COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY-BUILDING: A HEALTHCARE AND ACADEMIC RESEARCH PERSPECTIVE
MYRHA QADIR, HISTORY, 2021

- INTRODUCTION
  - Montefiore Medical Center is located in the Bronx, NYC, and serves a diverse community, many people of which come from medically underserved populations
  - Dr. Lounsbury is a professor of epidemiology at Einstein College of Medicine, and works in collaboration with Montefiore Medical Center

Objective of Internship
- I wanted to gain exposure to medical research while engaging with issues in medicine that are important to me, such as culturally competent care

Work Profile
- Conducted a literature review on physician/patient communication barriers in African oncology settings
- Transcribed and qualitatively coded interviews with participants in HIV care group model building sessions

Picture above: Me, Myrha Qadir 2021, working from my dad's office at my virtual internship this summer

Looking Ahead
- I plan to apply to medical school in the 2022 admissions cycle, and this experience provided me with much more perspective on the physician's role as a communicator, as well as the social determinants of health that impact a patient's experience with medical providers

Questions:
What interventions can researchers and health workers implement on the provider side to promote more effective communication practices and better health outcomes for patients?

Reflections and Acknowledgements:
I'd like to deeply thank Dr. David Lounsbury, my supervisor for the summer, for guiding me through this internship and for allowing me to collaborate with him on his projects this summer. I learned so much about how to conduct academic research while still honoring the humanity of the research subjects. Without this internship, I would not have gained valuable knowledge on communication pitfalls on the provider side—this knowledge has informed me in my pursuit for a career in medicine and medical research.