

# Breast Cancer Treatment Delays by Socioeconomic Status and Access to Care Patterns

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## Background

- Black women have a mortality rate 42% higher compared to white women.
- Previous research on black-white differences in treatment delay has primarily focused on treatment initiation without considering other delays on the care continuum.

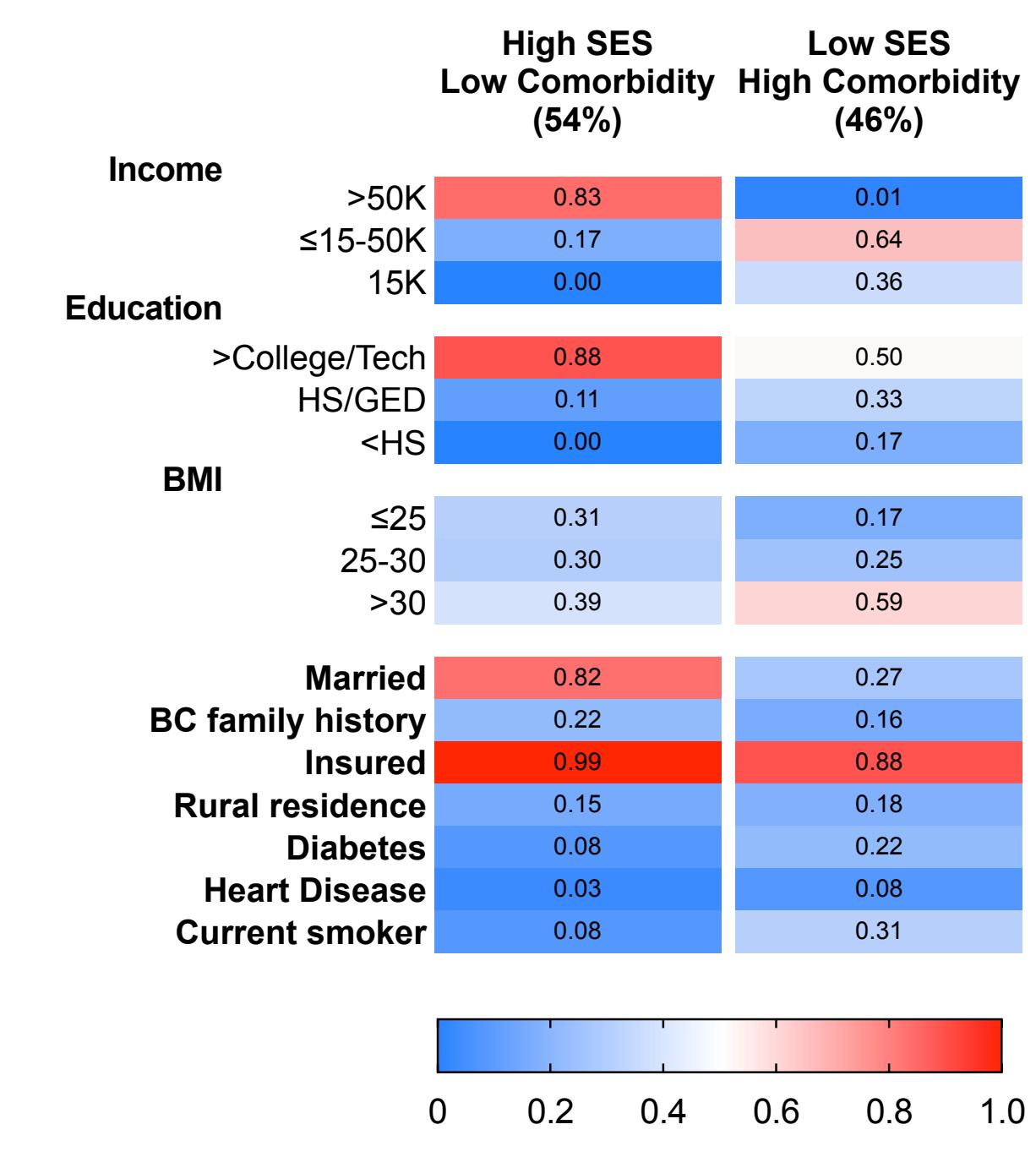
## Objective

To estimate the associations of latent classes of SES and access to care with delays in **treatment initiation** and **duration** by race and age.

## Methods

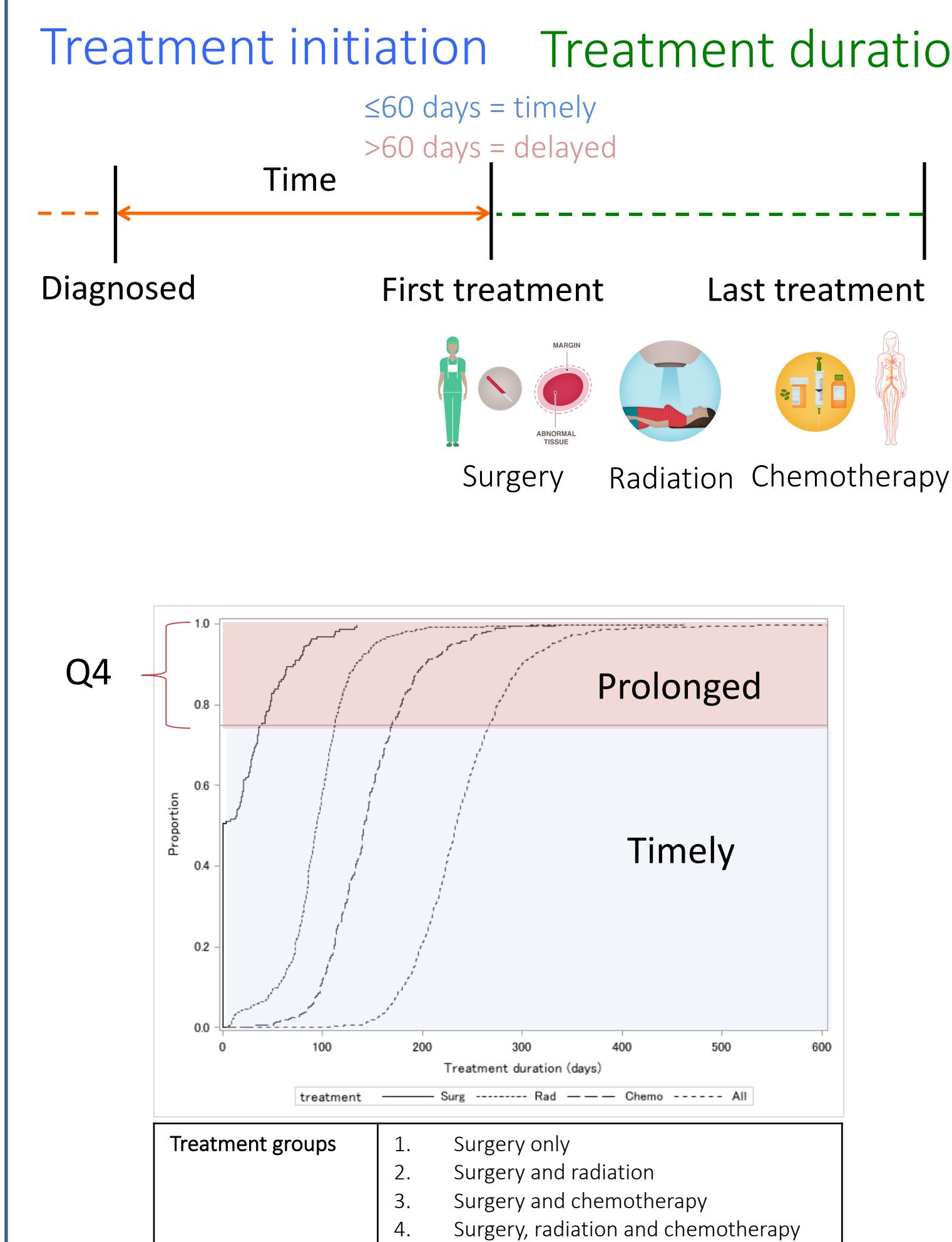
### Exposures: Barriers to care

- Latent classes
  - SES/comorbidities
  - Access to care



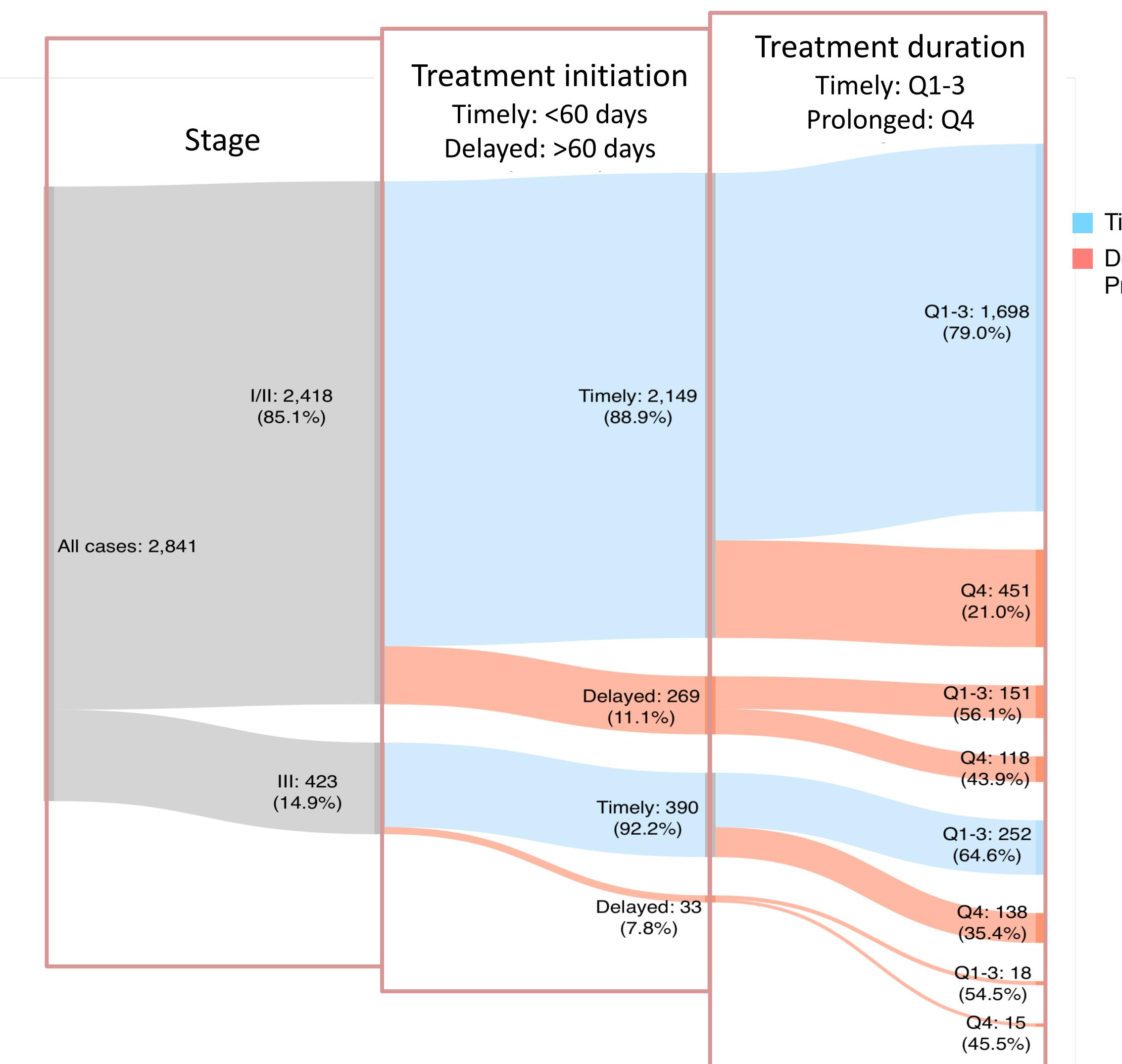
### Outcomes: Treatment timeliness

- Treatment initiation
- Treatment delay



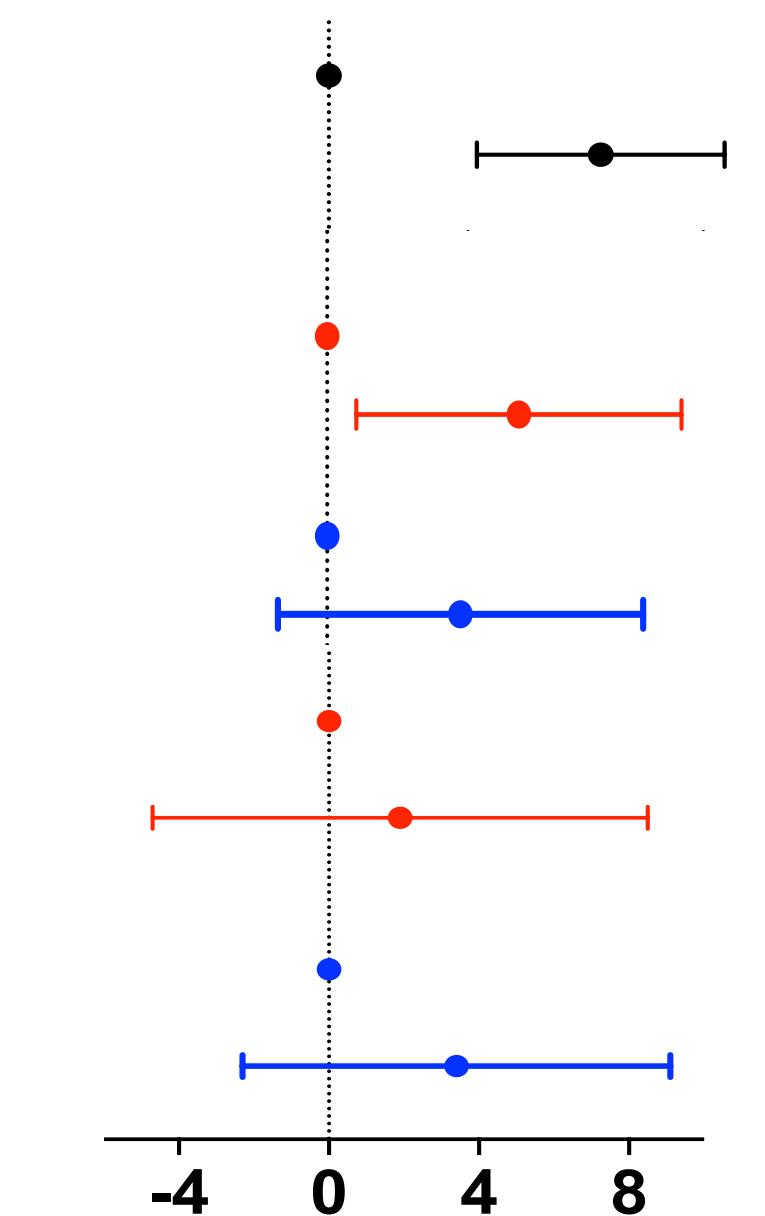
## Results

Flow diagram of stage, treatment initiation and duration.



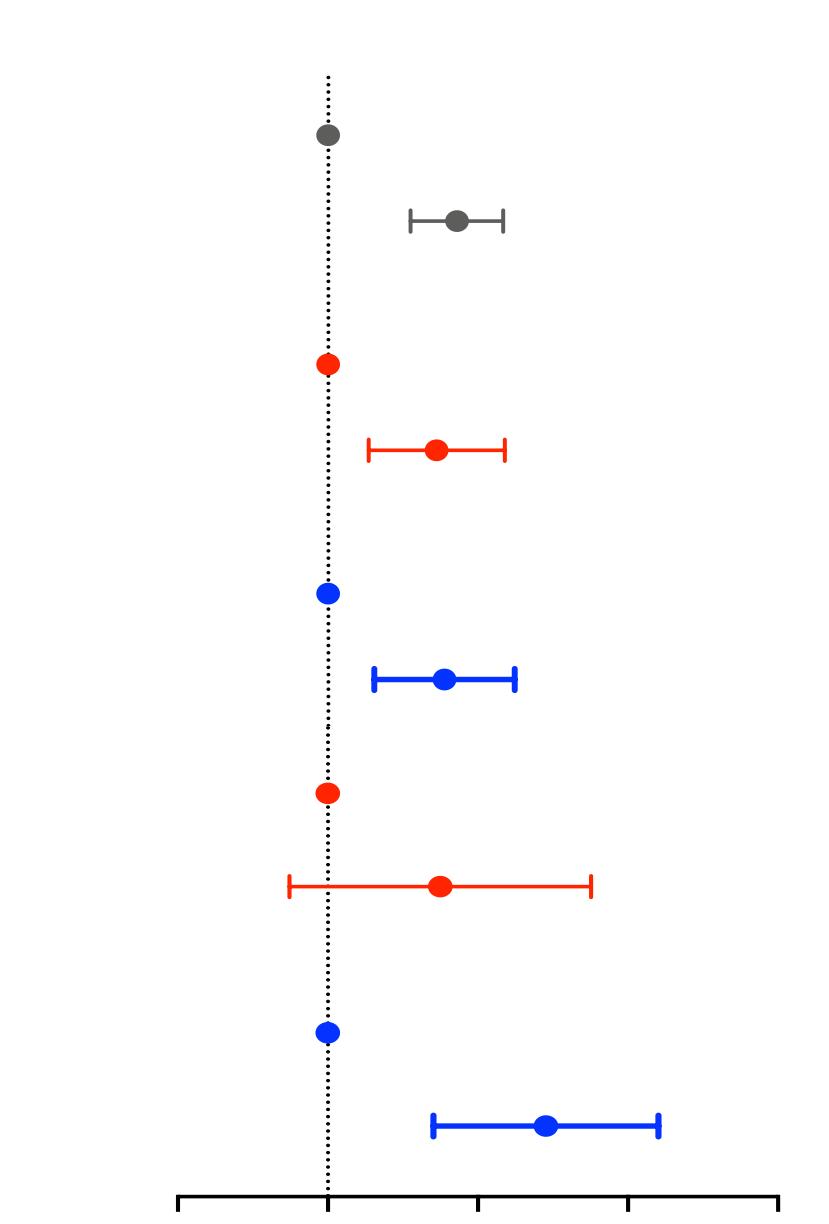
### Delayed treatment initiation

Race	Latent classes	Cases	N	Prev. (%)	RFD (95% CI)
White		115	1448	7.9	0
Black		187	1393	13.4	<b>5.2 (2.8, 7.5)</b>
White	High SES	67	994	6.7	0
	Low SES	48	454	10.6	<b>3.8 (0.6, 7.1)</b>
Black	High SES	60	511	11.7	0
	Low SES	127	882	14.4	<b>2.7 (-1.0, 6.3)</b>
White	Less barriers	107	1366	7.8	0
	More barriers	8	82	9.8	<b>1.9 (-4.7, 8.5)</b>
Black	Less barriers	157	1209	13.0	0
	More barriers	30	183	16.4	<b>3.4 (-2.3, 9.1)</b>



### Prolonged treatment duration

Race	Latent classes	Cases	N	Prev. (%)	RFD (95% CI)
White		291	1448	21.1	0
Black		417	1393	30.1	<b>8.9 (5.7, 12.1)</b>
White	High SES	186	994	18.7	0
	Low SES	119	454	26.2	<b>7.5 (2.8, 12.2)</b>
Black	High SES	127	511	24.9	0
	Low SES	290	882	32.9	<b>8.0 (3.2, 12.9)</b>
White	Less barriers	282	1366	20.6	0
	More barriers	23	82	28.1	<b>7.4 (-2.6, 17.6)</b>
Black	Less barriers	339	1209	28.0	0
	More barriers	78	183	42.6	<b>14.6 (7.0, 22.2)</b>



## Conclusions

- Prolonged treatment duration may be a more sensitive indicator of barriers to care, possibly more sensitive than delayed initiation.
- Lower SES and more barriers black women associated with prolonged treatment duration
- By developing an integrated view of where delays happen and compound, and evaluating aggregated characteristics, multidimensional interventions can be conceptualized.

## Future Direction

Future work should consider:

- Long-term survival in association with prolonged treatment duration
- Greater mechanistic understanding to what leads to these disparities