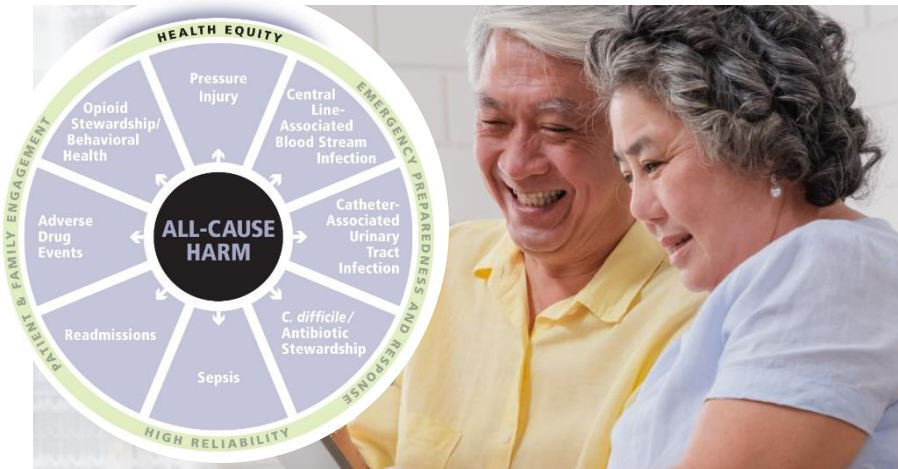


HEALTH EQUITY GUIDE

June 2023



June: Alzheimer’s & Brain Awareness Month, World Sickle Cell Day (19th), National HIV Testing Day (27th)

The Alzheimer’s Association has information on [health equity considerations](#) as does the CDC on [barriers to equity](#).

National HIV Testing Day provides [resources](#) on HIV testing.

The Sickle Cell Disease Association provides [resources](#) on Sickle Cell awareness and the CDC Foundation discusses [health disparities](#).

[NIH-funded study highlights the financial toll of health disparities in the United States](#)

The National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities funded a study which found that racial and ethnic disparities cost the U.S. over \$450 billion based on 2018 data. It was over a 40% increase from 2014.

Findings include:

- The economic burden was for African Americans (69%) due to premature mortality followed by Hispanic/Latinos (21%).
- The highest economic burden was for Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islanders is over \$20,000.
- The populations that bore the most burden from excess medical care costs and lost labor market productivity were Asians (55%) and Hispanic/Latinos (43%).
- Most of the burden from education-related disparities were from high school diploma/GED (61%).

[Advancing Health Equity Through The CMS Innovation Center: First Year Progress And What’s To Come](#)

This Health Affairs article provides a one-year look back on CMS’s accomplishments via its health equity initiative:

1. CMS revised three models and developed one new model, and plan to collect detailed information from plans about benefits.
2. CMS expanded the diversity of beneficiaries by increasing participation of safety net providers in value-based care.
3. CMS’s ACO Reach Model will collect additional equity-related data.
4. CMS is designing evaluations of its models to understand their impact on health equity.

It describes additional efforts to expand on health equity.

Rural/CAH Corner

[Health Care Capsule: Accessing Health Care in Rural America](#)

This GAO report summarizes health care access in rural areas including challenges accessing specialized services, transportation hurdles, and limited broadband. It identifies areas such as data analysis by rurality and rural-specific considerations that are needed.

[How Community Health Workers Are Impacting Rural Communities](#)

This article discusses the role of community health workers in promoting equity. It highlights a project in Kansas which used local health equity action teams to serve as “boots on the ground” for community outreach and service gaps and barriers to care.

In the News

[Engaging Youth and Young Adults in Community Based Strategies to Improve Health Literacy](#)

The Office of Minority Health developed a report on engaging youth and young adults in community-based campaigns to improve health literacy. It highlights three state awardees which used youth on 1) soliciting feedback from communities and informing them of activities, 2) training middle and high school and university students to engage with community members, and 3) training high school students on a pilot to become community health workers.

[Social Determinants Of Health Exacerbate Racial Disparities In Excess Uncontrolled BP](#)

A new study looking at the link between uncontrolled hypertension and social determinants of health (SDOH) found that SDOH was a contributor to excess uncontrolled blood pressure. This was case for more Black adults compared to white as well as people with a low annual household income, low levels of education, and those living in disadvantaged neighborhoods.

[Reaching for Health Equity](#)

This article describes the health equity initiative taken on by Riverside University Health System in CA, and how it used a collaborative with public, safety-net hospitals to bolster its health equity efforts. The hospital focused its efforts on staff education and provided ground rounds on equity-related topics which attracted many non-physician staff.

[Low Health Literacy Prevents Cancer Screening for Many Hispanic Patients](#)

This article highlights findings from a new report that finds health literacy affects cancer screening for Hispanic patients. They found Hispanics lacked accurate knowledge about when to get screened however Hispanics with higher income and higher levels of education were more likely to be concerned about cancer. The findings indicate the importance of education related to cancer screening, and health literacy considerations.



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

Upcoming Events

[Maternal Health Among Hispanic/Latina Women](#)

HRSA

Date: June 6

Time: 1:00 – 2:30 PM ET

[CMS Health Equity Conference](#)

CMS

Date: June 7-8

[Achieving Health Equity: Tackling the Medical Community's Greatest Care Challenge](#)

U.S. News & World Report

Date: June 23

Time: 12:00 – 1:00 PM ET