



# Addressing Social Determinants of Health:

## A Strategy to Improve Health Outcomes

Quality Symposium 2024



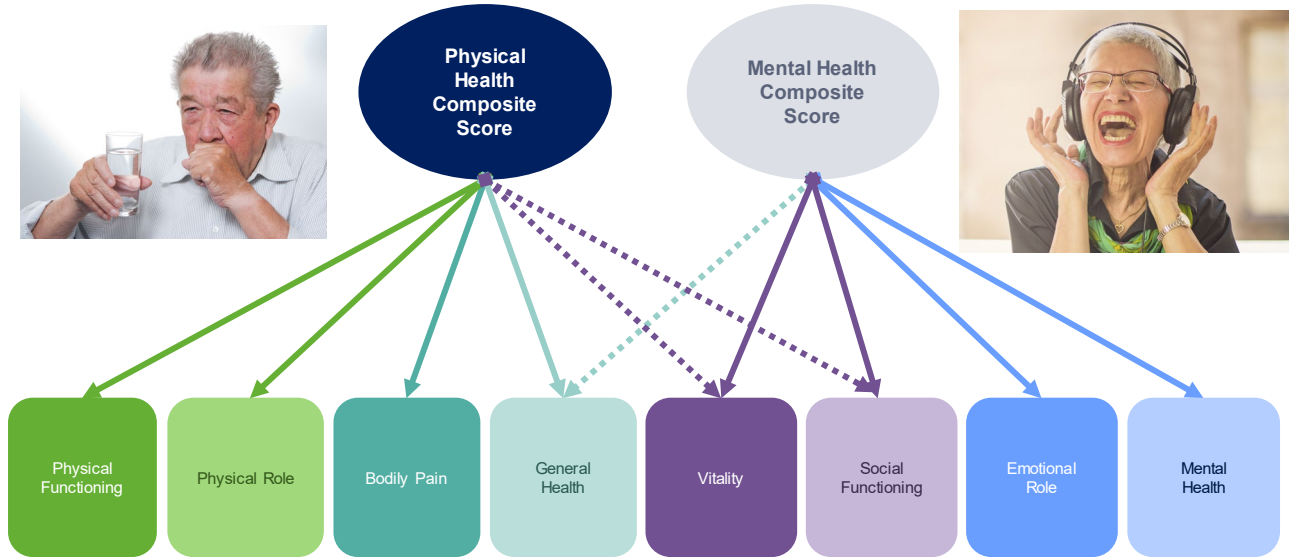
# Implementing SDOH Activity

Please take 10 minutes to answer the following questions on the provided handout:

1. Why is SDOH important for health outcomes?
2. How do you currently screen for SDOH at your organization?
3. How do you connect your patients to resources?
4. How do you track referrals?



# HOS Constructs Map to Health Composite Scores



# Improving or Maintaining Physical Health

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In general, would you say your health is (excellent, very good, good, fair, poor)?

The following items are about activities you might do during a typical day. Does your health now limit you in these activities? If so, how much?

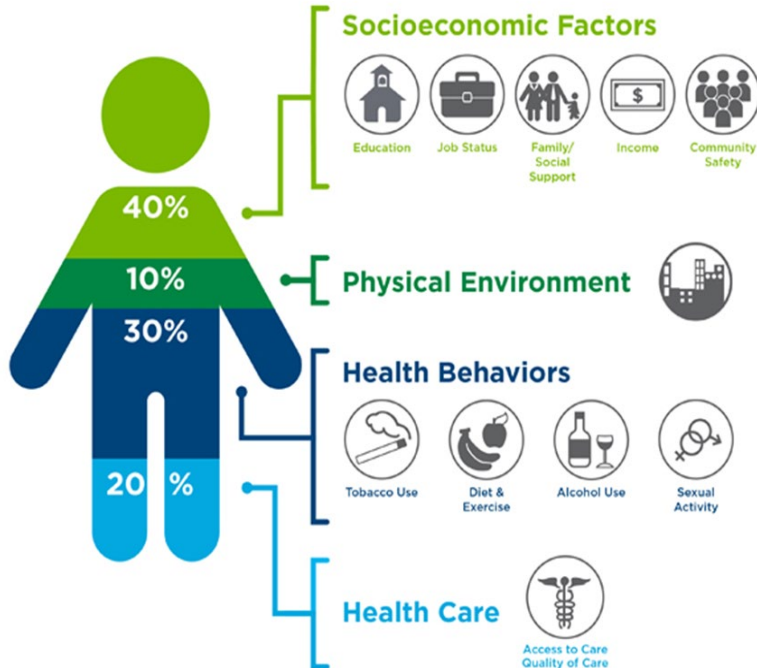
- Moderate activities, such as moving a table, pushing a vacuum cleaner, bowling or playing golf
- Climbing several flights of stairs

During the past four weeks, have you had any of the following problems with your work or other regular daily activities as a result of your physical health?

- Accomplished less than you would like as a result of your physical health
- Were limited in the kind of work or other activities as result of your physical health

During the past four weeks, how much did pain interfere with your normal work (including both work outside the home and housework)?

# Why Screen For SDOH?



**80 percent** of health outcomes is determined by the **physical environment, social determinants, and behavioral factors.**

**20 percent** of a person's health and well-being is related to **care** and quality of service

Source: Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement, Going Beyond Clinical Walls: Solving Complex Problems (October 2014)

# SDOH Factors For Older Adults

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## Housing Instability

10 million households headed by a senior pay a third of income on housing; 5 million pay at least half.<sup>1</sup>

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## Food Insecurity

9.3 million people aged 50+ were food insecure in 2021.<sup>2</sup>

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## Transportation Needs

Each year, 3.6 million people in the United States do not obtain medical care due to transportation issues.<sup>3</sup>

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## Utility Assistance

AARP reports up to 3.3 million households headed by someone 50+ cannot afford their energy bills.<sup>4</sup>

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## Interpersonal violence

About 1 in 10 of seniors have experienced elder abuse with only 4% of incidents reported to authorities.<sup>5</sup>

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1. Molinsky J. Housing for America's Older Adults: Four Problems We Must Address | Joint Center for Housing Studies. [www.jchs.harvard.edu](http://www.jchs.harvard.edu). Published August 18, 2022. <https://www.jchs.harvard.edu/blog/housing-americas-olderadults-four-problems-we-must-address>

2. Ziliak J, Gunderson C. The state of senior hunger in 2021. FeedingAmerica. [April 4, 2023]. Accessed March 7, 2024. <https://www.feedingamerica.org/research/state-senior-hunger#:~:text=7.1%25%20of%20the%20senior%20population,and%205.2%20million%20in%202023>

3. Social Determinants of Health Series: Transportation and the Role of Hospitals | AHA. [www.aha.org](http://www.aha.org). <https://www.aha.org/aharet-guides/2017-11-15-social-determinants-health-series-transportation-and-role-hospital#:~:text=Transportation%20issues%20include%20lack%20of>

4. Shillett W, Trawinski L. AARP PUBLIC POLICY INSTITUTE Fact Sheet Older Consumers: Especially Vulnerable to Utility Price Increases.; 2018. Accessed March 6, 2024. <https://www.aarp.org/content/dam/aarp/ppi/2018/09/older-consumers-especially-vulnerable-to-utility-price-increases.pdf>

5. The National Council on Aging. [www.ncoa.org](http://www.ncoa.org). Accessed March 6, 2024. <https://www.ncoa.org/article/get-the-facts-on-elder-abuse#:~:text=How%20many%20older%20Americans%20are>

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# Challenges to Addressing SDOH

- ▶ Inadequate training on using and integrating the screening tool into existing workflow
- ▶ Limited time and resources for screening and referrals
- ▶ Inconsistent screening practices
- ▶ Lack of clear processes for referrals and tracking
- ▶ Patient hesitancy to answer intrusive questions

Andenfeld Z, Chen K, Kapur S, Chang JE. Assessing Differences in Social Determinants of Health Screening Rates in a Large, Urban Safety-Net Health System. *J Prim Care Community Health*.

**AHC HRSN Screening Tool Core Questions**  
 If someone chooses the unselected answers, they might have an unmet health-related social need.

**Living Situation**

1. What is your living situation today?\*

- I have a check-out place to live
- I have a place to live today, but I am worried about losing it in the future
- I do not have a steady place to live (I am temporarily staying with others, in a hotel, in a shelter, being evicted, on the street, on a beach, in a car, abandoned building, bus, or train station, or in a park)

2. Think about the place you live. Do you have problems with any of the following?\*

CHOOSE ALL THAT APPLY

- Pests such as high ants or mice
- Mold
- Lead paint or pipes
- Lack of heat
- Cracks or holes not fixed
- Smoke detectors not working
- None of the above

**Food**

Some people have made dinner whether the rest of the household in the last 30 days.

3. Within the past 12 months, how much money do you have to buy more food?

- Enough
- Sometimes, but not enough

**PRAPARE**  
 Protocol for Responding to and Assessing Patients' Assets, Risks, and Experiences  
 Paper version of PRAPARE® for implementation as of September 2, 2016

17. Since I was last seen, have you had any of the following when it was really needed? Check all that apply.

Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Cost	Transportation	Food	Child care	Child care	Child care	Child care	Child care
Time	Schedule or day health care (including general, specialty, therapy, etc.)	Specialty services	Specialty services	Specialty services	Specialty services	Specialty services	Specialty services

18. In the past year, have you spent more than 2 nights in a jail, prison, alternative center, or juvenile detention facility?

Yes	No	Choose not to answer this question
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19. Are you a migrant?

Yes	No	Choose not to answer this question
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20. Do you feel physically and emotionally safe where you currently live?

Yes	No	Choose not to answer this question
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21. In the past year, have you been afraid of your partner or partner?

Yes	No	Choose not to answer this question
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# Strategies For Addressing SDOH

NASEM Category	Definition
Awareness	Activities related to identifying the social risks and assets of defined patients and populations
Adjustment	Activities related to altering clinical care to accommodate identified social barriers
Assistance	Activities related to reducing social risk by connecting patients with social care resources
Alignment	Activities undertaken by health care systems to understand existing social care assets in the community, organize them to facilitate synergies, and invest in and deploy them to positively affect health outcomes
Advocacy	Activities in which health care organizations work with partner social care organizations to promote policies that facilitate the creation and redeployment of assets or resources to address health and social needs

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) proposed five strategies health care organizations can leverage to strengthen social care





We connect all people in need and the programs that serve them (with dignity and ease).

- Find help was built in 2010 to offer an easier way to find social services and to connect to them directly and electronically.
- Largest network of free and reduced-cost programs in every ZIP Code across the United States.
- The only network that provides a platform that's free and open to search.
- 570+ customers, including the governments, health care and others

# Fireside Chat with FindHelp

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**Jaffer Traish, Chief Operating Officer**

As the COO at findhelp, Jaffer is focused on helping all people in need through growing partner and customer impact within their communities. Across government, healthcare, education, employers and more, connecting seekers to meaningful programs with strategic investment and technical innovation is Jaffer's passion.