

# HEALTH EQUITY UPDATES

June 2022



## This Month

### World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

is June 15th

### World Sickle Cell Day

is June 19<sup>th</sup>

### Men's Health Month

## June is Men's Health Month

Men's Health Month is observed every June to raise awareness of the importance of seeking regular health care and maintaining a healthy lifestyle to improve men's health. On average, men in the U.S. live five years less than women and have higher rates of heart disease and cancer, the two leading causes of death. One reason for these disparities is that women seek health care at twice the rate of men, including preventive care, ensuring earlier detection and treatment of disease.

Further disparities are evident for racial and ethnic minority men:

- Between 2019 and 2020, [life expectancy](#) declined for Hispanic men by 3.7 years (79.0 to 75.3), followed by Black men at 3.3 years (71.3 to 68.0) compared to White men at 1.3 years (76.3 to 75.0).
- Between 2018 and 2019, the [prevalence of diagnosed diabetes](#) was highest among American Indian/Alaska Native men (14.5%), followed by Black men (12.2%), Hispanic men (11.6%), Asian (10.4%) and White men (8.0%).
- Men are more likely to have [hypertension](#) (50%) compared to women (44%). Black men have a persistently higher prevalence of hypertension (40.6%) compared to White men (29.7%).

There are a variety of resources and information available to encourage men to take better control of their health:

- [HHS Office of Minority Health](#)
- [Men's Health Network Fact Sheets and Information](#)
- [CDC Men's Health webpage](#)
- [Men's Health Resource Center](#)

## Sickle Cell Disease (SCD)

According to the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) (CDC), SCD is the most prevalent genetic blood disorder, and it disproportionately affects Black and Latino individuals. Data show that approximately 5% of the world's population and about 100,000 Americans have SCD. People with SCD [experience](#) worse health outcomes, shorter life expectancy and higher rates of 30-day readmissions. SCD can cause debilitating pain, infection, stroke, organ damage and death.

Individuals with SCD are more likely to have Medicaid coverage and face disparities in access to high quality health care, including adequate pain management. Only 1 in 4 patients with SCD receive the standard of care outlined in current guidelines, according to the [HHS Office of Minority Health](#).

## In the News

### [Report Examines the Relationship Between Primary Care & Health Equity](#)

A report by the Primary Care Collaborative and the National Center for Primary Care at the Morehouse School of Medicine examines the role of primary care in addressing health disparities and concrete practice- and policy-level actions that can achieve health equity. The reports states that two core tenets of primary care – trust and relationships – are two key ingredients that can mitigate the social and structural drivers of inequities.

### [Social Determinants of Health \(SDOH\) Associated with Sepsis Readmissions](#)

Researchers from the University of California, San Diego incorporated SDOH into a sepsis readmission predictive model to better identify patients at high risk for an unplanned 30-day readmission. The researchers used objective clinical data from the National Institutes of Health's All of Us research program cohort, which represents one of the largest studies of sepsis readmissions.

### [White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition and Health](#)

The Biden Administration will host a conference in September to accelerate progress to end hunger, improve nutrition and physical activity, reduce diet-related disease, and address disparities. The conference launches an effort by the Administration to end hunger by 2030. A series of listening sessions are scheduled prior to the Conference to get input from regions around the U.S. (See information below in Upcoming Events)

### [America's Health Rankings 2022 Senior Report](#)

America's Health Rankings recently released its 10<sup>th</sup> annual Senior Report that reviews the past decade of data to provide a comprehensive look at the health and well-being of adults age 65 and older in the U.S. The reports highlights progress, challenges and persistent disparities across all 50 states.

### [Advancing Rural Maternal Health Equity](#)

The CMS Office of Minority Health (CMS OMH) recently released a new report, Advancing Rural Maternal Health Equity. The report provides a high-level summary of the activities that CMS OMH implemented as part of its Rural Maternal Health Initiative between June 2019 and November 2021. The purpose of the report is to raise awareness of these efforts with rural stakeholders, identify collaborative opportunities, and further advance rural maternal health care equity across the country.

### [Provider "Anti-Fat" Bias Toward Overweight and Obese Patients Persists](#)

Research confirms that overweight and obese patients experience stigma from providers who are less likely to show respect or empathy for patients struggling with the condition. The Association of American Medical Colleges is rolling out equity, diversity and inclusion standards to teach providers respectful treatment of patients who are obese. The standards aim to dispel the one-size fits all approach of "eat less, move more" to lose weight and address the lack of education in medical schools on obesity. Additionally, there will be more focus on teaching providers culturally competent care.



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

## Upcoming Events

### [Health Equity Organizational Assessment \(HEOA\) Knowledge Builder Series](#)

IPRO

**Dates:** Every Thursday  
June 16<sup>th</sup> – August 4<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 12:00 – 12:30 PM ET

### [LGBTQIA+ Mental Health Town Hall – Promising Practices from NY, TX and CA](#)

*Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)*

**Date:** June 21, 2022

**Time:** 3:00 – 4:00 PM ET

### [White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition and Health Listening Sessions](#)

*Biden Administration*

Several Listening Sessions will be held with different dates/times based on geographic location.