

1 **Identification of Cancer Related Risk and Protective Factors for American Indian Youth:**  
2 **A Mixed Studies Review**

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4 Dr. Melanie Nadeau, PhD<sup>1</sup>, MPH; Kathryn Wise, B.S.<sup>2</sup>, CHES; Vianca Farfan Cuela, MPH<sup>3</sup>;  
5 Devon Olson, MLIS<sup>4</sup>; Karan Saravana, B.S.<sup>5</sup>.

6  
7 **Abstract**

8 **Introduction**

9 Many causes of cancer related morbidity and mortality can be traced back to childhood  
10 behaviors. The culmination of cancer related risk and protective factors impacting the health and  
11 wellbeing of American Indian youth is unknown. The aim of this Mixed Studies Review was to  
12 identify cancer related risk and protective factors among American Indian youth. Results will be  
13 shared with Tribal communities to inform surveillance efforts.

14  
15 **Methods**

16 A Mixed Studies Review process was deemed most appropriate for the search process and data  
17 collection. 7 databases were included in the search along with 3 databases that were hand  
18 searched. Google Scholar and Google power searching were also conducted. Covidence was  
19 utilized for abstract and full-text review. Out of 1512 articles, 75 articles were included for  
20 review and data from each article was sorted out into the levels of the Socio Ecological Model.

21  
22 **Results**

23 After extracting significant cancer-related risk and protective factors from the 75 relevant  
24 articles, cancer related themes were identified at the individual, relationship (family and non-  
25 family), community, institutional, and cultural levels of the socio-ecological model. It was  
26 observed that the risk and protective factor profile for substance use spanned all levels of the  
27 socio-ecological model, whereas physical health-diet indicators and sexual health indicators did  
28 not. Most articles (n = 58, 77%) focused on substance use-related risk and protective factors.

29  
30 **Discussion**

31 The method that was used for this study can be utilized by other professionals researching risk  
32 and protective factors impacting the health and well-being of American Indian youth for a  
33 multitude of health outcomes. Tribal communities will be able to use the results from our  
34 literature review to inform the creation of a community specific data collection tool focused on  
35 cancer related risk and protective factors. Upon completion of the overarching research, results  
36 will be shared with the community and can be used to inform ongoing surveillance efforts,  
37 influence priorities for intervention and education work, and inform the management of  
38 resources. The continuation of community informed and driven research with Tribal  
39 communities is essential to the health and well-being of Tribal Nations as community grounded  
40 research is limited.

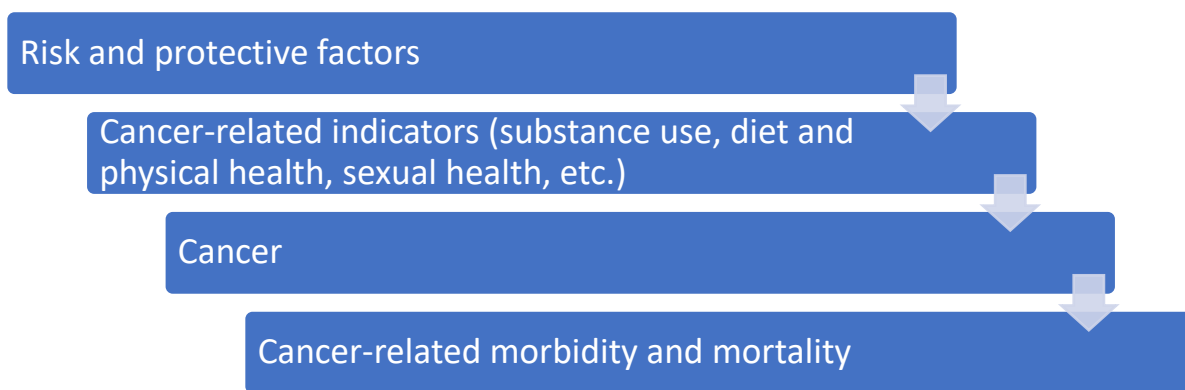
41  
42 **Keywords:** risk factor, supportive factor, supportive mechanisms, protective factor, protective  
43 mechanism, Native American, American Indian, adolescent, teen, youth, young adult  
44  
45  
46

47 **Introduction**

48  
49 Many causes of cancer related morbidity and mortality can be traced back to childhood behaviors  
50 (1). The framework for the current study stems from the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance  
51 System (YRBSS), which monitors health-related behaviors among youth and young adults.  
52 These health-related behaviors are categorized into six themes which include unintentional  
53 injuries and violence, sexual health behaviors, alcohol and other drug use, tobacco use, dietary  
54 behaviors, and physical activity behaviors (1). The categories that are cancer-related are sexual  
55 health behaviors, substance use, and dietary and physical activity behaviors. The YRBSS is  
56 designed to determine the prevalence of health behaviors and assess changes over time.  
57 Although the YRBSS disseminates useful results for youth across the nation, it is not  
58 representative for Tribal nations. Currently there are only two representative Tribal government  
59 surveys included, Cherokee Nation and Winnebago Tribe (2). There are 574 federally recognized  
60 tribes in the United States (3), so surveys that are representative are needed for most of the Tribal  
61 Nations. As a result, the risk and protective profiles for these cancer-related categories is  
62 unknown for American Indian youth. Therefore, a review of the literature was necessary to  
63 identify the risk and protective factors associated with these cancer-related categories (substance  
64 use, diet and physical health, sexual health, etc.) in Tribal communities.

65  
66 The purpose of this literature review was to identify common risk and protective factors for  
67 cancer related indicators (substance use, sexual health, diet & physical health, etc.) that are likely  
68 to result in cancer related morbidity and mortality over the lifespan for American Indian youth.  
69 See Figure 1. This literature review is part of a larger research project that is focusing on  
70 developing and administering a community informed data collection tool with one Tribal  
71 community. The goal of the overarching research proposal is to determine the prevalence of  
72 community level cancer-related risk and protective factors among Tribal youth by creating and  
73 administering a community informed data collection tool.

74  
75 Figure 1. Concept Model for Cancer-Related Risk and Protective Factors



77  
78  
79 American Indian populations suffer disproportionately from cancer compared to other races and  
80 ethnicities in the nation. According to the United States Cancer Statistics (USCS) in 2018, 10,019  
81 new cases of cancer were reported for American Indian and Alaska Native people, and 3,502  
82 American Indian and Alaska Native people died of cancer (4). In 2018, for every 100,000  
83 American Indian and Alaska Native people, 259 new cancer cases were reported and 98 died of

84 cancer (4). According to Espey et. al, cancer was the leading cause of death for Native women  
85 and the second leading cause of death for Native men between the years of 1999-2009 (5).  
86 Cancer incidence rates vary by region for American Indians, whereas rates among non-Hispanic  
87 Whites do not. Wiggins et. al explains that cancer rates for American Indians are the highest in  
88 Northern and Southern Plains in the United States (6). For all regions combined, the cancer  
89 related death rates for American Indians were nearly 50% greater than rates for Whites (6).

90  
91 A multitude of factors impact the health and well-being of American Indian youth and many of  
92 these factors are known to lead to cancer over the lifespan. According to the Department of  
93 Health and Human Services, "Cigarette smoking increases the risk of ... cancers of the lung,  
94 larynx, oral cavity, pharynx, pancreas, and cervix..." (7,8). Smokeless tobacco increases the risk  
95 of developing cancer of the oral cavity and cigars increase the risk of developing lung, oral, and  
96 pharyngeal cancer (9-12). Lung cancer is one of the leading causes of cancer diagnosis and death  
97 for American Indians in the Northern Plains (13). American Indians in the Northern Plains also  
98 have a Larynx Cancer Death rate that is 2.5 times higher compared to Whites (13). Nutrition and  
99 physical activity-related health conditions specific to cancer include breast and colorectal cancer  
100 (14). Along with lung cancer, breast and colorectal cancer are also leading causes of diagnosis  
101 and death American Indians in the Northern Plains (13). "There is probable evidence to suggest  
102 that dietary patterns with higher intakes of fruits and vegetables are associated with a decreased  
103 risk for some types of cancer..." (15-17). Consistent regular physical activity decreases the risk  
104 of ...some types of cancer (i.e., breast and colorectal), and premature death (18).

105  
106 To our knowledge, a comprehensive community specific data collection tool that assesses the  
107 risk and protective factors for cancer related indicators (substance use, sexual health, diet &  
108 physical health, etc.) that is informed by both the literature and the community has not been  
109 developed. The results of this review will be used to educate the community regarding the  
110 national presentation of previous research utilizing the social ecological model. The social  
111 ecological model conceptualizes health broadly, focusing on the impact of multiple factors, as  
112 well as the interaction between these factors at multiple levels (19). Identifying modifiable  
113 factors and understanding the social ecological presentation of these factors more broadly and at  
114 the Tribal level can inform community efforts aimed at improving the health and well-being of  
115 American Indian youth. These activities will inform the process of developing a Tribally  
116 informed data collection tool. Once the tool is developed and disseminated to Tribal youth, the  
117 results from the overarching study will be shared with Tribal communities to inform ongoing  
118 surveillance efforts, aid in prioritization and decision making, and guide the development of  
119 health-related interventions.

## 120 121 **Methods**

122  
123 Prior to creating a community informed survey, a review of existing literature was necessary.  
124 This literature review examined quantitative and qualitative peer reviewed studies to identify risk  
125 and protective factors for cancer related indicators (substance use, sexual health, diet & physical  
126 health, etc.) among American Indian youth aged 10 to 21. Findings are organized by levels of the  
127 social ecological model and categorized into three themes, substance use, sexual health  
128 indicators, and diet & physical health indicators. See Table 1.

130 Mixed Studies Review criteria

131  
132 A Mixed Studies Review (MSR) search process is best for topics that have a body of literature  
133 that includes quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods studies. The authors utilized the  
134 Toolkit for Mixed Studies Review (20). MSR is a literature review approach in which studies are  
135 systematically identified, selected, appraised, and synthesized. The first step in a MSR is to  
136 formulate a question, either qualitative, quantitative, or both (20). For this search, we wanted to  
137 understand what significant and salient risk and protective factors were impacting cancer related  
138 indicators present among American Indian youth. Quantitative and qualitative studies were  
139 screened for inclusion. The inclusion and exclusion criteria can be found below (see section on  
140 Inclusion & Exclusion Criteria). Next, we identified the sources of information where data could  
141 be found. This included multiple databases, Google Scholar and Google power searches. With  
142 these different sources, an exhaustive search of relevant documents was undertaken. Relevant  
143 studies were pulled from the different sources by the University of North Dakota, School of  
144 Medicine and Health Science’s librarian, who was responsible for search strategies and  
145 formulating the search phrase. After completing the search, relevant studies were selected by two  
146 reviewers and the PI to reduce bias. The PI, a social/behavioral epidemiologist, assessed the  
147 quality of selected studies and extracted the data. Lastly, the results were combined and  
148 interpreted.

149  
150 Search phrase

151  
152 The research team wanted to ensure that all aspects of literature were included in this search. To  
153 do this, the following databases were included in the search: PubMed, CINAHL, PsychInfo,  
154 ERIC, UNM NHD, Google Scholar, and iPortal. Journal hand searches have also been conducted  
155 for the Journal of Indigenous Research, the American Indian and Alaska Native Mental Health  
156 Research Journal, and Journal AlterNative. Google Scholar and Google power searching were  
157 also conducted. The search conducted for Google Scholar and Google power searches consisted  
158 of viewing articles until there were two consecutive Google pages with no relevant articles. The  
159 search phrase that was utilized for all databases was (“risk factor” OR “supportive factor” OR  
160 “supportive mechanism” OR “protective factor” OR “protective mechanism”) AND  
161 (“Native American” OR “American Indian” OR “Alaska Native”) AND (adolescent OR teen OR  
162 youth OR “young adult”). This phrase was inclusive of all relevant subjects that the team wanted  
163 to focus on. The focus of this review was on identifying cancer related risk and protective  
164 factors, so the word cancer was not included in the search phrases to avoid missing relevant  
165 articles. The Google Scholar and Google power search phrases were similar, but included  
166 “site:.gov”, “site:.edu”, and “site:.org” in the beginning of the phrase to only show these types of  
167 web pages.

168  
169 Inclusion & Exclusion Criteria

170  
171 Inclusion and exclusion criteria were created. To be included for review, studies had to be  
172 published later than January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1970, and had to be conducted in the contiguous United States.  
173 In addition, studies needed to include significant and/or salient risk and/or protective factors for  
174 cancer related indicators “A protective factor can be defined as a characteristic at the biological,  
175 psychological, family, or community (including peers and culture) level that is associated with a

176 lower likelihood of problem outcomes or that reduces the negative impact of a risk factor on  
 177 problem outcomes” (21). Risk factors, are, “characteristics at the biological psychological,  
 178 family, community, or cultural level that precedes and is associated with a higher likelihood of  
 179 problem outcomes” (21). Lastly, most of the population included in each study had to be within  
 180 the age range of 10 to 21 years. For example, if the age range was 16-25, and most of the study  
 181 population fell within the age range of 10 to 21 years, the study would be included. Similar work  
 182 being conducted in the field defined adolescence as 10-21 to be as inclusive as possible, as no  
 183 standard age definition currently exists for the adolescent life stage (22-24).

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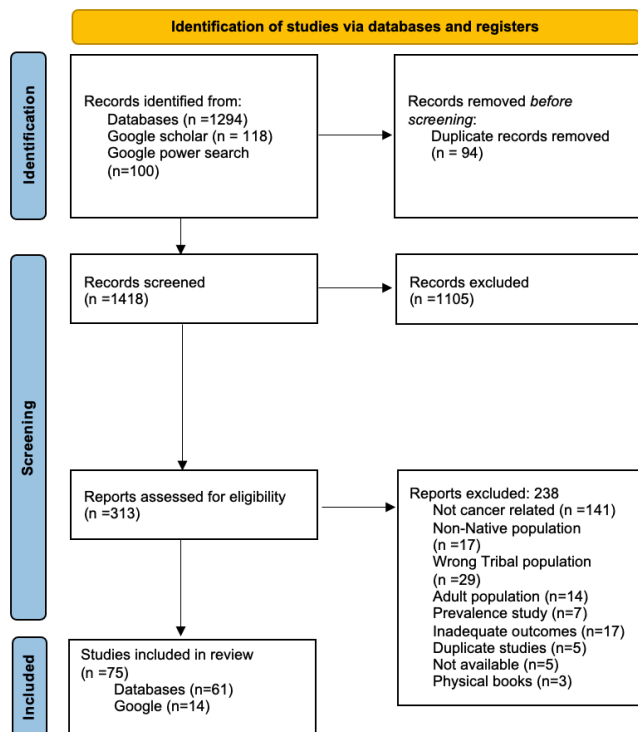
185 Covidence

186

187 Covidence, a web-based software program, was utilized for abstract and full-text review. Articles  
 188 that were found in the search were uploaded into the Covidence platform where researchers  
 189 could read the abstracts and full texts on the web page. Both master level students read through  
 190 abstracts and gave the studies a “yes”, “no”, or “maybe” vote. “Yes” and “maybe” votes were  
 191 moved onto full text review. Conflicts were resolved by the PI. The full text review differed  
 192 slightly, as reviewers had to provide a reason for exclusion (see Figure 2). 1512 articles were  
 193 imported for screening and 94 duplicate articles were removed. 1418 studies were screened by  
 194 title and abstract and 1105 studies were deemed irrelevant. 313 full-text articles were assessed  
 195 for eligibility, 238 studies were excluded. 141 of these were not cancer related, 17 were not  
 196 American Indian populations, 29 included the wrong Tribal population, 14 included adults, 7  
 197 were prevalence studies, 17 contained wrong outcomes (no salient outcomes), 5 were duplicate  
 198 studies, 5 were not accessible, and 3 were physical books. With this, 75 studies were included for  
 199 data extraction, 61 from databases and 14 from Google.

200

201 Figure 2. PRISMA model



203 Data extraction process

204  
205 The data was pulled from the 75 relevant articles by the research team (see Appendix in  
206 Supplementary Material). Significant and salient results were gathered and put into a spreadsheet  
207 which was sorted out by levels of the Socioecological Model [individual, relationship (family  
208 and non-family), community, institutional, and cultural]. Then, results were thematically  
209 combined and tallied to find which risk and protective factors were most prevalent. These results  
210 are shown below in the table and described in the results section.

211  
212 **Results**

213  
214 After extracting significant and salient cancer-related risk and protective factors from relevant  
215 articles, cancer related themes were identified at the individual, relationship (family and non-  
216 family), community, institutional, and cultural levels of the socio-ecological model (see Table 1).

217  
218 Individual Level

219  
220 At the individual level, the most prevalent risk factors for substance use include stressful life  
221 events and prior substance use or early substance initiation. The protective factor for substance  
222 use that was most prevalent was being connected to school and participation in extracurriculars.  
223 When looking at physical health-diet indicators at the individual level, the prominent risk factor  
224 was TV viewing/screen time and consumption of junk food. The significant protective factors  
225 were participation in a sports team or participating in physical activity in general. The risk and  
226 protective factors that were significant at the individual level for sexual health indicators were  
227 substance use and having been sexually abused, and the significant protective factors are  
228 involvement in extracurricular activities and self-efficacy.

229  
230 Relationship Level (non-family)

231  
232 The most prominent risk and protective factors found at the non-family relationship level for  
233 substance use are friends' substance use and receiving substance use offers from friends and  
234 family friends and the protective factors are supportive and positive friendships and having a role  
235 model. No risk or protective factors for physical health-diet indicators were found at this level.  
236 No risk factors were identified for sexual health indicators at the relationship level. The  
237 significant protective factors for sexual health indicators at the relationship level are support  
238 from friends and having a role model.

239  
240 Relationship Level (family)

241  
242 At the family relationship level, the most significant risk factors for substance use are family  
243 substance use and a lower household socioeconomic status (SES). The significant protective  
244 factors are family connectedness and family norms that discourage substance use. The most  
245 prominent risk factor found at the family relationship level for physical health-diet indicators  
246 were parental weight-related behaviors, such as TV viewing, sedentary behaviors, and diet, and  
247 lower family SES. The significant protective factor identified was having physically active  
248 parents. No risk factors were found for sexual health indicators at the family relationship level.

249 The prominent protective factors found at the family relationship level for sexual health  
 250 indicators were feeling connected to family and family communication.

251  
 252 Community Level

253  
 254 The community level risk factors for substance use that were identified were lack of  
 255 opportunities and access to alcohol and cigarettes. The significant protective factors for the  
 256 community level were opportunities for prosocial involvement and positive social norms. Risk  
 257 factors that were identified for physical health-diet indicators at the community level were  
 258 environmental risks. No protective factors for physical health-diet indicators at the community  
 259 level were found. No risk or protective factors were found at the community level for sexual  
 260 health indicators.

261  
 262 Institutional Level

263  
 264 No significant risk factors were found at the institutional level for substance use, physical health-  
 265 diet indicators, or sexual health indicators. The significant protective factors identified for  
 266 substance use were having clear rules at school. No protective factors were found for physical  
 267 health-diet indicators at the institutional level. The protective factors for sexual health indicators  
 268 at the institutional level were opportunities for extracurriculars and relationships formed at  
 269 school.

270  
 271 Cultural Level

272  
 273 Significant risk factors that were found at the cultural level for substance use were ethnic  
 274 dislocation and historical trauma. The prominent protective factors for substance use at the  
 275 cultural level were cultural connectedness having strong cultural and/or religious values. No risk  
 276 or protective factors were identified at the cultural level for physical health-diet indicators. No  
 277 risk factors were identified for sexual health indicators at the cultural level. The significant  
 278 protective factors for sexual health indicators at the cultural level were engagement with cultural  
 279 activities and spiritual traditions.

280  
 281 **Table 1: Risk & Protective Factor Themes**

SEM Level	Cancer Themes	Risk/Protective Factors
<b>Individual</b>	Substance use (45) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alcohol = 8</li> <li>• Tobacco = 8</li> <li>• Hard drugs = 3</li> <li>• All = 26</li> </ul>	<b>Risk factors:</b> stressful life events, prior substance use/ early substance initiation <b>Protective factors:</b> connected to school, participation in extracurriculars
	Physical health-diet indicators (12)	<b>Risk factors:</b> screen time/TV viewing, consumption of junk food <b>Protective factors:</b> participation in sports team, participation in physical activity
	Sexual health indicators (9)	<b>Risk factors:</b> substance use and having been sexually abused

		<b>Protective factors:</b> involvement in extracurriculars and self-efficacy
<b>Relationship (Non-family)</b>	Substance use (26) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alcohol = 5</li> <li>• Tobacco = 4</li> <li>• Hard drugs = 3</li> <li>• All = 14</li> </ul>	<b>Risk factors:</b> friends' substance use and substance use offers from friends and family friends <b>Protective factors:</b> supportive/ positive friendships and having a role model
	Physical health-diet indicators (0)	<b>Risk factors:</b> N/A <b>Protective factors:</b> N/A
	Sexual health indicators (3)	<b>Risk factors:</b> N/A <b>Protective factors:</b> support from friends and having a role model
<b>Relationship (Family)</b>	Substance use (27) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alcohol = 7</li> <li>• Tobacco = 3</li> <li>• Hard drugs = 2</li> <li>• All = 15</li> </ul>	<b>Risk factors:</b> family substance use and lower family SES <b>Protective factors:</b> family connectedness and family norms that discourage substance use
	Physical health-diet indicators (9)	<b>Risk factors:</b> parental weight-related behaviors (sedentary, TV viewing, diet) and lower family SES <b>Protective factors:</b> Having physically active parents
	Sexual health indicators (7)	<b>Risk factors:</b> N/A <b>Protective factors:</b> feeling connected to family and family communication
<b>Community</b>	Substance use (9) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alcohol = 2</li> <li>• Tobacco = 2</li> <li>• Hard drugs = 0</li> <li>• All = 5</li> </ul>	<b>Risk factors:</b> lack of opportunities and access to substances <b>Protective factors:</b> opportunities for prosocial involvement and positive social norms
	Physical health-diet indicators (1)	<b>Risk factors:</b> environmental risks <b>Protective factors:</b> N/A
	Sexual health indicators (0)	<b>Risk factors:</b> N/A <b>Protective factors:</b> N/A
<b>Institutional</b>	Substance use (5) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alcohol = 2</li> <li>• Tobacco = 0</li> <li>• Hard drugs = 1</li> <li>• All = 2</li> </ul>	<b>Risk factors:</b> N/A <b>Protective factors:</b> clear rules at school
	Physical health-diet indicators (0)	<b>Risk factors:</b> N/A <b>Protective factors:</b> N/A
	Sexual health indicators (3)	<b>Risk factors:</b> N/A <b>Protective factors:</b> opportunities for extracurriculars and relationships formed at school



<b>Cultural</b>	Substance use (7) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alcohol = 1</li> <li>• Tobacco = 2</li> <li>• Hard drugs = 0</li> <li>• All = 4</li> </ul>	<b>Risk factors:</b> ethnic dislocation and historical trauma <b>Protective factors:</b> cultural connectedness having strong cultural/ religious values
	Physical health-diet indicators (0)	<b>Risk factors:</b> N/A <b>Protective factors:</b> N/A
	Sexual health indicators (2)	<b>Risk factors:</b> N/A <b>Protective factors:</b> engagement with cultural activities and spiritual traditions

283  
284 The research team explored the presentation of significant and salient findings at the individual,  
285 relationship (non-family), relationship (family), community, institutional, and cultural levels. No  
286 cancer related themes were identified at the policy level. Substance use presented as a key  
287 cancer related indicator, with the presence of associated risk and protective factors, at all levels  
288 of the socio-ecological model. [see supplemental material - social ecological model –Risk and  
289 Protective Factors for Substance Use (Primary Cancer Theme)]. Substance use indicators were  
290 also identified as risk factors for substance use at the individual, relationship (non-family) and  
291 relationship (family) level. For example, at the individual level, risk factors for alcohol use  
292 include using tobacco and marijuana (25). At the relationship level, peer and family substance  
293 use are risk factors for substance use. Substance use was also a risk factor for sexual health  
294 indicators at the individual level and physical health-diet indicators at the relationship (non-  
295 family) level.

296  
297 **Strengths and Limitations**

298  
299 This study had limitations which included not having full access to all available databases.  
300 Despite having a broad search phrase and the utilization of multiple databases and Google  
301 Scholar, there may have been relevant articles that were missed in our search. Of further  
302 consideration, the majority of articles (n = 58, 77%) focused on substance use-related risk and  
303 protective factors, indicating limited research focused on physical health-diet and sexual health  
304 indicators. Furthermore, as mentioned by Mackin et. al in 2012, additional risk and protective  
305 factors for cancer may exist for American Indian youth, that are not yet examined or published  
306 (26). And finally, there are 574 federally recognized tribes in the United States (3). Each tribe  
307 has its own culture, language, practices, and resources. Given these differences and the  
308 presentation of cancer varying from tribe to tribe, the risk and protective factors presented here  
309 may not be generalizable to all tribes and the translation of pertinent findings may vary at the  
310 community level.

311  
312 The strengths of this study included having multiple reviewers, the use of Covidence, use of a  
313 multitude of databases and utilization of Google Scholar and Google power searches. The use of  
314 Google broadens the search so that the inclusion of marginalized voices, or perspectives not  
315 included in traditional academic searches is more likely. Without the utilization of Google  
316 power searches and Google Scholar, researchers are potentially missing out on salient articles  
317 that can be included to enhance research studies. Exploring multiple sources expanded the  
318 breadth of our search and diversified our search strategy. The use of multiple reviewers during

319 our data extraction process and screening process is essential to minimizing biases and human  
320 error. Without the use of Google Scholar, 14 articles would not have been found even with the  
321 use of the broad search phrase that was applied in this study.  
322

## 323 **Discussion**

324  
325 This is the first review of its kind. However, a similar review, conducted in 2018 by Hensen et  
326 al., explored protective factors across multiple health outcomes for AI/AN adolescents. Henson  
327 et al. discusses the effects of protective factors on positive social and health outcomes among  
328 AI/AN youth and touches on topics including substance use, mental health, and delinquent  
329 behavior (27). The authors found that protective factors span multiple levels of the social  
330 ecological model and explain how findings could guide strength-based health promotion and  
331 prevention programming for AI/AN youths (27). Henson et. al found that protective impacts of  
332 culture also span all levels of the social ecological model and recommend the need for better data  
333 collection tools that measure cultural factors and incorporate the Tribal communities' views  
334 regarding research priorities and factors that impact the health and well-being of Tribal youth  
335 (27).  
336

337 Although fewer (n = 17, 23%) articles focused on physical health-diet and sexual health  
338 indicators, meaningful findings arose from the search. Engagement with cultural activities and  
339 spiritual traditions presented as protective factors for sexual health indicators. Another  
340 protective factor for sexual health indicators is feeling connected to family and family  
341 communication. For physical health diet indicators, having physically active parents presented as  
342 a protective factor. Tribal people are very family oriented and value family connectedness as part  
343 of their culture. As previously mentioned, cultural indicators span the social ecological model.  
344 Promoting culture and initiatives grounded in cultural values would be a meaningful way for  
345 Tribal communities to advocate, support and engage in protective factor rich environments and  
346 positively impact the health of youth at multiple levels of community.  
347

348 A summary table containing all substance use related articles and related protective factors is  
349 shown in Table 2 (supplementary material), and a social ecological model illustrating significant  
350 risk and protective factors for substance use is shown in Figure 3 (supplementary material). This  
351 information can be used to inform Tribally driven/informed data collection efforts. Initiatives  
352 focused on reducing substance use/abuse would benefit from focusing on risk and protective  
353 factors that span the social ecological model.  
354

## 355 Future Directions

356  
357 For this research, a Mixed Studies Review was deemed most adequate. This process can be  
358 utilized by other professionals researching various study types (i.e. quantitative, qualitative, and  
359 mixed) for risk and protective factors impacting the health and well-being of American Indian  
360 youth for a multitude of health outcomes. A multitude of factors contribute to the high rates of  
361 cancer in Indian Country in addition to these well-known cancer indicators including the impacts  
362 resulting from intergenerational trauma, barriers to prevention and care due to high rates of  
363 poverty, lack of access to healthy foods and underfunding (28). Our review identified a multitude

364 of cancer related risk and protective factors, with the majority being identified at the individual,  
365 family relationship level and non-family relationship level.

366  
367 The results from this study outline the risk and protective factors that can be found in American  
368 Indian communities in the contiguous United States. Tribal communities will be able to use the  
369 results from our literature review to inform the creation of a community specific data collection  
370 tool focused on cancer related risk and protective factors. Upon completion of the overarching  
371 research, results will be shared with the community which will inform ongoing surveillance  
372 efforts, influence priorities for intervention and education work, and inform the management of  
373 resources. The continuation of community informed and driven research with Tribal  
374 communities is essential to the health and well-being of Tribal Nations as community grounded  
375 research is limited.

376  
377 Approximately 30% of what impacts our health can be attributed to health behavior. However,  
378 the physical environment along with social and economic factors impacts approximately 50% of  
379 our health. More research is needed to assess community, policy and cultural impacts on youth  
380 health and wellness. To properly assess AI youth health and wellbeing, we must look at  
381 conditions that create or limit opportunity. Doing so will provide us with the important  
382 perspective for understanding both the nature and the sources of disparate health outcomes and  
383 will guide us to viable and effective solutions (28).

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In review

## Appendix

### Articles (n=75) Included in Extraction

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<b>Publication</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>Method</b>	<b>Instrument</b>	<b>Substance Type</b>	<b>Protective Factors for Substance Use</b>
Beebe, Laura A.; Vesely, Sara K.; Oman, Roy F.; Tolma, Eleni; Aspy, Cheryl B.; Rodine, Sharon	2008	134 American Indian Adolescents Location: Oklahoma	Logistic regression analyses and interviews	Multi-racial/ethnicity study of youth assets and risk behaviors survey	Alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use	-Good health practices (exercise/nutrition) and use of time (religion) - Having non-parental adult role models - Family structure and two parent households
Dickens, Danielle D.; Dieterich, Sara E.; Henry, Kimberly L.; Beauvais, Fred	2012	2,582 Native students Location: United States (WA, OR, MT, AZ, ND, SD, MN, WI, NV, AL)	Survey	American Drug and Alcohol Survey	Alcohol use	-School bonding
Friese, Bettina; Grube, Joel W.; Seninger, Steve; Paschall, Mallie J.; Moore, Roland S.	2011	Total: 18,916 (1,416 Native youth) Location: Montana	Survey	2008 Prevention Needs Assessment Community Student Survey	Alcohol use	-Living in a county with a higher proportion of Native Americans
Gilchrist, Lewayne D.; Schinke, Steven Paul; Trimble, Joseph E.; Cvetkovich, George T.	1987	Total: 102 Native youth Location: Pacific Northwest	School-based survey	YRBSS	Alcohol, marijuana, and inhalant use	-Those who received skills enhancement intervention (knowledge) had lower rates of substance use
Greene, Kaylin M.; Eitle, Tamela McNulty; Eitle, David	2014	927 Native youth Location: United States	Self-administered questionnaire	National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health	Alcohol use	-Becoming a parent and attending college
Guttmanova, Katarina; Wheeler, Melissa J.; Hill, Karl G.; Evans-Campbell, Teresa A.; Hartigan, Lacey A.; Jones, Tiffany M.; Hawkins, J. David; Catalano, Richard F.	2017	Total: 284,268 (5,095 Native youth) Location: United States	Survey	Communities That Care Youth Survey (CTC-YS)	Alcohol, marijuana, and cigarette use	-Social skills and belief in moral order - Family attachment - Opportunities for prosocial involvement and rewards for prosocial involvement
Hawkins, Elizabeth H.; Marlatt, G. Alan; Cummins, Lillian H.	2004	Literature review Location: United States			Substance use	-Self-efficacy in social relationships - Participation in positive peer clusters

						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Stable and supportive relationships with pro-social adults</li> <li>- Bonding to conventional society</li> <li>- Community resources</li> <li>- Participation in organized group activities</li> <li>- Strong school bond</li> <li>- Cultural involvement</li> <li>- Involvement in religious activities</li> </ul>
Henson, Michele; Sabo, Samantha; Trujillo, Aurora; Teufel-Shone, Nicolette	2017	Literature review Location: United States and Canada			Alcohol use, substance use, and tobacco use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Wanting to be a role model</li> <li>- Giving to others by contributing to the community</li> <li>- Believing in one's value and potential</li> <li>- Awareness of consequences</li> <li>- Interconnection</li> <li>- Having awareness of life goals</li> <li>- Self efficacy</li> <li>- Involvement in sports team</li> <li>- Participation in music</li> <li>- Possessing college aspirations</li> <li>- Positive adult role models</li> <li>- Prosocial peer influence</li> <li>- Close relationships with parents</li> <li>- Parents acting as teachers and providing guidance</li> <li>- Safe family environment</li> <li>- Modeling of sobriety</li> <li>- Expression of praise</li> <li>- Parental affection and specialness of the child</li> <li>- Parental transmission of cultural expectations and values</li> <li>- Opportunity to be involved in the community</li> <li>- Provision of safe places for children</li> <li>- Limit setting on alcohol behavior</li> <li>- Availability of extracurriculars</li> <li>- Cultural connectedness</li> <li>- Involvement in traditional activities</li> <li>- Identification with American Indian culture</li> <li>- Involvement and importance of traditional spirituality</li> </ul>

Hirchak, Katherine; Amiri, Solmaz; Espinoza, Judith; Herron, Jalene; Hernandez-Vallant, Alexandra; Cloud, Violette; Venner, Kamilla	2021	Total: 42,098 (7,307 AI/AN) Location: New Mexico	Cross-sectional survey	New Mexico Youth Risk and Resilience Survey	Opioid use	-Social connection - Engaging in clubs, sports teams, church or temple, or other group activity outside of home and school - Having a friend that really cares - Parent or some other adult who is interested in schoolwork - Community support - Having clear rules at school
Komro, Kelli A.; Livingston, Melvin D.; Garrett, Brady A.; Boyd, Misty L	2016	Total: 952 (422 Native) Location: Oklahoma	School-based survey	Survey created by researchers	Alcohol use	-Perceived accessibility - Parental communication
Komro, Kelli A.; Livingston, Melvin D.; Wagenaar, Alexander C.; Kominsky, Terrence K.; Pettigrew, Dallas W.; Garrett, Brady A.; Boyd, Billy J.; Boyd, Misty L.; Livingston, Bethany J.; Lynne, Sarah D.; Molina, Mildred Maldonado; Merlo, Lisa J.; Tobler, Amy L.	2017	Total: 1,623 (746 Native youth) Location: Oklahoma	Skills enhancement program and intervention	Communities Mobilizing Change for Alcohol (CMCA), and CONNECT	Alcohol use	-Exposure to CMCA and CONNECT showed significant reduction in probability over time of 30-day alcohol use and heavy episodic drinking (knowledge)
Kulis, Stephen S.; Jager, Justin; Ayers, Stephanie L.; Lateef, Husain; Kiehne, Elizabeth	2016	Total: 62,817 (2,047 American Indian youth) Location: Arizona	Cross-sectional, state-wide, school-based study	Arizona Youth Survey (AYS)	Substance Use	-Less exposure to substance offers - Less antisocial behavior - Supportive peer networks - Parental support for alcohol abstinence
Kulis, Stephen; Hodge, David R.; Ayers, Stephanie L.; Brown, Eddie F.; Marsiglia, Flavio F.	2012	123 American Indian youth Location: Southwest United States	Randomized Controlled Trial	Self-administered pretest questionnaires	Substance use	-Spirituality and religious involvement - Frequent attendance at religious services - Traditional spiritual beliefs
LeMaster, Pamela L.; Connell, Cathleen M.; Mitchell, Christina M.; Manson, Spero M.	2002	2,390 American Indian youth Location: Western United States	Survey	Voices of Indian Teens Project Survey	Tobacco use	-Academic orientation - Connected to American Indian culture

Martinez, Marcos J.; Ayers, Stephanie L.; Kulis, Stephen; Brown, Eddie	2015	155 Native youth Location: Southwest United States	Longitudinal randomized controlled trial		Substance use	-Strong peer injunctive norms - Grandparent injunctive norms - Parent injunctive norms
Napoli, Maria; Marsiglia, Flavio Francisco; Kulis, Stephen	2003	Total: 4,630 (243 Native youth) Location: Southwest United States	Survey		Drug use	-Strong sense of belonging in school
Sittner, Kelley J.	2016	619 Native youth Location: Northern Midwest United States and Canada	Longitudinal study	Healing Pathways Project	Alcohol, marijuana, and cigarette use	-Caretaker monitoring
Spillane, Nichea S.; Weyandt, Lisa; Oster, Danielle; Treloar, Hayley	2017	3,498 American Indian youth Location: United States	Survey	American Drug and Alcohol Survey	Stimulant Use	-Parental monitoring
Thurman, P; Green, V A	1997	87 American Indian youth Location: Southwest United States	Survey		Inhalant use	-Participation in tribal activities - Cognitive ability - Cognitive egocentrism
Tingey, Lauren; Cwik, Mary F.; Rosenstock, Summer; Goklish, Novalene; Larzelere-Hinton, Francene; Lee, Angelita; Suttle, Rosemarie; Alchesay, Melanie; Massey, Kirk; Barlow, Allison	2016	136 Native youth Location: Arizona	Cross- sectional case- control study	Audio Computer Assisted Self- interview	Alcohol use	-Having social problem-solving skills - Having traditional American Indian values and practices - Having a strong ethnic identity - Family closeness - Residential stability
Whitesell, Nancy Rumbaugh; Asdigian, Nancy L.; Kaufman, Carol E.; Big Crow, Cecelia; Shangreau, Carly; Keane, Ellen M.; Mousseau, Alicia C.; Mitchell, Christina M.	2014	381 Native youth Location: Northern Plains	Longitudinal study and school-based surveys		Substance use	-Prosocial peers - Strong relationships with parents
Whitesell, Nancy Rumbaugh; Kaufman, Carol E.; Keane, Ellen M.; Crow, Cecelia	2012	1,278 Native youth	Survey		Substance Use	-Positive parent influences

Big; Shangreau,  
Carly; Mitchell,  
Christina M.

Location:  
Northern  
Plains