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Reply to “Increasing diversity in peanut oral immunotherapy research and accessibility”



To The Editor:

We appreciate the correspondence by Smith and Kim.¹ We share their concern for health disparities and the need for greater equity in our field, especially as it pertains to the availability and utilization of peanut oral immunotherapy (PN-OIT). Health inequities exist in every facet of medical care, and the field of allergy and immunology is by no means an exception.

We estimate that less than 5% of the patient population we treated was black or Hispanic. We hope that with broader access to health care, these numbers will become more representative of the peanut-allergic population.

At this time, we would be hesitant to adjust our own PN-OIT protocols, which are based on well-established body of literature.²⁻⁶ However, we agree that further research into avenues suggested that would make PN-OIT more broadly accessible is essential. If new protocols could be developed that allow for greater access to PN-OIT while ensuring a similar

level of safety, we would eagerly adapt them into our clinical practice.

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