

Week 1: Social Determinants of Health-Social and community context

1. Application of Course Knowledge

- Examine the overview of your assigned social determinant of health on the [HealthyPeople \(Links to an external site.\)](#) website. Define the determinant.
- Describe how the assigned social determinant could impact the health outcomes of a client.
- Identify what information the NP could gather to assess the impact of the determinant for the client.
- Discuss at least two online, national, or local resources available for at-risk clients and families for the selected determinant.

Define the determinant:

The community can impact human health and well-being. Support from the community, positive relationships, and support at work or home can change negative impacts into positive ones. Thus, Healthy People 2030 (n.d.) focuses on supporting people where they live, work, learn, and play. All of these supports the people in their social life to promote the quality of health and patient outcomes.

The challenges that people have no control of can negatively impact health and safety, such as discrimination, unsafe neighborhood, and the inability to access their needs and afford the things they need to live their lives. What can reduce these negative impacts? According to Krist et al. (2019), social factors greatly influence health compared to clinical care. For example, poverty, homelessness, food insecurity, health insurance, healthcare costs, and mental health.

During the interview, nurse practitioners (NPs) could gather the information by asking the patient about their supporting social system. In addition, to access resources, the patient's environment should be accessed as well (Bickley, 2020). For example, NPs can ask the patient how to access their food. Food insecurity can have a negative relationship with health events. Suppose NPs identify that the patient has food insecurity. In that case, NPs can ask for social services to enroll the patient in, such as Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program to promote convenience and access to healthy food to increase the health outcomes (Banks et al., 2021). Social determinants have a significant effect on a patient's health and well-being. Thus, the health care providers must gather the information, collect evidence to address the patient's social determinants of health, community resources, and public health support to help patients who require social services (Krist et al., 2019)

Two resources that can help people who have social issues promote health outcomes and quality of life are the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) and CalHOPE. CDSS (2022) offers a variety of resources for homeless people, offering sheltering, food banks, domestic abuse, childcare, home care aid, financial support, and family resources. In addition, CalHOPE