



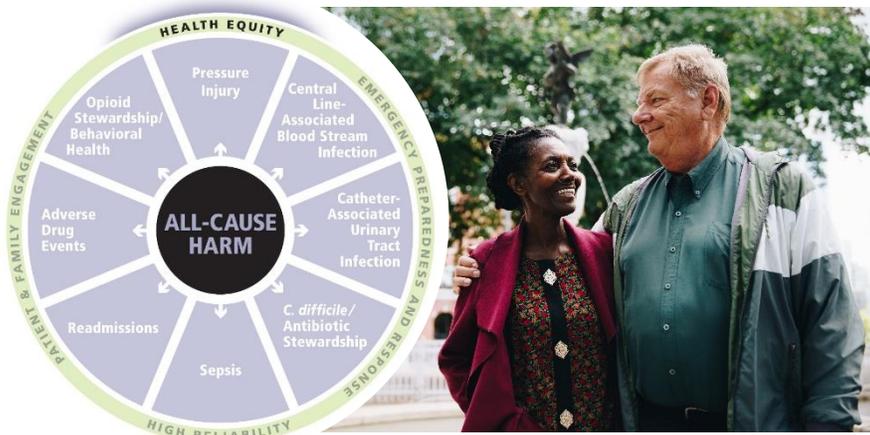
- Healthcentric Advisors ■ Qlarant
- Kentucky Hospital Association
- Q3 Health Innovation Partners
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HQIC
Hospital Quality Improvement Contractors
CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES
EQUALITY IMPROVEMENT & INNOVATION GROUP



HEALTH EQUITY HIGHLIGHTS

July 2021



View the latest hospital health equity news, events, and tools to support your efforts in eliminating health care disparities within your health system and communities.

National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month!

Throughout July, the HHS Office of Minority Health will [promote tools and resources](#) addressing the stigma about mental health among racial and ethnic minority populations, particularly during the pandemic.

Rural/CAH Corner

[Community of Practice: Preventing and Reducing the Stigma of Substance Use Disorders in Rural Communities - Implementation and Lessons Learned](#)

This report discusses strategies for reducing stigma around substance use disorders (SUDs) and SUD treatment in rural communities.

Details are provided regarding the implementation of Communities of Practice sessions with participants and breaks down participant data and session timeline.

Building an Organizational Response to Health Disparities: Resources for Standardized Demographic and Language Data Collection

Collecting standardized patient demographic and language data across health care systems is an important first step toward improving population health. Comprehensive patient data on race, ethnicity, language, and disability status are key to identifying disparities in quality of care and targeting quality improvement interventions to achieve equity. The CMS Office of Minority Health provides an [inventory or resources](#) with the following:

- Minimum standards for data collection as outlined by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services;
- Best practices and guidelines for health care organizations in implementing standardized data collection, including information to address key challenges in collecting these data;
- Training tools and webinars to help health care organizations educate their staff on the importance of standardized data collection and best practices for data collection; and
- Sentinel articles and books that provide in-depth discussion of issues, challenges, recommendations, and best practices in standardized data collection.

[The resources in this document](#) are grouped by REaL and Disability categories as well as by the type of resource.

In the News

[A New Guide on Universal Screening for Health-Related Social Needs](#)

The CMS [Accountable Health Communities Model](#) (AHCM) uses the [Accountable Health Communities Social Needs Screening Tool](#) to identify health-related social needs such as food insecurity, housing instability or lack of transportation. The new [User Guide](#) can assist health care providers across care settings use the Screening Tool effectively. The Guide also provides insights and best practices for implementing universal screening for social needs based on the experiences of organizations participating in the AHCM.

[Local Initiatives to Address Opioid Use Disorder](#)

Describes opioid prevention and treatment research collaboratives in six communities, some of which are rural. Provides links to articles profiling each program in detail.

[Building an Organizational Response to Health Disparities: Five Pioneers from the Field](#)

The CMS OMH conducted case studies with five private-sector health care organizations to understand how they identify and address health disparities in the communities they serve. An Executive Summary of each case study reports how each organization designed and implemented initiatives to change the way they deliver services. Each case study was developed following site visits and interviews with organization leaders and staff.

[Sepsis and Health Equity Fact Sheet](#)

The Sepsis Alliance focuses on health equity by eliminating preventable disparities in sepsis incidence, morbidity, and mortality. This fact sheet looks at what is currently known about these disparities, as well as disparities in sepsis awareness and treatment.

[Join the Age-Friendly Health Systems Action Community](#)

The [AHA Center for Health Innovation](#) is currently recruiting for its third Age-Friendly Health Systems Action Community convening September 2021, with acute, post-acute and outpatient sites of care.

Age-Friendly Health Systems action communities, led by the American Hospital Association™ (AHA) and [Institute of Healthcare Improvement \(IHI\)](#), test the [4Ms Framework](#) in hospital and ambulatory settings, sharing learnings in a seven-month virtual community.

This [blog post](#) describes how Grady Health used their experience in a previous Age-Friendly Systems Action Community to address health equity and improve the care for older adults in metro Atlanta.



For more health equity news: <https://qi.ipro.org/health-equity-resources/>

Upcoming Events

[New Date: Advancing Social Determinants of Health Data Use and Interoperability for Achieving Health Equity](#)

Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology

Date: July 13, 2021

Time: 10:00 AM – 4:30 PM EDT

[Collaborating to Support Individuals with Complex Health and Social Needs](#)

American Hospital Association

Date: July 14, 2021

Time: 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM EDT

[The Role of Social Determinants of Health in Value-Based Payment Models: A Rural Perspective](#)

National Rural Health Resource Center

Date: July 22, 2021

Time: 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM EDT