

ELIMINATING BARRIERS IN HEALTH DISPARITIES

Books, Reports, and Other Key Resources

Addressing Health Care Disparities: Recommended Goal, Guiding Principles, and Key Strategies for Comprehensive Policies. Chicago: American Medical Association, Commission to End Health Care Disparities, Aug. 2007.

Recommends a goal, fundamental principles, and key strategies as a framework for policy analysis, development, and implementation.

http://www.ama-assn.org/ama1/pub/upload/mm/433/commission_pres_07.pdf

Anderson, A., and Turner, A. G. *Patient Navigation: Existing Programs, Current Practices and Guideline for Success.* Seattle, WA: The Cross Cultural Health Care Program, 2007.

Reviews and assesses existing patient navigation programs in Washington State and elsewhere.

<http://www.xculture.org/files/Navigators.Final.Report10.07.pdf>

Beal, A. C., and others. *Closing the Divide: How Medical Homes Promote Equity in Health Care: Results From The Commonwealth Fund 2006 Health Care Quality Survey.* New York: The Commonwealth Fund, June 2007.

Results of a survey finds that when adults have health insurance coverage and a medical home--a health care setting that provides patients with timely, well-organized care, and enhanced access to providers--racial and ethnic disparities in access and quality are reduced or even eliminated.

http://www.commonwealthfund.org/publications/publications_show.htm?doc_id=506814#areaCitation

Capitman, J. A., Bhalotra, S., and Ruwe, M. *Cancer and Elders of Color: Opportunities for Reducing Health Disparities: Evidence Review and Recommendations for Research and Policy.* Burlington, VT: Ashgate, 2005.

Explores a wide range of issues related to cancer and cancer care; looks at model programs to reduce cancer care inequalities; and examines opportunities for screening, treatment and follow-up service enhancement for elders of color.

Civil Rights Clearance for Medicare Provider Certification. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Office for Civil Rights, Dec. 22, 2006.

Regulations and other materials that detail requirements for Medicare-certified providers related to civil rights issues.

<http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/crclearance.html>

Cohen, J. *Challenges and Successes in Reducing Health Disparities: Workshop Summary.* Washington, DC: National Academies Press, 2008.

Report of a workshop convened to examine the importance of

differences in life expectancy within the United States, the reasons for those differences, and the implications of this information for programs and policy makers.

http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12154#toc

Collection and Use of Race and Ethnicity Data for Quality Improvement. Washington, DC: America's Health Insurance Plans, 2006.

Issue brief on the 2006 AHIP and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) survey highlights progress made by health insurance plans on collecting and using data on race, ethnicity, and primary language to help address disparities.

<http://www.ahip.org/content/default.aspx?docid=17974>

Eliminating Health Disparities in Frederick, Montgomery, and Prince George's Counties in Maryland. Rockville, MD: Adventist HealthCare Center on Health Disparities, 2007.

<http://www.adventisthealthcare.com/pdf/AHC-CHD-ProgressReport-2007.pdf>

Describes the health status of racial and ethnic minority communities in the tri-county area across 11 health topics. The health indicators covered in this report include: healthful behaviors, access to health care, maternal and infant health, children's health, elder care, cancer, diabetes, heart disease, mental health, HIV/AIDS, and accidents and injuries.

Eliminating Health Disparities: Strengthening Data on Race, Ethnicity, Language in the U.S. Washington, DC: National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics Subcommittee on Populations, 2005.

Report on hearings conducted to investigate the collection and use of data on racial and ethnic groups by data systems funded and maintained by the Department of Health & Human Services. Includes recommendations for future action.

<http://www.ncvhs.hhs.gov/051107rpt.pdf>

Expecting Success Toolkit. Princeton, NJ: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, June 2008.

Provides tips for hospitals on improving the quality of care and reducing disparities.

<http://www.rwjf.org/pr/product.jsp?id=28433>

Hasnain-Wynia, R., and Rittner, S. S. *Improving Quality and Equity in Health Care by Reducing Disparities.* Chicago: Health Research & Educational Trust, 2008.

Discusses the importance of valid and reliable data as the building blocks for identifying differences in care and developing targeted interventions to improve the quality of care delivered to specific populations.

<http://www.hret.org/hret/programs/chmr/content/rhw08iq.pdf>

Hasnain-Wynia, R., and others. *Health Research & Educational Trust Disparities Toolkit*. Chicago: Health Research & Educational Trust, 2007.

Web-based tool that provides hospitals, health systems, clinics, and health plans information and resources for systematically collecting race, ethnicity, and primary language data from patients.

<http://www.hretdisparities.org/>

Hispanic Diabetes Disparities Learning Network in Community Health Centers. Rockville, MD: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, 2008.

Describes the development of a learning network project that included interventions and needs assessments at community health centers to help reduce the diabetes disparity in the Hispanic population.

<http://www.ahrq.gov/research/diabetesnetwork/>

Hofrichter, H. *Tackling Health Inequities through Public Health Practice: A Handbook for Action*. Washington, DC: National Association of County & City Health Officials and Lansing, MI: Ingham County Health Department, 2006.

Guidance for local health departments in addressing the elimination of health disparities within a social justice framework.

Improving Communication – Improving Care. Chicago: American Medical Association, Ethical Force Program, 2008.

Performance measurement toolkit designed to help health care organizations assess the effectiveness of their communication, identify common communication problems, and improve communication with all patient populations.

<http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/category/18225.html>

King, T. E., Jr., and Wheeler, M. B., eds. *Medical Management of Vulnerable and Underserved Patients: Principles, Practice, and Populations*. New York: McGraw-Hill Medical Publications Division, 2007.

Lillie-Blanton, M., and Lewis, C. B. *Policy Challenges and Opportunities in Closing the Racial/Ethnic Divide in Health Care*. Menlo Park, CA: Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, 2005.

Examines issues in eliminating disparities: increasing public awareness; expanding health insurance coverage; increasing the number and capacity of providers in underserved communities; improving the quality of care; and increasing the knowledge base on causes and interventions.

<http://www.kff.org/minorityhealth/loader.cfm?url=/commonspot/security/getfile.cfm&PageID=51965>

Making Public Programs Work for Communities of Color: An Action Kit for Community Leaders. Washington, DC: Families USA, 2006. Provides community leaders with the information, tools, and

resources necessary to engage in health advocacy and improve the health and well-being of their communities.

<http://www.familiesusa.org/resources/tools-for-advocates/kits/minority-health-tool-kit.html>

Martin C. *Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparities: Quality Improvement in Medicaid Managed Care Toolkit*.

Hamilton, NJ: Center for Health Care Strategies, 2007.

Details the experiences of a collaborative workgroup of Medicaid managed care organization that worked together to develop new ways to identify members of racial and ethnic subgroups in their enrolled populations, to measure the gaps in their care, and to explore ways to reduce disparities and improve overall health care quality.

http://www.chcs.org/usr_doc/Racial_&Ethnic_Health_Disparities.pdf

Martinez, E. L., and others. *Serving Diverse Communities in Hospitals and Health Systems From the Experience of Public Hospitals and Health Systems*. Washington, DC: National Public Health and Hospital Institute, June 2004.

Presents strategies from the various programs and approaches of National Association of Public Hospitals & Health Systems member hospitals used in providing culturally and linguistically appropriate care.

http://www.omhrc.gov/assets/pdf/checked/serving_dchhs_report.pdf

Multicultural Health Care: A Quality Improvement Guide.

Rockville, MD: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, n.d. Guide for those wanting to undertake quality improvement initiatives to improve culturally and linguistically appropriate services and to reduce disparities in care.

<http://innovations.ahrq.gov/content.aspx?id=2101>

OCR Promising Practices: Grassroots Outreach Efforts to Reach African American Communities about Health Disparities, Race Discrimination, and Title VI. Washington, DC: U. S. Department of Health & Human Services, Office for Civil Rights, May, 2006.

Describes efforts of the Office for Civil Rights to promote equal access to health care and eliminate health disparities by reaching out to African American communities and providing information on rights under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; includes recommendations for enhancing these efforts.

<http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/promisingpractices.html>

Overview of Models and Strategies for Overcoming Linguistic and Cultural Barriers to Health Care. diversityRX, n.d.

Reviews a wide range of strategies for overcoming linguistic and cultural barriers to care from model programs from around the country.

<http://www.diversityrx.org/HTML/MOVERA.htm>

Patient Navigator Program Overview. Alexandria, VA: The Institute for Alternative Futures, 2007.

Overview of selected patient navigation programs as well as existing toolkits for patient navigators.

<http://www.altfutures.com/DRA/Patient%20Navigator%20Overview.pdf>

Patient Race & Ethnicity: Improving Hospital Data Collection & Reporting. Princeton, NJ: Health Research and Educational Trust of New Jersey, 2004.

Examines the quality of coding and reporting of patients' race and ethnicity fields in New Jersey hospital discharge data from 1995 to 2002.

http://www.njha.com/research/pdf/PatientRace-Full_Report.pdf

Pay for Performance and Quality Reporting: Implications for Eliminating Racial/Ethnic Health Care Disparities. Chicago: American Medical Association, Commission to End Health Care Disparities, Aug. 2007.

Discusses how pay for performance programs might foster quality improvement for certain populations while adversely affects others, such as racial and ethnic minorities.

http://www.ama-assn.org/ama1/pub/upload/mm/433/issue_brief_pay.pdf

Pittz, W., and others. *Closing the Gap: Solutions to Race-Based Health Disparities.* Oakland, CA; Seattle, WA: Applied Research Center; Northwest Federation of Community Organizations, 2005. Identifies practices that successfully address racial and ethnic disparities in health. Includes a review of data and literature on race, racism, and health; field research and nationwide interviews; and best practices case studies.

<http://www.arc.org/content/view/250/481/>

Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH U.S.). Finding Solutions to Health Disparities: At a Glance 2008.

Atlanta: U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, March 2008.

This survey assesses improvements in health-related behaviors and reductions in health disparities within the 27 REACH communities that focus on breast and cervical cancer prevention, cardiovascular health, and diabetes management.

<http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/publications/aag/pdf/reach.pdf>

Racial and Ethnic Disparities: States and Feds to the Rescue?

Washington, D.C.: Alliance for Health Reform and New York: Commonwealth Fund, May 12, 2008.

Transcript and webcast of a briefing on what states are doing, or are proposing to do, to address health and health care disparities and what federal policy makers might learn from those efforts.

http://www.allhealth.org/briefing_detail.asp?bi=127

REACHing Across the Divide: Finding Solutions to Health Disparities. Atlanta: U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2007. Looks at the successes and lessons learned in eliminating health disparities through the Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) program.

http://www.cdc.gov/reach/pdf/health_disparities_101607.pdf

Reducing Health Disparities through a Focus on Communities. Oakland, CA: PolicyLink, 2002.

Explores the relationship between the communities in which people live and their health and describes community characteristics that promote or hinder good health.

http://www.calendow.org/Collection_Publications.aspx?coll_id=44&ItemID=310#

Regenstein, M., and Sickler, D. *Race, Ethnicity and Language of Patients Hospital Practices Regarding Collection of Information to Address Disparities in Health Care.* Washington, DC: National Public Health and Hospital Institute, 2006.

Examines the ability of hospitals to describe their populations and assess the size and scope of health care disparities; provides information on the state of data collection in U.S. hospitals; and describes data collection practices at more than 60 safety net hospital systems across the country.

<http://rwjf.org/files/research/RWJNPHHreport-2-06.pdf>

The Right to Equal Treatment: An Action Plan to End Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Clinical Diagnosis and Treatment in the United States. Boston: Physicians for Human Rights, 2003.

Presents 24 detailed policy recommendations and 11 research recommendations as part of a campaign to reduce and eliminate racial and ethnic disparities in health care.

http://www.phrusa.org/research/domestic/race/race_report/report.html

Smith, D. B. *Eliminating Disparities in Treatment.* New York: The Commonwealth Fund, Aug. 2005.

Reviews the history and achievements of civil rights era efforts to integrate health care in the United States in order to utilize lessons of this experience for current efforts to eliminate disparities in health care treatment.

http://www.commonwealthfund.org/publications/publications_show.htm?doc_id=289279

Strategic Framework for Improving Racial and Ethnic Minority Health and Eliminating Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities.

Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Office of Minority Health, 2008.

Provides guidance for the systematic planning, implementation, and evaluation of the Office of Minority Health, other federal

agencies, and other efforts aimed at improving racial/ethnic minority health.

<http://www.omhrc.gov/npa/templates/content.aspx?ID=78&lvl=1&lvlID=13>

Strategies for Improving Minority Healthcare Quality. Rockville, MD: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Jan. 2004. Examines the effectiveness of interventions designed to improve the quality of healthcare and/or to reduce disparities for ethnic minorities, especially those interventions aimed at healthcare providers or organizations.

<http://www.ahrq.gov/clinic/epcsums/minqusum.htm>

Vladeck, B. C., Van de Water, P. N., and Eichner, J., eds. *Strengthening Medicare's Role in Reducing Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities*. Washington: National Academy of Social Insurance, 2006.

Examines Medicare's role in moving towards a solution for improving cultural competence and reducing disparities in health.

http://www.calendow.org/Collection_Publications.aspx?collid=44&ItemID=310#

Weinick, R. M., Flaherty, K., and Bristol, S. J. *Creating Equity Reports: A Guide for Hospitals*. Boston: The Disparities Solutions Center, Massachusetts General Hospital, 2008.

Provides information for hospitals on how to collect data on race, ethnicity, language, and socioeconomic status and how to use those data to develop an equity report provides the basis for action.

<http://www.massgeneral.org/disparitiessolutions/resources.html>

Williams, R. A. *Eliminating Healthcare Disparities in America: Beyond the IOM Report*. Totowa, NJ: Humana Press, 2007.

Reviews the historical and current status of health care disparities, presents case examples that address these disparities, and makes recommendations on how to move forward toward eliminating disparities.

Wilson-Stronks, A., and Galvez, E. *Exploring Cultural and Linguistic Services in the Nation's Hospitals: a Report of Findings*. Oakbrook Terrace, IL: The Joint Commission, 2007.

Explores the ways that culture and language issues are being addressed in hospitals and makes recommendations for hospitals, policy makers, and researchers to improve care for culturally and linguistically diverse populations.

http://www.jointcommission.org/PatientSafety/HLC/Exploring_cultural_and_linguistic_services_in_the_nations_hospital.htm

Articles

Aaron, K. F, and Chesley, F. D., Jr. Beyond rhetoric: what we need to know to eliminate disparities. *Ethnicity & Disease*. 13(3 Suppl 3):S3-9-11, Summer 2003.

Airhihenbuwa, C. O., and Liburd, L. Eliminating health disparities in the African American population: the interface of culture, gender, and power. *Health Education & Behavior*. 33(4):488-501, Aug. 2006.

Anderson, K., McLaughlin, G., and Smith, C. Improving health care quality by valuing diversity. *Trustee*. 60(9):24-25, Oct. 2007.

Andrulis, D., and Brach, C. Integrating literacy, culture, and language to improve health care quality for diverse populations. *American Journal of Health Behavior*. 31(Suppl. 1):S122-S133, Sept./Oct. 2007.

Andrulis, D., Siddiqui, N., and Gantner, J. Preparing racially and ethnically diverse communities for public health emergencies. *Health Affairs*. 26(5):1269-1279, Sept./Oct. 2007. Erratum in: *Health Affairs*. 26(6):1794, Nov./Dec. 2007.

Attracting diverse patients is part of a strategic plan. *Hospital Case Management*. 13(4):57-58, Apr. 2005.

Balsa, A., Cao, Z., and McGuire, T. Does managed health care reduce health care disparities between minorities and whites? *Journal of Health Economics*. 26(1):101-121, Jan. 2007.

Beach M., and others. Strategies for improving minority healthcare quality. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment* (Summary). (90):1-8, Jan. 2004.

Beach, M. C., and others. Improving health care quality for racial/ethnic minorities: a systematic review of the best evidence regarding provider and organization interventions. *BMC Public Health*. 6:104, Apr. 24, 2006.

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Betancourt, J. Eliminating racial and ethnic disparities in health care: what is the role of academic medicine? *Academic Medicine*. 81(9):788-792, Sept. 2006.

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