

The Three Phases of Health Disparities Work

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Three Phases of Work

- 1. Descriptive
 - Describe health disparity
- 2. Mechanistic
 - Understand reasons for disparity
- 3. Interventional
 - Intervene on health disparity



Background

- End Stage Renal Disease
- Kidney transplant better than dialysis
 - Survival
 - Quality of life
 - Cost



Background

- Severe shortage of kidneys
- Focus on deceased donors
- Waiting list
- Points for waiting time, tissue type match
- Are there disparities?

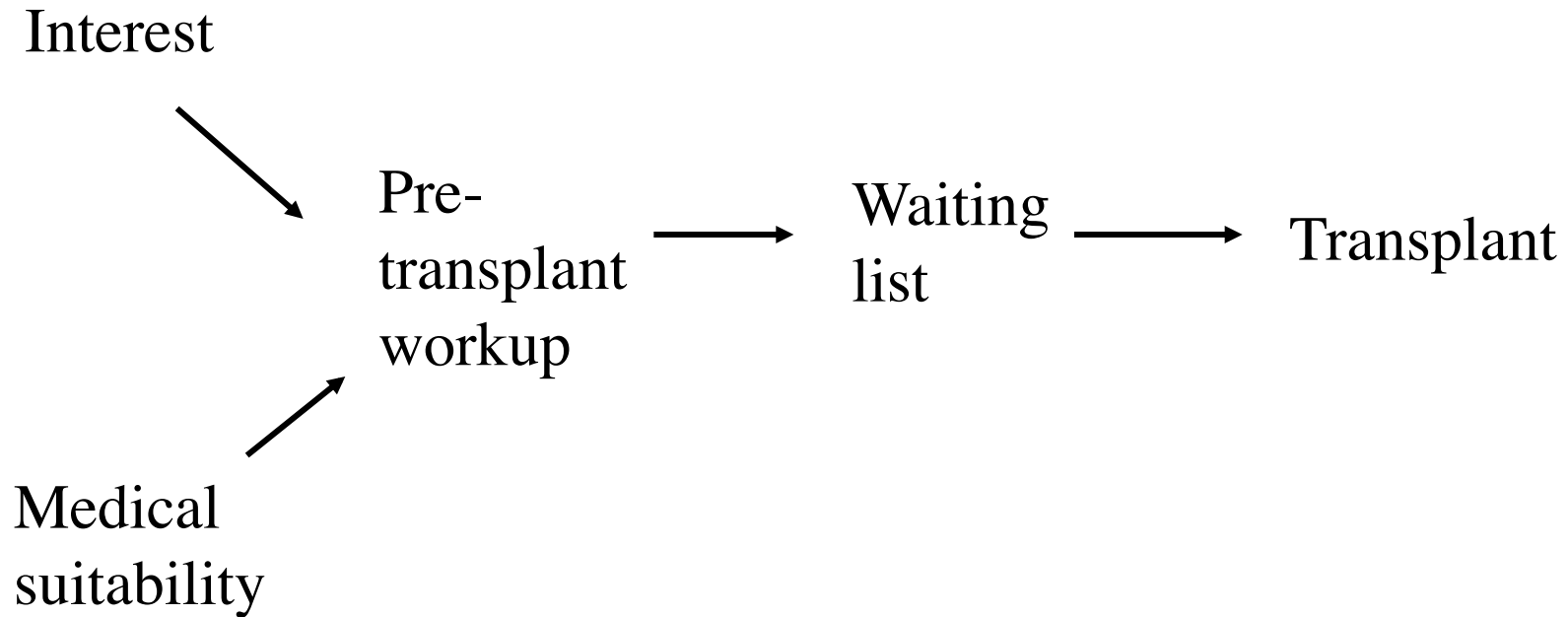
1. Descriptive Phase

Deceased Donor Transplant Rate per 100 Patients with
End Stage Renal Disease

- Race: whites 11, blacks 5
- Gender: males 10, females 7
- Income: rich 11, middle 9, poor 6

Why do these disparities exist?

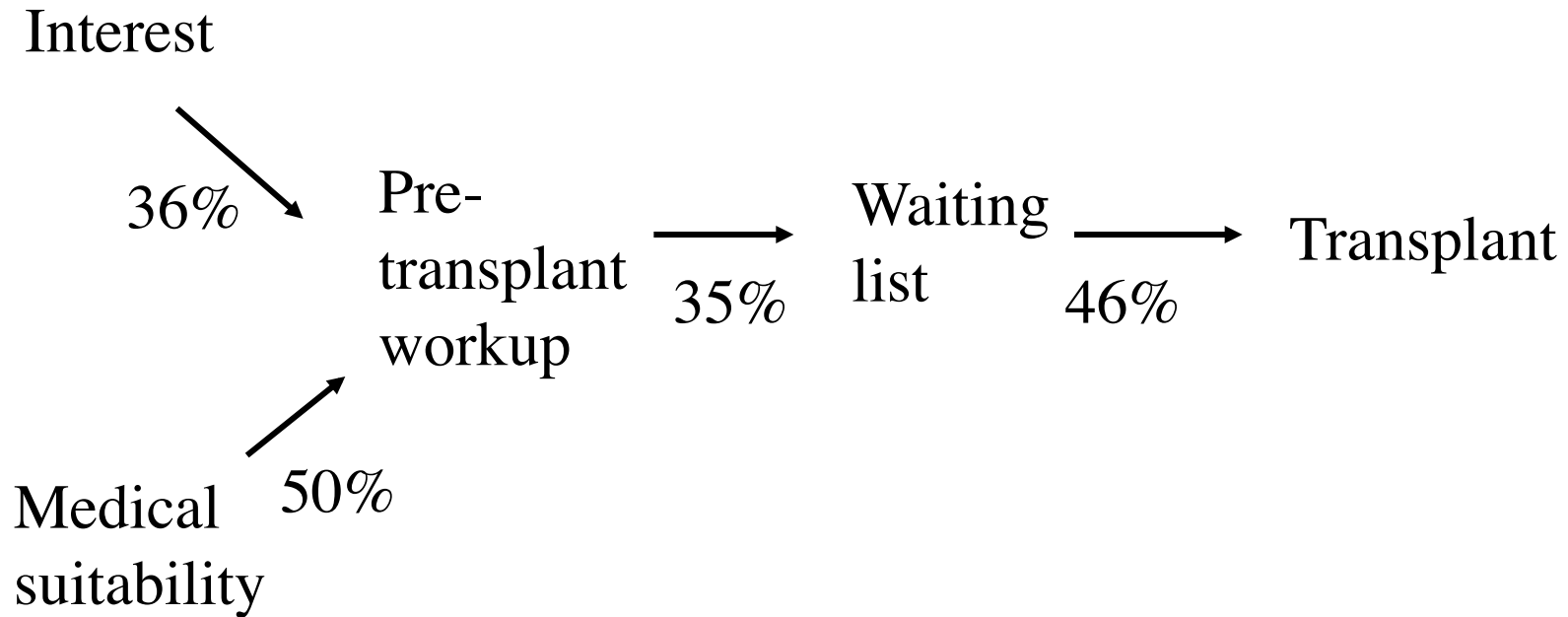
2. Mechanistic Phase



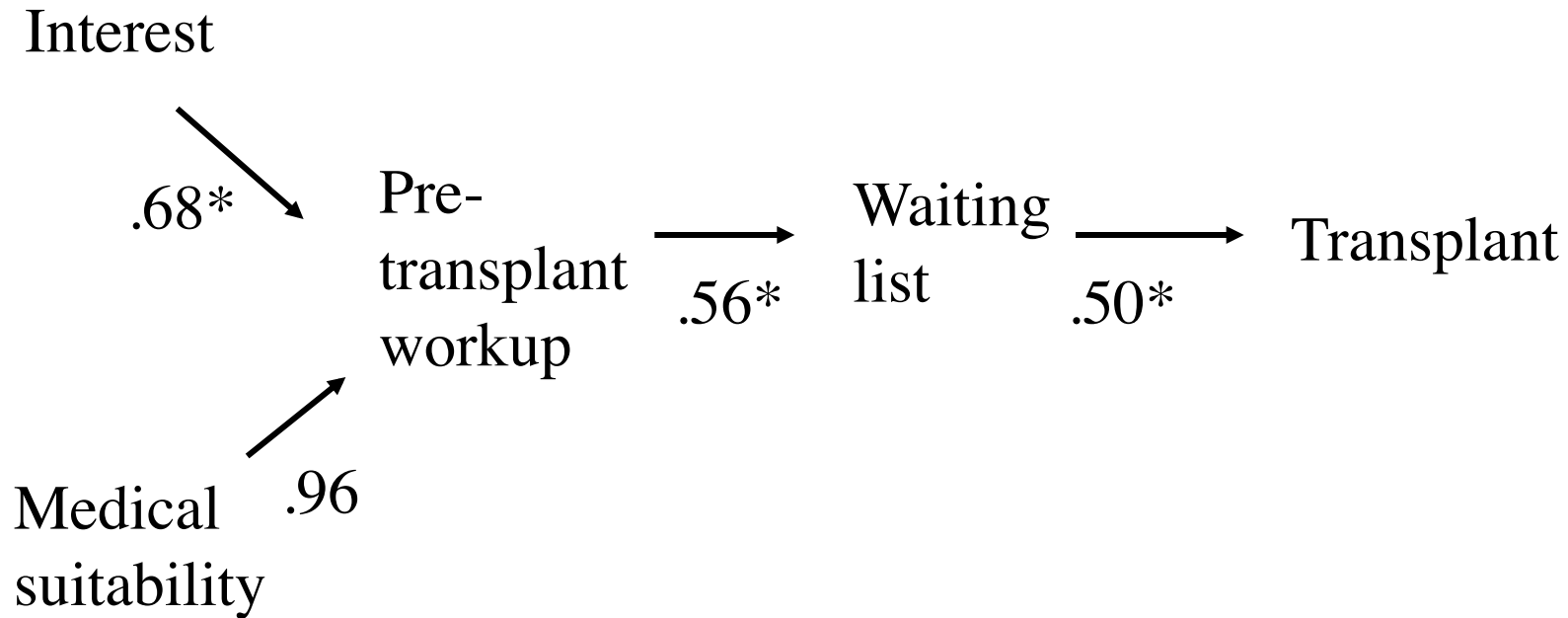
Methods

- 7000 new End Stage Renal Disease patients
- Followed for four years
- Determined step at end of each year
- Adjusted for demographic, medical characteristics

Overall completion of steps

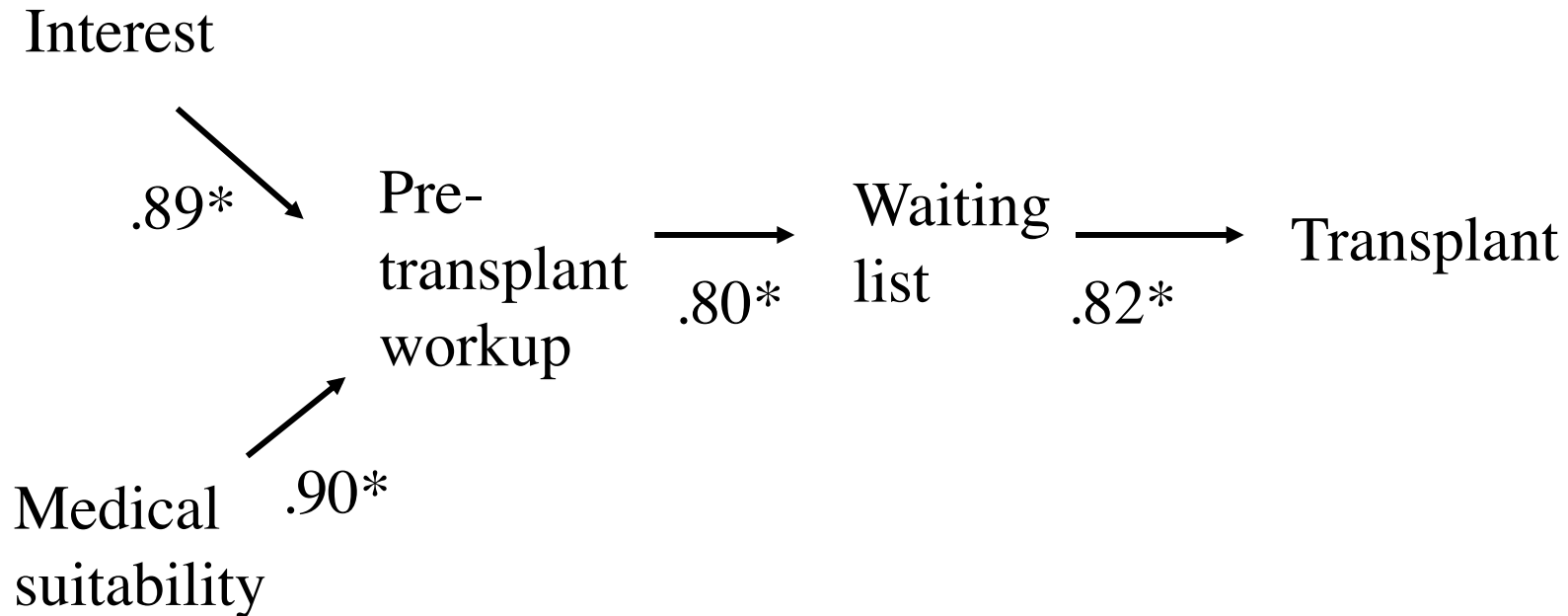


Movement of blacks vs. whites



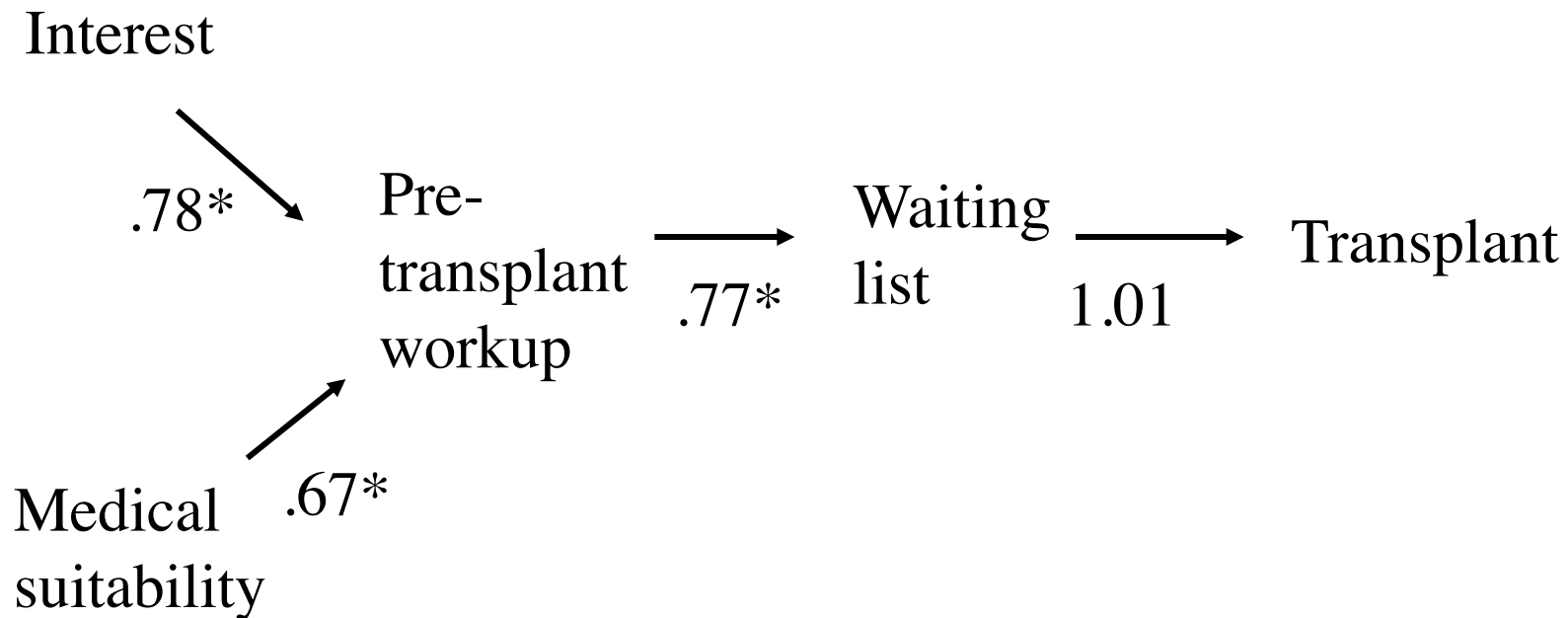
Adjusted Odds Ratio; * p<.05

Movement of women vs. men



Adjusted Odds Ratio; * p<.05

Movement of poor vs. rich



Adjusted Odds Ratio; * p<.05

How address these disparities?

3. Interventional Phase

- Navigators can educate and assist patients
- Previously used in cancer screening, treatment



Randomized Controlled Trial

- Kidney transplant recipients as navigators
 - Provide information about transplantation
 - Assist with steps in transplant process
 - Act as source of support
- Usual care control group
- Number of steps completed, transplantation
- Preliminary results

Three Phases of Work

- Descriptive, mechanistic, interventional
- What are others doing?
- What should you do?

Case Western Center for Reducing Health Disparities

- Research
- Education
- Community Collaboration

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“Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health care is the most shocking and inhumane.”

Martin Luther King, Jr.