



Social Determinants of Health

Importance for 2024 and Future

Linda Corley, MBA, ACPAR, CRCR, CPC
SVP – Compliance and Quality Assurance



Agenda: SDOH – Now and Future Importance

- What are *Social Determinants of Health* (SDOH)?
- Understanding “Healthy People 2030” initiative
- Identifying appropriate utilization of SDOH in healthcare
- Barriers to identifying SDOH
- Documenting and capturing appropriate coding of SDOH
- 2021 E/M
 - Medical Decision Making (MDM)
 - Risk of Complications
- Importance for 2023 and future 2024 adoption
- Resources

SDOH – Importance in 2023 and Future

- Prior CMS Administrator Seema Verma commented on the importance of including the SDOH in patient care.
- In a speech to the AMA Annual Meeting of the House of Delegates in June 2019, she noted:
 - “The practice of medicine has greatly changed over time.
 - **Physicians must now spend time managing patients with multiple co-morbidities while assessing genetic information, evaluating the social determinants of health, and coordinating care.”**

What are Social Determinants of Health?

- More and more physicians – and health care systems – are working toward understanding the five “Ws” for SDOH:

- | | |
|---------|--|
| - Who | Patient needs beyond medical care |
| - When | Care planning and disease management |
| - Why | Realizing effects of SDOH |
| - What | Not medical, but may be as important |
| - Where | Identified patient populations – chronic |



What are Social Determinants of Health?

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) define Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) as:

**“ . . . conditions in the places
where people *live, learn, work, and play*
that affect a wide range of health risks and outcomes.”**

Examples of Social Determinants of Health

Living:

Access to housing and utility services

Access to safe drinking water and clean air

Neighborhood conditions / crime rates

Food insecurity / inaccessibility of nutritious food choices

Availability of transportation

Recreational and leisure opportunities

Learning:

Early childhood development

Early childhood experiences

Physical environment

Exposure to violent behavior

Educational opportunities

Social support

Working:

Employment Status

Occupation

Income level

Workplace safety

Racial or Gender inequality

Impacts of the Social Determinants of Health

“Why” be concerned about SDOH?

Per clinical studies, out of the *modifiable* factors that contribute to health outcomes for a population group of society, **medical care only accounts for approximately:**

10% – 20%

Researchers believe that the Social Determinants of Health drive over half of health outcomes, at a rate of:

80%



Healthy People 2030

In 2010 the Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (ODPHP) launched an initiative called Healthy People 2020. It has been updated in 2020 with a 10-year agenda for improving health in the United States with the following mission items:

- Increasing awareness and understanding of determinants of health, disease, and disability and opportunities for progress
- Identifying nationwide health improvement priorities
- **Providing measurable objectives and goals applicable at the national, state, and local levels**
- Engaging multiple sectors to take actions to strengthen policies and improve practices that are evidence driven
- Identifying critical research, evaluation, and data collection needs



Healthy People 2030

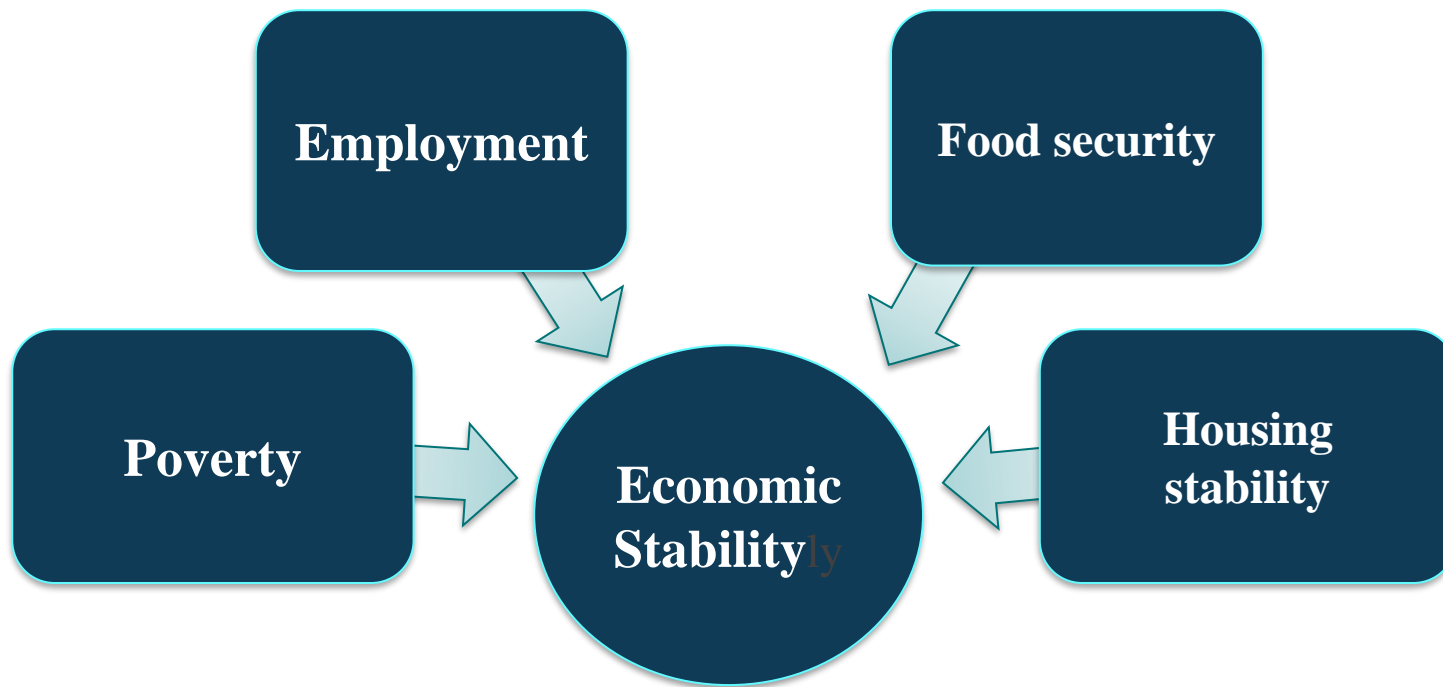
The Social Determinants of Health topic area was **designed to identify ways to create social and physical environments that promote good health for all.**

In order to accomplish this, a “place-based” approach was utilized for Social Determinants of Health, categorizing all determinants into five key areas:

- **Economic Stability**
- **Education Access and Quality**
- **Healthcare Access and Quality**
- **Neighborhood and Built Environment**
- **Social and Community context**

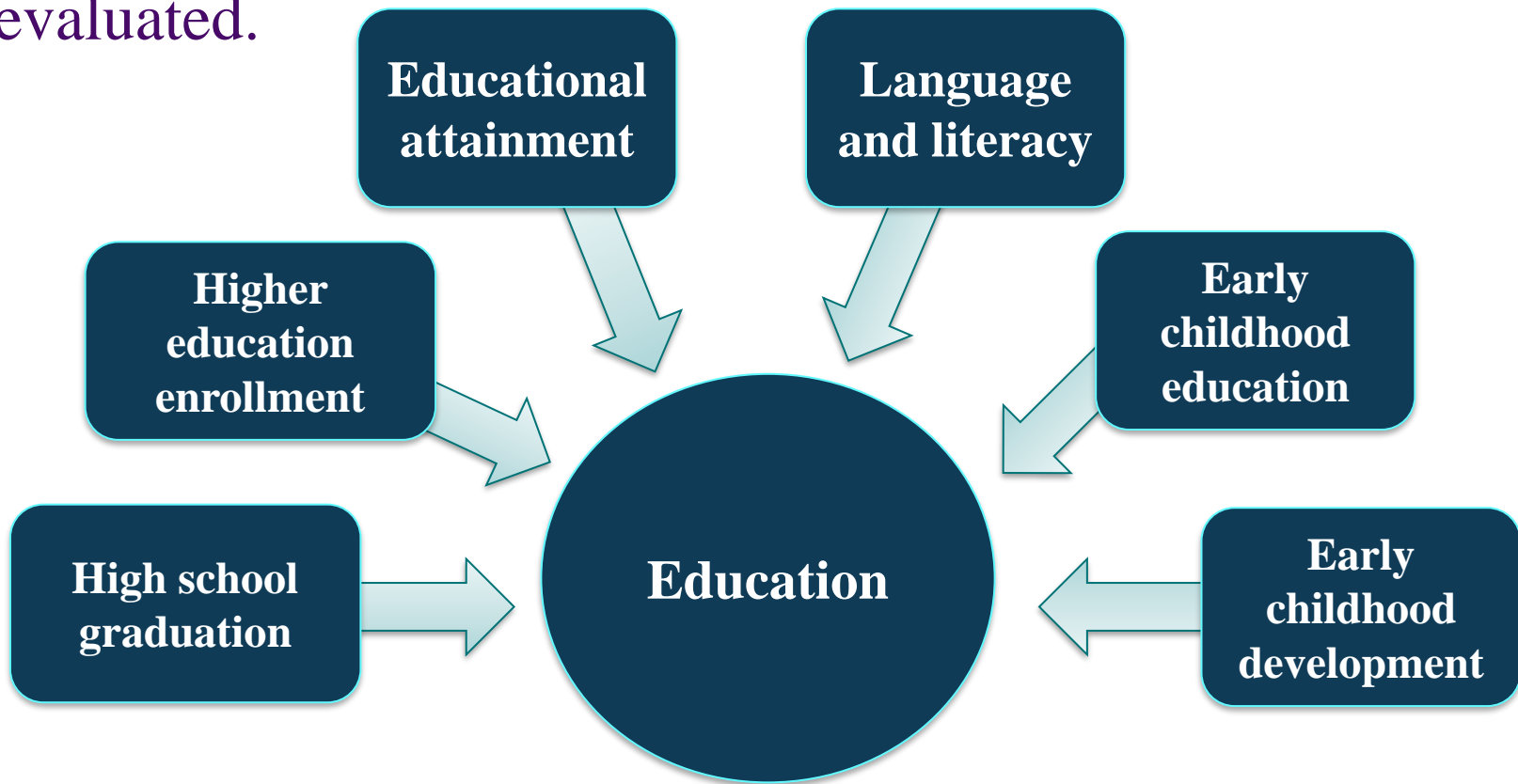
Economic Stability

Economic Stability is defined as the financial resources people have access to as it relates to their health, such as income, cost of living, and socioeconomic conditions.



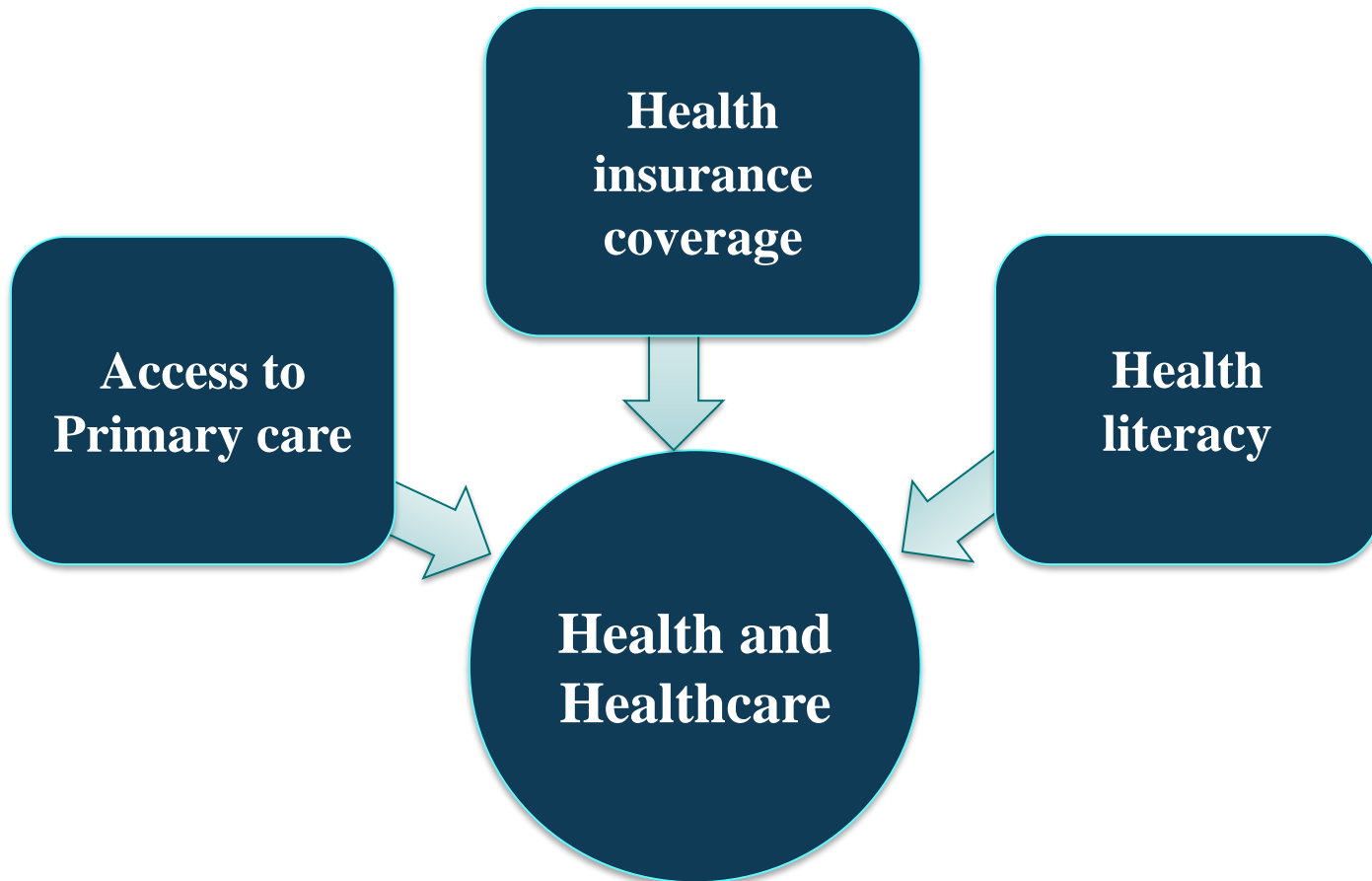
Education Access and Quality

Education is the relationship between education and a person's health and wellbeing. Quality is now being evaluated.



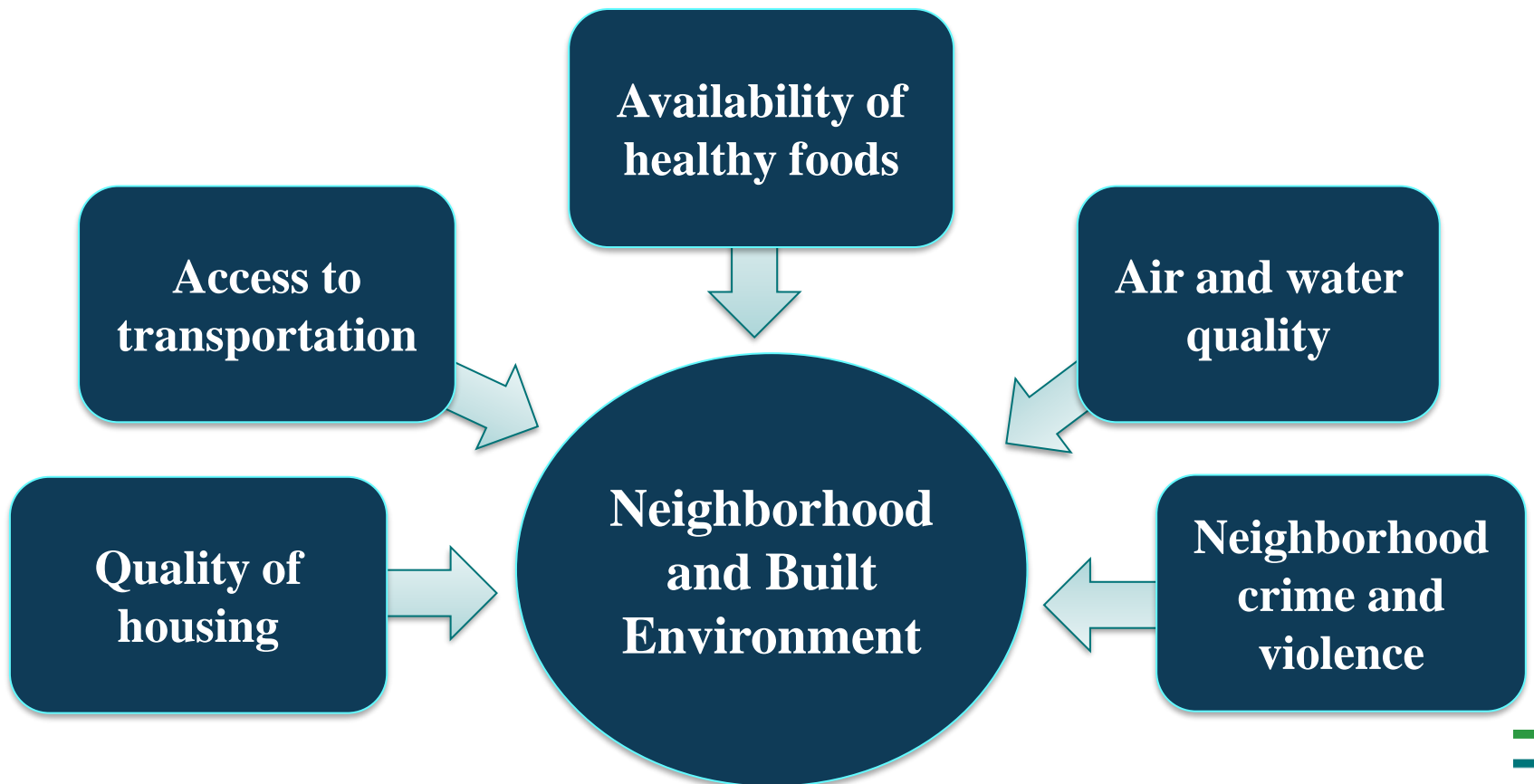
Healthcare Access and Quality

Healthcare is people's access to and understanding of health services, and how that knowledge is connected to maintaining their own healthy lifestyles.



Neighborhood and Built Environment

Neighborhood and Built Environment is defined as where a person lives – housing, neighborhood, and environment – and the effect it has on their health and wellbeing.



Social and Community Context

Social and Community Context is defined as the relationship between the characteristics of the contexts in which people live, learn, work, and play, and their health and wellbeing.



Identifying SDOH



Identifying SDOH

Does not have to be performed by provider

- Patient
- RN/MA
- Social worker
- Therapist
- ...and others

Can be performed

- Online via patient web portal
- Via telephone
- At check-in
- During rooming of patient

Self-administered vs. in-person/phone interview

- Individual may be more likely to disclose sensitive information when self-administered

ICD-10-CM Guideline I.B.14

“Code assignment is based on the documentation by patient’s provider (i.e., physician or other qualified healthcare practitioner legally accountable for establishing the patient’s diagnosis).

For social determinants of health, such as information found in categories Z55-Z65, Persons with potential health hazards related to socioeconomic and psychosocial circumstances, code assignment may be based on medical record documentation from clinicians involved in the care of the patient who are not the patient’s provider since this information represents social information, rather than medical diagnoses. **Patient self-reported documentation may also be used to assign codes for social determinants of health, as long as the patient self-reported information is signed-off by and incorporated into the health record by either a clinician or provider.”**

Capturing SDOH



SDOH Diagnoses (examples – not all inclusive)

Economic Stability	Education	Social and Community Context	Health and Healthcare	Neighborhood and Built Environment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Z59.4 - Lack of adequate food and safe drinking water •Z59.5 - Extreme poverty •Z59.6 - Low income •Z59.7 - Insufficient social insurance and welfare support •Z59.8 - Other problems related to housing and economic circumstances •Z59.9 - Problems related to housing and economic circumstances, unspecified •Z56.0 - Unemployment, unspecified •Z56.1 - Change of job •Z56.2 - Threat of job loss •Z56.4 - Discord with boss and workmates •Z56.89 - Other problems related to employment •Z56.9 - Unspecified problems related to employment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Z55.0 - Illiteracy and low-level literacy •Z55.1 - Schooling unavailable and unattainable •Z55.2 - Failed school examinations •Z55.3 - Underachievement in school •Z55.4 - Education maladjustment and discord with teachers and classmates •Z55.8 - Other problems related to education and literacy •Z55.9 - Problems related to education and literacy, unspecified 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Z60.2 - Problems related to living alone •Z60.4 - Social exclusion and rejection •Z60.8 - Other problems related to social environment •Z60.9 - Problems related to social environment, unspecified •Z62.21 - Child in welfare custody •Z62.810 - Personal history of physical and sexual abuse in childhood •Z62.820 - Parent-biological child conflict •Z62.822 - Parent-foster child conflict •Z63.4 - Disappearance and death of family member •Z63.8 - Other specified problems related to primary support group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Z75.3 - Unavailability and inaccessibility of health care facilities •Z75.4 - Unavailability and inaccessibility of other helping agencies •Z77.010 - Contact with and suspected exposure to arsenic •Z77.011 - Contact with and suspected exposure to lead •Z77.090 - Contact with and suspected exposure to asbestos 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Z59.0 - Homelessness •Z59.1 - Inadequate housing •Z59.2 - Discord with neighbors, lodgers and landlord •Z59.8 - Other problems related to housing and economic circumstances •Z65.0 - Conviction in civil or criminal proceedings without imprisonment •Z65.1 - Imprisonment and other incarceration •Z65.2 - Problems related to release from prison •Z71.3 - Dietary counseling and surveillance •Z71.6 - Tobacco abuse counseling •Z71.82 - Exercise counseling •Z71.89 - Other specified counseling •Z71.9 - Counseling, unspecified •Z72.0 - Tobacco use •Z72.4 - Inappropriate diet/eating habits •Z91.82 - Personal history of military deployment

2021 E/M and SDOH



SDOH and Evaluation/Management 2021

- Guideline changes effective January 1, 2021
- Impact codes for Office and Outpatient Services – 99202 – 99215 *only*
- Guidelines have not had any major revision in over 25 years

SDOH Impact on Medical Decision Making

- Briefly what is changing?
 - Remove history and exam as key components
 - Code based on either time or Medical Decision Making
- Allows providers to select their level of service based on the complexity of the patient's overall condition

How does this tie into
Social Determinants of Health?

SDOH Impact on Medical Decision Making

- We have assessed the patient's SDOH.
- We have documented the patient's SDOH.
- We now have to tie the SDOH to the status of the patient's current health conditions.

Risk of Complication and/or Morbidity or Mortality of Patient Management

Codes	Risk of Complications and/or Morbidity or Mortality of Patient Management
99202 99212	Minimal risk of morbidity from additional diagnostic testing or treatment
99203 99213	Low risk of morbidity from additional diagnostic testing or treatment
99204 99214	<p>Moderate risk of morbidity from additional diagnostic testing or treatment</p> <p><i>Examples only:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prescription drug management • Decision regarding minor surgery with identified patient or procedure risk factors • Decision regarding elective major surgery without identified patient or procedure risk factors • Diagnosis or treatment significantly limited by social determinants of health
99205 99215	<p>High risk of morbidity from additional diagnostic testing or treatment</p> <p><i>Examples only:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drug therapy requiring intensive monitoring for toxicity • Decision regarding elective major surgery with identified patient or procedure risk factors • Decision regarding emergency major surgery • Decision regarding hospitalization • Decision not to resuscitate or to de-escalate care because of poor prognosis

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Consider This

- A patient with chronic knee pain and a positive anterior drawer test may need imaging of the knee, a consult with an orthopedic surgeon, and a referral to physical therapy. This patient, however, may not have the means to access or afford the care. In this situation, it is important to consider how SDOH may significantly limit the patient's ability to attain appropriate diagnosis and treatment.
- A clinician may, for example, document: "Patient cannot afford to obtain an MRI of the knee at this time because of the cost. This significantly limits my ability to confirm the diagnosis beyond physical examination findings and presenting symptoms."

Future Impact of SDOH



2024 Inpatient Final Payment Rule

- After review, CMS finalized a change to the severity designation of the three ICD-10-CM diagnosis codes to describe homelessness (unspecified, sheltered and unsheltered) from non-complication or comorbidity (NonCC) to complication or comorbidity (CC)

Z59.00
Homelessness
unspecified

Z59.01
Sheltered
unspecified

Z59.02
Unsheltered
unspecified

- The change was based on the higher average resource costs of cases with the diagnosis codes compared to similar cases without the codes

What may the future require . . . or offer now?

- Looking at health care outside of the four walls of the service location!
- **IHS, Medicare Advantage, Part D and Medicaid plans are now offering supplemental benefits to address SDOH!**
- Offer benefits that are “not necessarily health-related but have a reasonable expectation of improving or maintaining the health or overall function of the enrollees”
- **Available benefits *may* include:**
 - Meal delivery, including healthy food plans and nutrition education.
 - Transportation to the grocery store.
 - Non-emergency transportation to health care.
 - Home air cleaners and carpet shampooing for a patient with asthma.

What does the future hold for SODH?

- By taking action to:
 - identify social issues impacting the health of our patient population,
 - incorporating this information into documentation,
 - creating a connection to how these issues are impacting the health of our patient;
- reporting and billing the appropriate codes to the patient's insurance carrier...
- **We have an opportunity to obtain needed services for our patients!**

Resources and Tools

Aunt Bertha

www.auntbertha.com

- Aunt Bertha is a free online social services search engine. It connects people in need to programs in their community.
- The site lists available social services, including food, housing, transportation, health care, finances, education, employment, legal aid, and goods/supplies (e.g., baby supplies, clothing).
- The services are based on ZIP code and allow for electronic referrals.

211 Helpline Center

- The 211-dialing code provides callers with information about and referral to available social services in their location.
- It is currently available in portions of all 50 states and Puerto Rico.

State Public Health Departments and Resources

www.cdc.gov/mmwr/international/relres.html

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention offers public health resources to connect with your state and local agencies and find useful community resources.

Resources and Tools *cont'd*

Community Tool Box

www.ctb.ku.edu/en

- The Community Tool Box is a free, online resource with tools for learning and assessing community needs and resources, addressing social determinants of health, engaging stakeholders, action planning, building leadership, improving cultural competency, planning an evaluation, and sustaining efforts over time.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Service Community Guide

www.thecommunityguide.org

- The Community Guide offers community stakeholders tools and resources vetted by experts that aim to improve population and community health.

County Health Rankings & Roadmaps

www.countyhealthrankings.org

- Provides a snapshot of a community's health. Broaden your view and explore factors that drive health in your county including:
 - Health Outcomes (length of life, quality of life)
 - Health Behaviors (smoking, obesity, food environment index, physical inactivity, excessive drinking, alcohol-impaired driving deaths, sexually transmitted diseases, teen births)
 - Clinical Care (uninsured, primary care physicians, dentists, mental health providers, preventable hospital stays, diabetes monitoring, mammography screening)
 - Social and Economic Factors (high school graduation, unemployment, income equality, children in single-parent households, violent crime, injury deaths, social associations)
 - Physical Environment (air pollution-particle matter, drinking water violations, severe housing problems)

References

Healthcare Business Monthly, November 2020

<https://aapcperfect.s3.amazonaws.com/hbm/Nov2020/index.html#>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

<https://www.cdc.gov/socialdeterminants/about.html>

Healthy People 2030

<https://www.healthypeople.gov/2030/topics-objectives/topic/social-determinants-of-health>

World Health Organization (WHO)

https://www.who.int/social_determinants/en/

Questions?



Linda Corley
Compliance and Quality Assurance
lcorley@xtendhealthcare.net
706 577-2256