

HEALTH EQUITY UPDATES

January 2023



ADA Releases 2023 Standards of Care in Diabetes

The American Diabetes Association released the annual [Standards of Care in Diabetes](#) on December 12, 2022. The ADA Professional Practice Committee (PCP), a multidisciplinary expert team, reviews the latest diabetes literature, uses their clinical expertise, and consults with subject matter experts to update the guidelines yearly, or more frequently if necessary.

The document includes all of the ADA's latest clinical recommendations and is intended to give providers, insurers, researchers, and individuals with diabetes the components of diabetes care, general treatment goals, and tools to evaluate the quality of care.

The Standards of Care addresses several themes related to health equity, in particular social determinants of health and their association with greater risk for diabetes, higher population prevalence, and poorer diabetes outcomes. There are recommendations related to food insecurity, homelessness, language barriers, health literacy, and community/support.

One of the new recommendations is to regularly screen for food insecurity using the validated two-question assessment. (You can find this assessment, best practices and resources in the [IPRO Guide to Screening Patients for Food Insecurity](#).) There are recommendations related to addressing the financial barriers to treatment that exacerbate disparities. In particular, the cost of medications to lower glucose levels, reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease, and manage weight can influence patient adherence and provider prescribing patterns. Costs should be a focus of treatment goals.

If you would like more information about IPRO's clinical and quality improvement technical support, please refer to the [IPRO website](#) for contact information for the Chronic Disease Management team.

National Poverty Awareness Month

In 2021, 37.9 million people were living in poverty. While the overall US poverty rate was 11.6%, 19.5% of Black people and 17.1% of Hispanic people were living in poverty.¹

[Census Bureau Poverty Data](#)

Join IPRO for the National CLAS Standards Initiative

Discover ways to improve the delivery of culturally & linguistically appropriate services (CLAS) in your organization. A good place to start is taking the [IPRO CLAS Assessment](#) and joining us for our educational series that will review the HHS National Standards for Culturally & Linguistically Appropriate Services in Health and Health Care. Together, we will discuss how to develop a CLAS implementation plan, CLAS evidence-based interventions, and best practices for providing high-quality care for all patients.



Photo by [Kostiantyn Li](#) on [Unsplash](#)

¹Pfeiffer, Robert S. "U.S. Poverty Statistics | Poverty Estimates." Federal Safety Net, 30 Sept. 2022, [federafsafetynet.com/poverty-statistics/](https://www.federafsafetynet.com/poverty-statistics/). Accessed 19 Dec. 2022.

In the News

[Engaging People of Color to Advance Health Equity](#)

The Center for Health Care Strategies is coordinating a 12-month learning collaborative with seven health care organizations in New York to advance health equity. The collaborative will strengthen the organizations' capacity to partner with patients and communities of color; develop an action plan to use patient engagement strategies more effectively; and integrate patient engagement strategies into existing organizational processes. The participating organizations will receive technical assistance and take part in peer-to-peer collaborative learning on topics such as project management, challenges, and best practices. There is a [companion tool](#) that outlines strategies for partnering more effectively with patients and communities using a data-driven quality improvement methodology.

[Using Managed Care Contracts To Advance Equity](#)

A Commonwealth Fund blog post discusses the ways that States can use managed care contracts to promote health equity by redesigning how they purchase primary care from managed care plans. The authors suggest that States can use contractual provisions to establish guidelines to advance health equity goals such as the collection of accurate patient demographic data to identify disparities; addressing structural racism; engaging patients and community partners for their perspectives on promoting equitable care; and holding plans accountable for reducing disparities through financial incentives.

[The Age-Friendly Health Systems Framework Improves Care for Older Rural Adults](#)

The Age-Friendly Health Systems framework is an evidence-based and value-based approach to improving care access and delivery for older adults using the 4Ms: What Matters, Medication, Mentation, and Mobility. The largest FQHC in Pennsylvania implemented this framework across multiple sites using Project ECHO, a model for tele-monitoring, to support primary care providers and staff caring for rural older adults with complex needs. Nine process outcomes improved at the facilities, including an increase in annual wellness visits and advance care plans, and fall risk management and mobility goals. A [study](#) was published in Health Services Research that outlined results from this quality improvement project.

[HHS Office of Minority Health Hear Her Campaign](#)

The HHS Office of Minority Health partnered with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to launch a new segment of their Hear Her campaign to help improve maternal health outcomes for American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) women. The campaign raises awareness of life-threatening warning signs during and after pregnancy and to improve communication between women and their providers. The campaign highlights the stories of women who have experienced complications during pregnancy, outlines disparities in maternal care experienced by this population, and offers information for partners, family, and friends.



Visit the IPRO Resource Library: <https://qi-library.ipro.org/>

Upcoming Events

[Intro/Refresher on Motivational Interviewing Training](#)

National Counsel for Mental Wellbeing

Date: January 12, 2023

Time: 12:00 PM – 4:00 PM ET

[Health Equity Organizational Assessment Affinity Group](#)

(Session 2 of 6)

IPRO

Date: January 12, 2023

Time: 12:00 PM – 12:45 PM ET

[Supporting the Health and Well-Being of Rural LGBTQ Individuals](#)

Rural Health Research Gateway

Date: January 18, 2023

Time: 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM ET