

Aligning Zcodes with Closed Loop Referral Process Two Part Webinar Series

Jackie Gatz, Senior Vice President of Quality, Safety and Research

June 3, 2025, 10-11:30 a.m.

Helping Hospitals Manage Operations | Treat Patients | Serve Communities



Session 1: Social Risk Factor Screening, Coding and Utilizing Closed Loop Referral Network to Address Care Gaps



Overview

This session will highlight the practical use of social risk factors by care teams including community health workers, pharmacy technicians and providers. The audience will have an opportunity to learn about how social risk factors are documented in different settings of care, such as community health centers, rural pharmacies, and hospitals/health systems. Presenters will share innovative best practice strategies that have been deployed in Missouri to improve health outcomes, reduce health disparities and reduce costs.



Pre- Poll Questions



Presenters



Annie Eisenbeis, Pharm D, MBA, Director of Practice Development Missouri Pharmacy Association



Latisha, 'Tish' Bryant, B.S. Community Integration Coordinator Missouri Primary Care Association

Objectives

- highlight the important role of CHWs and pharmacy technicians in addressing social risk factors
- review the process of coding social risk factors into their claims data
- review social risk factor screening tools and coding processes in rural pharmacies
- review social risk factor screening tools and processes in community health centers
- receive an overview of the Community Pharmacy Enhanced Services Network program in Missouri from the Missouri Pharmacy Association
- receive an overview of the gravity interventions project from the Missouri Primary Care Association



Why Pharmacy?

Not all community pharmacies are the same.



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Why Pharmacy?



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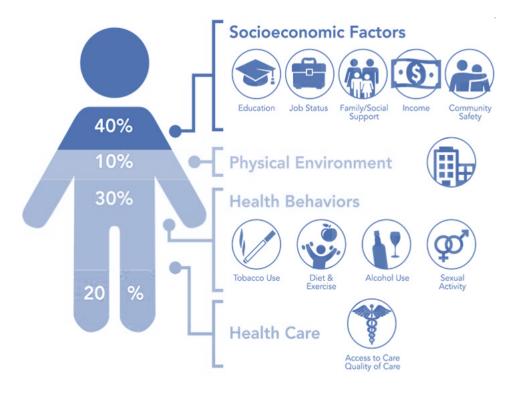
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Why CPESN? Not all community pharmacies are the same.

- Clinically integrated network of local pharmacies
 - Sustainability pathway for future opportunities with payers & partners
- Minimum services provided by CPESN pharmacies:
 - Comprehensive Medication Review process
 - Medication Synchronization (Med sync) program
 - Immunizations
 - Personal Medication Record
 - ► Face-to-face access
- CPESN pharmacies are built on local roots, local relationships, and local engagement.



Not all Patients with the Same Care Gaps Have the Same Needs



Up to **20 percent** of a person's health and wellbeing is driven by access to care and quality of services provided

80 percent of a person's health and well-being is related to the physical environment and driven by social and behavioral factors

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



Training Pharmacy Technicians as CHWs

- ► L&S Pharmacy pilot in SEMO
- State-approved curriculum for pharmacy personnel
- CEimpact approved in all 50 states + 4 US territories to date
- Missouri has trained over 400 pharmacy technicians as CHWs
- We meet "Network Adequacy" with pharmacy tech/CHWs to provide health equity services to the majority of Missourians



Differentiating CHWs and Technicians

Task	Pharmacy Technician	Community Health Worker	Pharmacy Technician / CHW
Prepare medications, include sterile products	Х		Х
Perform calculations on medication preparation	Х		Х
Interview patients to collect information, including medication histories	x		Х
Adjudicate third party billing claims	Х		Х
Support compliance with regulatory needs	х		Х
Care Coordination		Х	Х
Referrals		Х	Х
Home Assessments		Х	Х
SDOH Risk Assessments		Х	Х



Why it works:

- Sustainable position: No \$ needed to support the position, just the work.
- Tying the clinical aspect of care with the social and community aspect
 - ► Pharmacist: Patient, Tech/CHW: Person
- ▶ Broad access for patients to reach a CHW/tech in a pharmacy
 - ► No appointment necessary
 - Already have substantial opportunity for touchpoints (at least monthly)
 - ► Home visit options with pharmacy delivery drivers



What is CPESN?

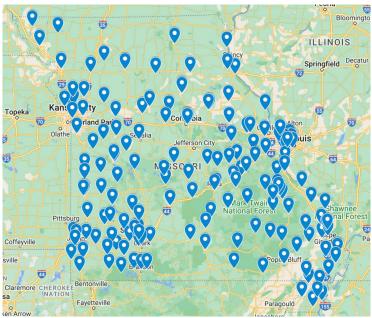


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About CPESN Missouri (www.CPESNMo.com)

- ► Local network under CPESN USA
- Currently have 180+ community pharmacies in the MO network
 - We have more pharmacies in the state than Walmart and CVS
- Special Purpose Networks:
 CPESN Health Equity





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Current Landscape

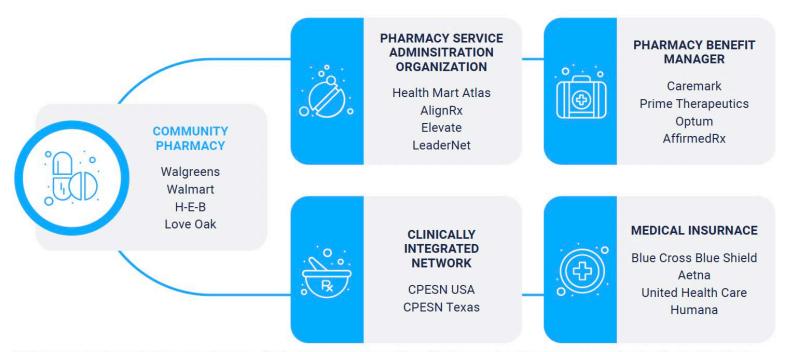
The Pharmacy Data Silo



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Contracting Infrastructure: Pharmacy or Medical?



KEY: Community pharmacies have two primary mechanisms for contracting – either with pharmacy benefit managers for product (medication) distribution or with medical insurance for clinical services. Pharmacy service administration organizations and clinically integrated networks are the mechanisms for independently owned pharmacy providers to aggregate under a single contract. Many of the chain pharmacies do not contract with a PSAO or CIN but are effectively acting as one.



Data Interoperability or Lack Thereof

- Pharmacy Management System + Point-of-Sale
- Pharmacy Claims Data to Payer (PBM)
- eCare Plan Documentation
- Multitude of other Portals (likely have separate logins and documentation systems → double/triple/quadruple data entry is common)



Pharmacy [Vaccine] Gap Closure Program

[Insert any preventive or primary care gap.]



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In 9 months:

- ► Vaccine Hesitancy and Education Interventions (G0310): 80,000+
- Over 500 providers enrolled in the program, including pharmacists and CHW/technicians
- Over 12,000 vaccine gaps closed in August and September community care vaccine clinics alone
- ► 132 October health-equity focused vaccine clinic requests
 - Anticipated number of uninsured patient vaccine gaps closed:
 6,300+



In-Pharmacy Operations: Phase 1 & 2

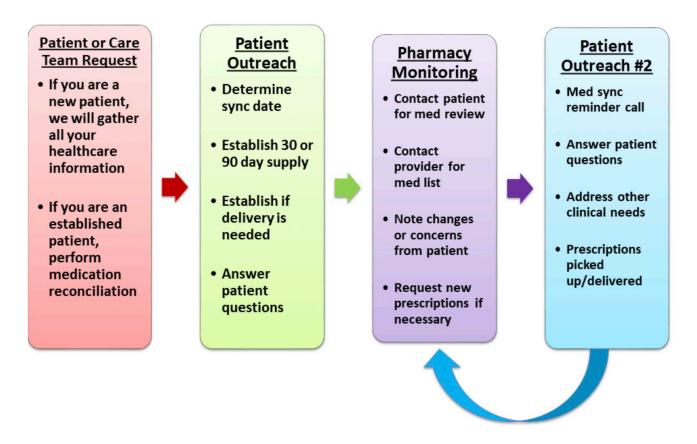
- ► Phase 1: Med Sync Patients
- Phase 2: Longitudinal Care Process (using Med Sync as template) for all pharmacy patients, whether enrolled in Med Sync program or not





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Pharmacy Med Sync Process



https://www.advcr.com/services/pharmacy-services/medication-synchronization



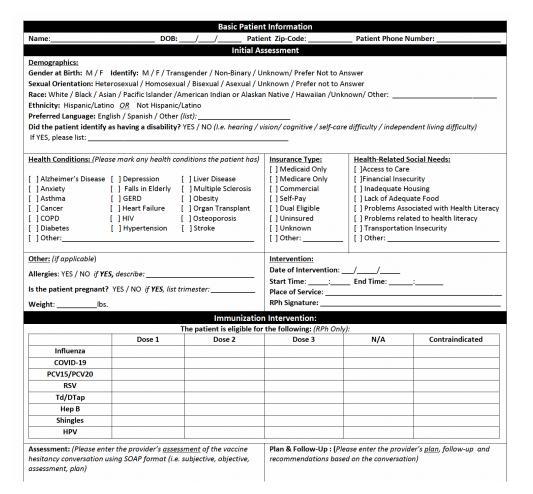
Service Outline: G0310

- 1. Eligible patients are screened by the pharmacist for all vaccinations prior to monthly care call.
- 2. Patients are counseled initially on appropriate vaccinations by the pharmacist during their medication synchronization monthly care call or inperson during their monthly pick-up date. Initial standardized patient intake form competed including SDoH screening, allergy update, address, race, ethnicity, etc. data collected.
- 3. Pharmacy tech trained as Community Health Worker (CHW) in the pharmacy connects with patients through additional outreach who initially refuse the appropriate vaccine to address hesitancy or access issues (especially those related to SDoH) during medication synchronization monthly care calls. CHW will also refer to pharmacist for additional vaccine counseling, as needed.



G0310 Initial & follow-up

Documentation Form



CPESN MO | CPESN HE. Vaccine Gap Program Phase 1 and 2.



Why it works:

- Current workflow model already exists, uses the entire team, and current pharmacy software supports
- Already have established relationship and rapport with patients
- ▶ Patients *answer the phone* when the pharmacy calls!
- Additional touchpoints: monthly call + pick-up/delivery of medications



Community Reach: Phase 3 & 4

- ► Phase 3: Education and Vaccination Community Clinics
 - Community Care Clinic defined as outside of pharmacy business walls or normal operation hours
 - Should answer "yes" to this question: Does this expand access to vaccine education and vaccinations?
- Phase 4: Vaccine Gap Closures through coordination and verification (includes patients who do not utilize your pharmacy)
 - Pharmacy tech/CHW interventions ONLY



Phase 3: Community Care Clinics Service Outline

Services can include:

- ► Patient Screening and Eligibility
- Vaccine Hesitancy Counseling (similar to Phase 1 & 2, but not longitudinal)
- ► Vaccine Gap Closure Verification
 - +/- Health Equity Incentive (if patient is identified as socially vulnerable in SDOH assessment/screening; includes uninsured and underinsured patients)



Phase 3 Community Clinic

Documentation Form

			Basi	ic Patien	t Informat	ion			
Name:	DOE	:/_	_/		nt Zip-Code	:	_ Pati	ent Phone Number: _	
				Asses	sment				
Gender at Birth: M / F Sexual Orientation: He Race: White / Black / A Ethnicity: Hispanic/Lal Preferred Language: E Did the patient identif fYES, please list: <u>Other:</u> (if applicable) Allergies: YES / NO if Y Is the patient pregnan	terosexual / Homosei sian / Pacific Islander tino <u>OR</u> Not Hispan nglish / Spanish / Oth y as having a disabilit	kual / Bise /Americal ic/Latino er (<i>list</i>): y? YES / N	xual / As n Indian o <u>OR</u> Pri IO (<i>i.e. he</i>	exual / Ur or Alaskar efer not to earing / vi	hknown / Pr Native / H Answer	refer not to An awaiian / More	swer e than	·	
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[] Anxiety	[] GERD [] Heart Failure [] HIV	Heart Failure [] Obesity [] Self-Pa JHV [] Organ Transplant [] Dual E JHyperlipidemia [] Osteoporosis [] Medic JHypertension [] Stroke [] Unins, J Kidney Disease [] Unkno		ercial [] Financial insecurity y [] Problems related to health literacy gigble [] Lack of adequate food re + Supp [] Inadequate housing red [] Problems associated with living alone wn [] Lack of insurance, un/underinsured [] Other:					
			lmmu	nization	Interventi	on(s):			
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Influenza				-					
COVID-19 Pneumococcal				I					
RSV				<u> </u>					
Td/TDap				-					
Hep A				-					
Hep B				1					
Shingles									
HPV				1					
MMR				1					
Meningococcal				1					
, e	nter the provider's ass			•				er the provider's plan,	



Phase 4: Care Coordination Services Service Outline (Tech/CHWs ONLY)

- 1. Call patients as follow-up from referral(s) or clinics
- 2. Vaccine Hesitancy Counseling (similar to Phase 1 and 2)
- 3. Vaccine Coordination (unlimited number of attempts)
- 4. Vaccine Gap Closure Verification (when administered off site)
 - +/- Health Equity Incentive if identified as socially vulnerable AND administered at the pharmacy



Phase 4 Coordination & Verification

Documentation Form

Name:	DOB	. / / Patie	nt Zip-Code:	Patient Phone	Number:
Nume:			isment		Number:
Demographics:					
	Identify: M / F / Tra	nsgender / Non-Binary / U	nknown/Prefer Not to	Answer	
		ual / Bisexual / Asexual / U			
Race: White / Black / A	sian / Pacific Islander /	American Indian or Alaska	n Native / Hawaiian / M	ore than 1 Race / Pr	efer not to Answer
Ethnicity: Hispanic/La	tino <u>OR</u> Not Hispani	c/Latino <u>OR</u> Prefer not t	o Answer		
Preferred Language: E					
	y as having a disability	? YES / NO (i.e. hearing / v	ision/ cognitive / self-ca	re difficulty / indepe	endent living difficulty)
If YES, please list:					
Other: (if applicable)					
Allergies: YES / NO if Y	ES, describe:				
Is the patient pregnan	t? YES / NO if YES, list	trimester:			
Weight: Ib	c .				
		onditions the patient has)	Insurance Type:	Health-Related	Social Needs:
	,		[] Medicaid Only	[] Transporati	
[] Alzheimer's Disease [] Anxiety	[] Falls in Elderly [] GERD	[] Liver Disease [] Multiple Sclerosis	[] Medicare Only	[] Access to ca	ire
[] Asthma	[] Heart Failure	[] Obesity	[] Commercial	[] Financial ins	
[] Cancer	[] HIV	[] Organ Transplant	[] Self-Pay		lated to health literacy
[]COPD] Hyperlipidemia		[] Dual Eligible	[] Lack of ade	
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Administration Loca			1 1. Other (spoke with		
	NCPDP as CHW) [l Health Department			
[] Different Pharma] Provider's Office (PCP, FC	QHC, VA)		
	nter the provider's asse		Plan & Follow-Up: (P		



Community Care Clinic Examples

- Visit a homebound patient to provide education and eligible vaccine(s)
- LTC facility clinic to educate residents and/or staff (educationonly clinic)
- County fair booth to provide education to fair participants (education-only clinic)
- Weekend clinic at the pharmacy to provide education and eligible vaccine(s) when normally closed (outside normal business hours)
- Pharmacy clinic to provide education and eligible vaccine(s) to patients unable to attend a clinic during normal work hours (outside normal business hours)



Why it works:

- Previously might've thought that enrollment or documentation would be barriers for pharmacy – not the case!
- Step-by-step approach
- Pharmacy teams are ready and engaged and wanting to support their community care needs
- Activation of this incredibly strong pharmacy network can happen for any care gaps NOW





SDOH Assessment in Community Pharmacy



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SDOH Assessment & Follow-Up/Referral

- Looks different in a community pharmacy setting
- NOT a standardized survey questionnaire
- Longitudinal, multi-touchpoint assessment and follow-up
- Local CHW/tech has local community resources + always 6 ft away from clinician (pharmacist) for clinical resource hub too!



Opportunities to scale and close [*significantly more*] care gaps.



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Questions?

Reach out for further discussions

Email: aeisenbeis@cpesn.com



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Screening and Addressing Identified Risks, Barriers and Needs

LaTisha Bryant, Community Integration Coordinator



Objectives

Review drivers of health risk factor screening tools and processes in community health centers.

Receive an overview of the gravity interventions project from the Missouri Primary Care Association.





Missouri Primary Care Association (MPCA)

Founded in November 1984, as a non-profit organization dedicated to improving access to high quality, community-based and affordable primary care, behavioral health, and oral health across the state. MPCA is the recognized voice of Missouri's Community Health Centers also known as Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs).

https://mo-pca.org/



Five Essential elements of Community Health Centers (CHCs/FQHCs)



Located in high-need area.



Provide comprehensive health and related (especially "enabling services").



Open to all people, regardless of ability to pay, with sliding scale fee charges based on income.



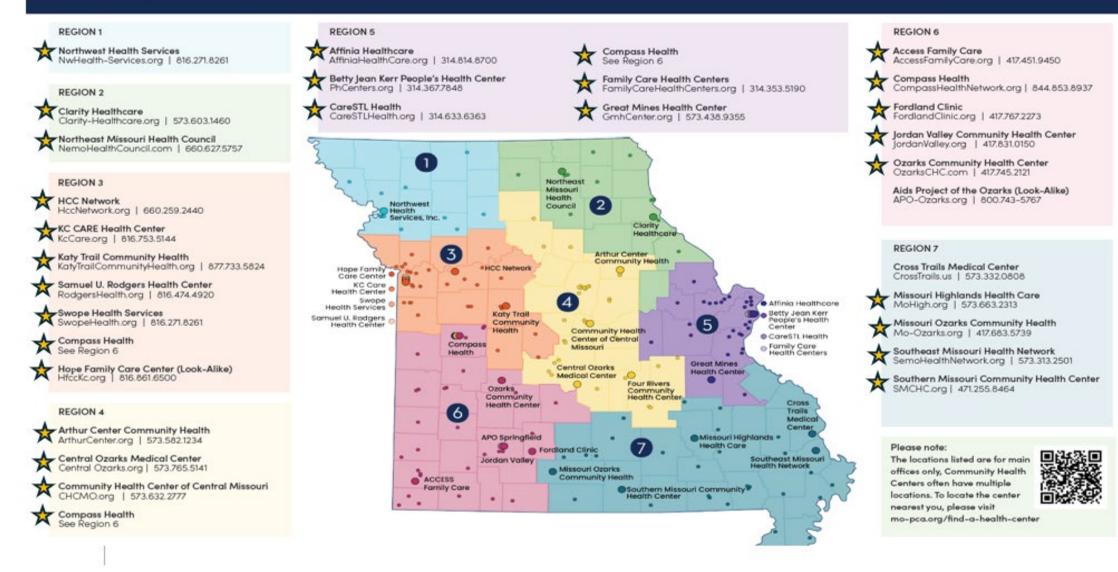
Governed by community boards, to assure responsiveness to local needs.



Follow performance and accountability requirements regarding their administrative, clinical and financial operations.



Federally Qualified Health Centers in Missouri







Overview

Screening and Addressing Identified Risks, Barriers and Needs

Screening and Addressing Identified Risks, Barriers and Needs





Structured documentation of PRAPARE in EHR to allow mapping to population health management system.



Screening information from PRAPARE is available in Azara DRVS the population health management system used in Missouri in registries, dashboards, pre-visit planning tool/alerts, and ability to apply drivers of health to various quality metrics.

Screening and Addressing Identified Risks, Barriers and Needs



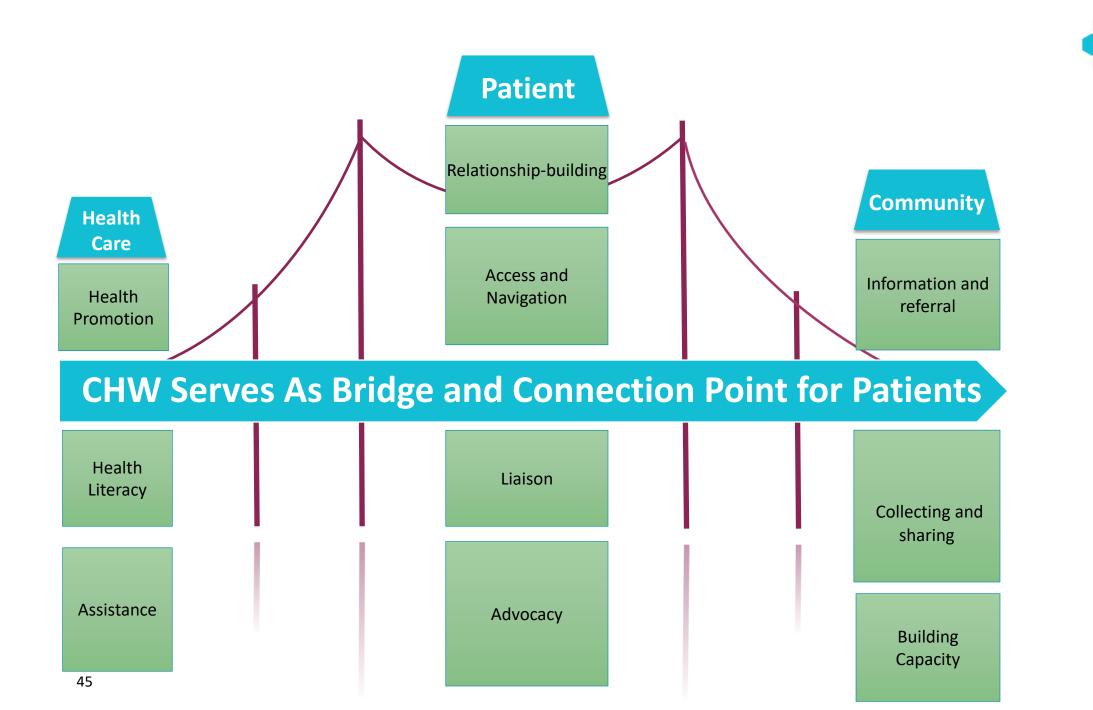
Drivers of health screening is not enough, need a workforce to assist patients with navigating resources to meet needs identified by screening.



Movement towards community referrals being tracked and treated the same as referrals to clinical specialties.

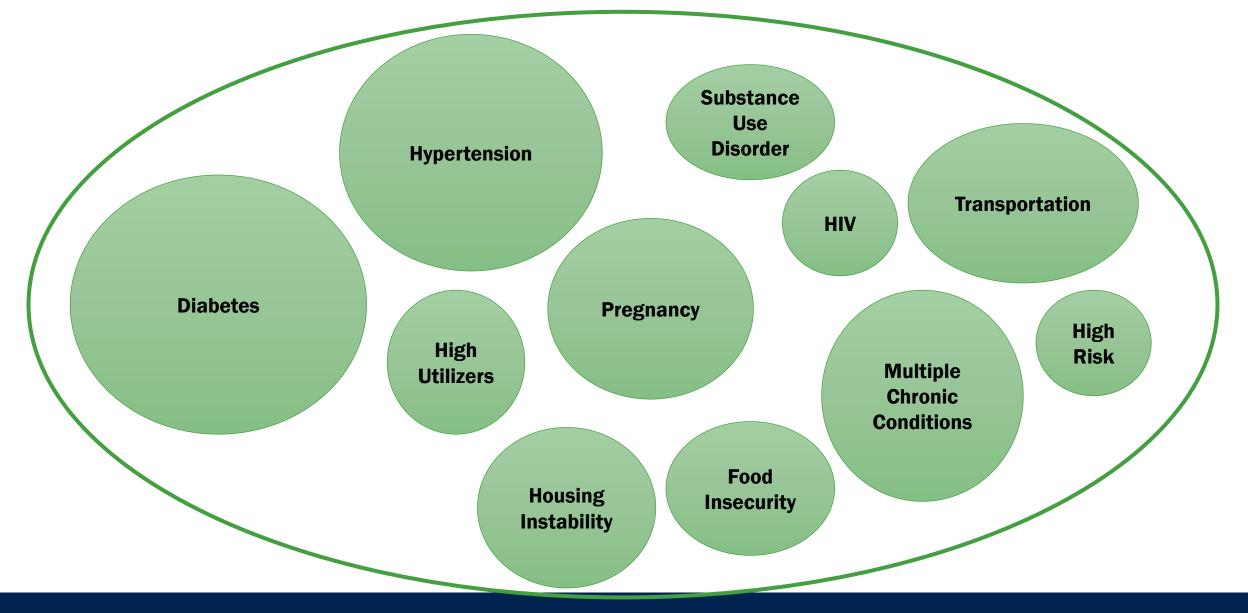


FQHCs are exploring IT solutions for community-based organization drivers of health referrals including UniteUs, Find Help, and/or local referral networks/platforms



Population: By Condition or Factor





Why Screen for non-health related needs/risk/barriers?



There is growing consensus that screening information improves whole person care and lowers cost. Unmet needs negatively impact health outcomes.

• Food insecurity correlates to higher levels of diabetes, hypertension, and heart failure. Food insecurity and cardiovascular disease risk factors among U.S. adults

Housing instability factors into lower treatment adherence.
 Meeting the Health and Social Needs of America's Unhoused and Housing-Unstable Populations:
 A Position Paper From the American College of Physicians

 Transportation barriers result in missed appointments, delayed care, and more difficulty with self-management of chronic diseases.

Transportation Barriers to Health Care in the United States





- **Overview:** National public collaborative that develops consensusbased data standards to improve how we use and share information on social determinants of health (SDOH).
- **Mission:** The Gravity Project exists to serve as the open public collaborative advancing health and social data standardization for health equity.
- **Goal:** Build and promulgate consensus driven social determinants of health (SDOH) data standards for health and social care interoperability and use among multi-stakeholders.







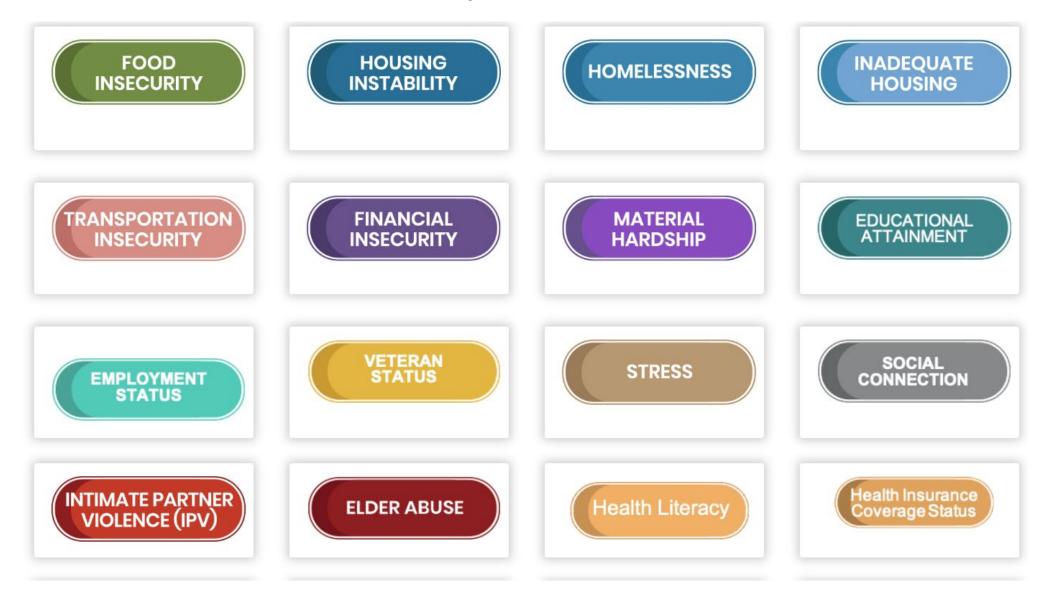
Gravity Project Data Principles Overview

- •Improving Personal Health Outcomes
- Improving Population Health
- •Ensuring Personal Control
- •Designing Appropriate Solutions
- •Ensuring Accountability
- •Preventing, Reducing, and Remediating Harm

Gravity Data Principles - Gravity Project - Confluence

Where to find Published Gravity Data Sets?





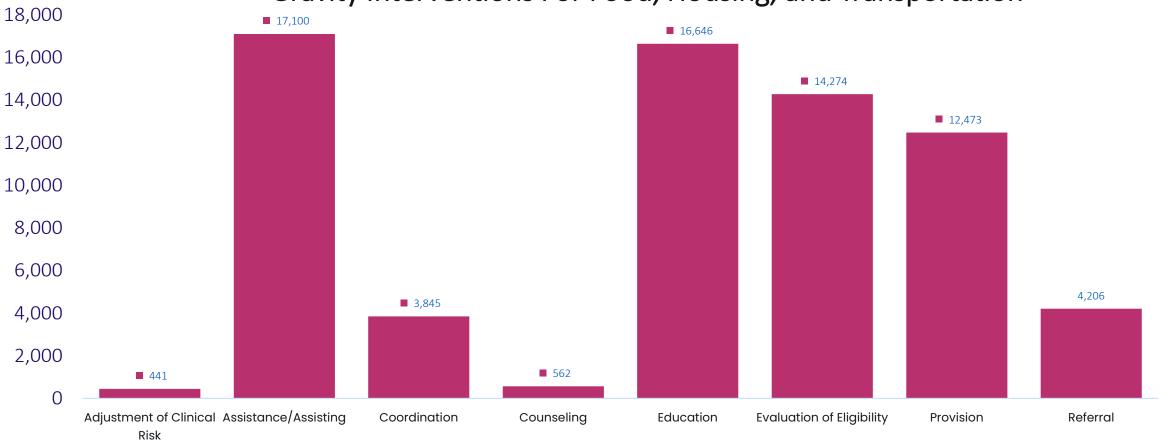
<u>Terminology Workstream - Gravity Project - Confluence</u>

Gravity Project Intervention Types and Definitions

Intervention Type	Definition
Adjustment	Adjust clinical plan to accommodate social risk
Assistance/Assisting	To give support or aid to, help
Coordination	Process of deliberately organizing activities and sharing information to achieve safer and more effective care aligned with patient preferences.
Counseling	Psychosocial procedure that involves listening, reflecting, etc., top facilitate recognition of course of action/ solution
Education	Procedure that is synonymous with those activities such as teaching, demonstration, instruction, explanation, and advice that aim to increase knowledge and skills, change behaviors, assist coping and increase adherence to treatment.
Evaluation of Eligibility	Process of determining eligibility by evaluating evidence.
Evaluation/Assessment	Determination of a value, conclusion, or inference by evaluation evidence.
Provision	To supply/make available for use.
Referral	The act of directing someone to a different place or person for information, help, action.







Gravity Interventions For Food, Housing, and Transportation

Number of Interventions by type for Positive PRAPARE Screenings within 30 days for patients with Food, Housing and Transportation Risks Needs/Barriers since July 1, 2024 for all health centers.



Social Risk Coding and Gravity

The Gravity Project and the American Medical Association (AMA) have taken a significant step towards clarifying the coding process for social risk.

CM and SNOMED CT codes in this resource are for AHC HRSN Screening Tool questions that relate to the domains of Housing Instability, Homelessness, Inadequate Housing, Food Insecurity, Transportation Insecurity, and Utility Insecurity.

The suggestions are not necessarily an exhaustive list. They are based on Gravity's analysis and build in each SDOH domain.

<u>Resources for Social Risk Coding in Care Settings - Gravity Project - Confluence</u>

Resources for Social Risk Coding in Care Settings

<u>Resources for Implementation</u>





Join the Gravity Project! https://45021617.hs-sites.com/join-the-gravity-project





Overview

Community Health Center's CHW Initiatives



CHW return on investment (ROI) in VBC:

Every \$1.00 invested in CHW intervention returns \$2.47 to Medicaid If i had six hours *to chop down a tree,*I would spend the first
four hours *sharpening the axe.* 99

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

Health Affairs CHW ROI Study

https://mhpsalud.org/programs/community-health-workers-roi/



What happens when patients understand?

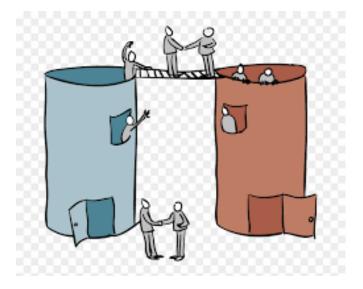
- VBC Goal: Increased inclusion and encouragement of the patient as an active participant in their own healthcare
- Patients with a greater awareness and understanding of their illnesses, treatment options, healthcare needs, and entitlements are:
 - Be able to self-manage their condition(s)
 - More open to change
 - More likely to take charge of their health
 - More likely to be their own catalysts in making positive lifestyle changes





How do CHWs benefit patients and health center?

- Engagement
 - CHWs know the community and the resources available
 - Identify/address social risk factors & health needs
 - Link between internal and external care & services (social support)
 - Promoting preventive care
 - Reducing costly and unnecessary hospital interventions
- Outreach
 - Proactive outreach to patients needing
 appointments scheduled
 - Wellness visits, high utilizers, hospital follow-ups
 - Reconciliation/auditing of patient reports
 - Enrollment and assignment processes
- Collaboration & Integration
 - Pre-visit planning and in huddles
 - PCHH, care teams, scheduling staff, enrollment staff
 - Spend the time to sharpen the axe; no more silos!!



Screening Workflow Barriers





- Patient Hesitancy and Confidentiality
- Unintended negative consequences of screening
- Time Constraints
- Resource Limitations
- EHR Integration Challenges
- Offending the patient
- Risk of judgement
- Overemphasis on deficits
- Closing the loop

Arvin, G., Boynton-Jarrett, R., Dworkin, P. Avoiding the Unintended Consequences of Screening for Social Determinants of Health. *JAMA*. 2016;316(8):813-814. doi:10.1001/jama.2016.9282 <u>https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/article-abstract/2531579</u> Accessed June 1, 2023



MPCA CHW Training and Technical Assistance

- FQHC CHW Peer Network Meetings
- FQHC CHW Supervisor Peer Network Meeting
- In-Person FQHC CHW Regional Meetings across state (West, East, Central, SE, and SW)
- Statewide In-Person and Virtual Training Opportunities for CHWs and health centers
- CHW Monthly Newsletter

- 1:1 CHW Supervisor and Health center meetings at the health center request
- EHR User Groups-SDOH/CHW Best Practices
- I:1 assistance with CHW Program
 Reporting
- Community Partnerships/Training opportunities
- PRAPARE Mapping Project
- Support and training on referral loop closure

Our Work in Progress



Patient and Family	 Timely, meaningful, whole-person care and treatment based on patient preferences, clinical and non health related needs and barriers.
Care Team Members	 Patient preferences and non health related needs and barriers guide care and treatment, ensuring appropriate care for each patient. Foster trusting, communicative relationships among care team members.
Health Center	 Enhance care teams and services based on patient voice and patient data.
Community/Local Health System	 Identify community level health and wellbeing priorities using community and patient voice along with community needs data. Create whole-person care continuum through cross-sector partnerships.
Payment	 Value based payment models that invest in interventions/ enabling services for patients. Community funding opportunities to strengthen the network of programs and expertise of each partner.
State and National	 Leverage community voice and risk needs data to address barriers for whole-person care.



Questions

LaTisha Bryant, lbryant@mo-pca.org



MISSOURI HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION

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Post – Poll Questions



SAVE THE DATE:

Session 2: Aligning Zcodes with Closed Loop Referral Process Payer and Provider Perspective of Zcodes and Closed Loop Referral Network, June 26, 10-11:30 a.m.

This session will highlight the payer and provider perspective of screening for Z codes and how they influence cost and patient outcomes. The integration of these approaches from both the payer and provider perspective can contribute to closing identified gaps and reducing health care disparities. This session will highlight the crucial role of payers and providers with a focus on the impact of policies and programming.



Community and Hospital Social Worker Resource

Missouri Resource Guide

Justin Logan, M.S. Department of Social Services Office of Workforce Community Initiatives Team (OWC) Justin.C.Logan@dss.mo.gov