Unknown

Race

26%

7%

67%

- White
- Other
- Unknown

Question 9B
What is the Spanish/Hispanic code for this patient?

◆ Expert panel answer:

- Central or South American except Brazil

Ethnicity

3% 3%

94%

Legend:
- ☐ Central or South American except Brazil
- ■ Spanish, NOS; Hispanic, NOS; Latino, NOS
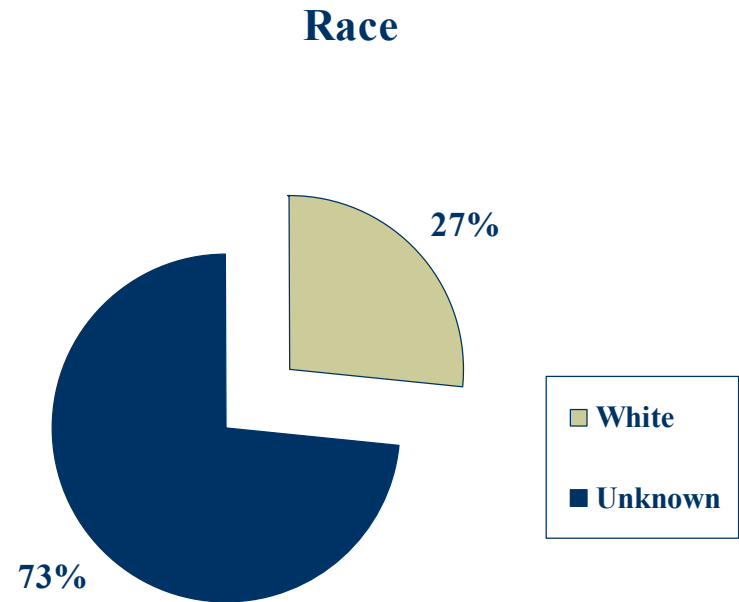- ■ Spanish Surname only

Question 10
Patient's name is Betty Sanchez. Race and Birthplace not coded in the medical record. What is the correct race code?

◆ Choices were:

- White
- Black
- Other
- Unknown
- Asian

◆ Expert panel answer:

- Unknown

Race

27%

73%

- White
- Unknown

Question 10B
What is the Spanish/Hispanic code for this patient?

◆ Expert panel answer:
  - Spanish Surname only

Ethnicity

3% 3% 3% 3%

88%

- Spanish, NOS; Hispanic, NOS; Latino, NOS
- Spanish Surname Only
- Unknown
- Non-Hispanic
- No Answer