## Methods to Identify and Integrate Social Determinants of Health into Effective Interventions

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### Disclosures

- Relevant Financial Disclosures
  - None

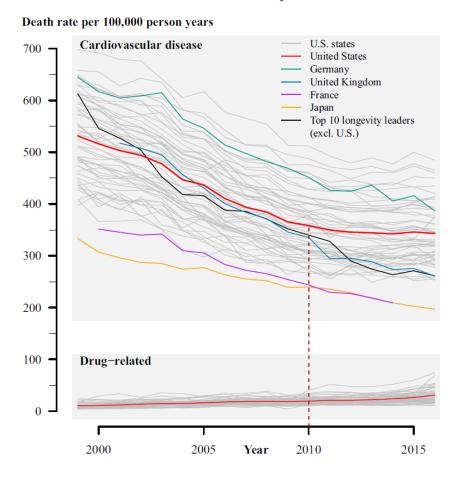
- Non-FDA Approved Uses
  - None
- The views expressed in this presentation are my own and do not necessarily represent the views of the NHLBI; the NIMHD; the National Institutes of Health; or the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.



# US life expectancy stalls due to cardiovascular disease, not drug deaths

Neil K. Mehta<sup>a</sup>, Leah R. Abrams<sup>a</sup>, and Mikko Myrskylä<sup>b,c,1</sup>

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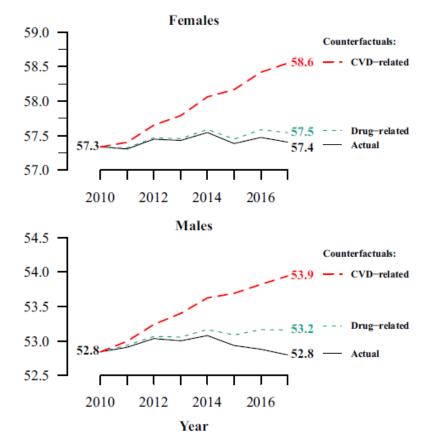
- CVD mortality: 350-550 deaths/100,000 person-years
- Drug-related deaths: 30 deaths/100,000 person-years
- 2016: 30% higher CVD mortality in US compared to 10 high life expectancy countries

Mehta NK et al PNAS 2020

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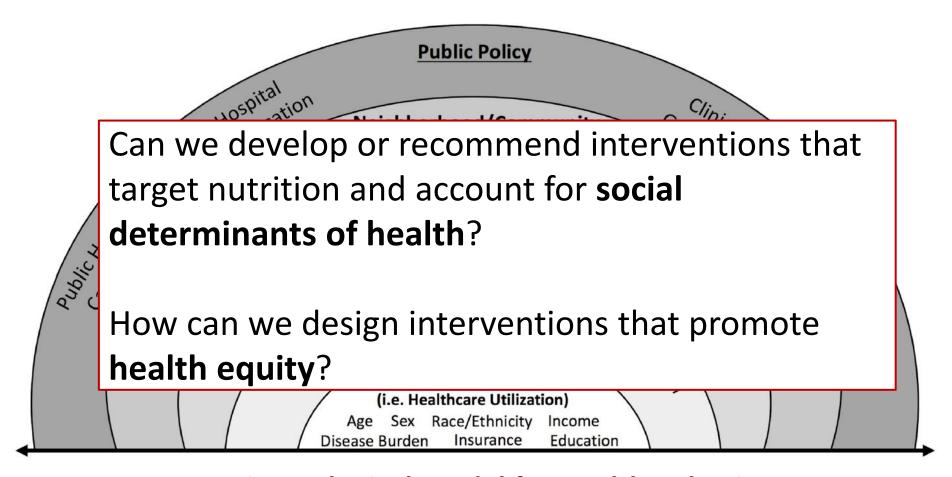


#### **Implications:**

- To improve life expectancy trends, need to consider how to reduce CVD mortality again
- Risk factor trends contribute to CVD mortality
  - Obesity
  - Diabetes
  - Hypertension
- Must address social determinants of health that contribute to risk factor trends

Mehta NK et al PNAS 2020; Chen Y et al JAMA Cardiology 2019; Harris K et al JAMA 2021

### Social Determinants of Health as Key Components of Multi-Level Interventions



Socio-ecological Model for Health Behavior

Systems
Science
Approaches

Community Engagement

Interdisciplinary Collaborations

Methods for Incorporating Social Determinants of Health into Interventions

# Role of Community Engagement in Identifying the Impact of Social Determinants of Health

# The Washington DC Cardiovascular Health and Obesity Collaborative (DC CHOC)

- Community advisory board that facilitates community engagement
- Multidisciplinary group of community and academic leaders
- Provide input on project development and design
- Aid in identifying social determinants of health as barriers or facilitators to nutrition-related behaviors





### **D.C.** Community Organizing for Optimal culinary Knowledge Study: An Acceptability and Feasibility Dietary Behavior Study

PI: Gwen Wallen, PhD., R.N. Lead AI: Nicole Farmer, M.D.

20-CC-0036 NCT: NCT04305431. Farmer N et al. Pilot and Feasibility Studies 2020

Is it feasible to conduct a cooking behavior intervention within an urban food desert among adults at risk for CVD? Secondary evaluations: home cooking behavior, clinical biomarkers, anthropometrics, & diet quality

Participant recruitment through D.C. Cardiovascular Health & Obesity Collaborative

#### Focus groups

Focus groups
with
community
members to
assess
acceptability

#### Initial NIH CC visit

Clinical & dietary assessments

Cooking skills evaluation (Rehab Medicine Dept.)

CVD risk biomarkers

Semi-structured interviews

#### Intervention

6 weeks Ward 7 (D.C.)

Led by chef

Using
Mediterranean diet
curriculum for
American tastes
(GW Culinary Med)

#### Home behavior

From initial visit to study completion:

Daily diary of home cooking behaviors

Collection of grocery receipts

### Follow up NIH CC visits

Clinical & dietary assessments, cooking skills, CVD risk biomarkers, semi-structured interviews

Visits at 6 & 12 weeks post intervention



### Opportunities with Community Engagement

 Gather the qualitative data based on lived experience as part of 'topdown approach' to understanding targets for intervention

 Use of analytic tools like machine learning to identify latent barriers and facilitators to community engagement



### Role of Systems Science Modeling in Identifying the Impact of Social Determinants of Health

"Agents" represent individuals in population Agent-Based Model: **Computational Modeling** 

Interaction Between "Agents" represent **Autonomous Agents** individuals in population Agent-Based Model: **Computational Modeling** 

Interaction Between "Agents" represent **Autonomous Agents** individuals in population Agent-Based Model: **Computational Modeling** Agents interact with environment and change behavior based on social cues

"Agents" represent individuals in population

Interaction Between Autonomous Agents

Agent-Based Model:

**Computational Modeling** 

Agents interact with environment and change behavior based on social cues

Environmental, Interpersonal and Individual-level changes affect system as whole

### Systems Science Modeling in Simulation of Multi-level Interventions Tailored to Neighborhood Environment

- Agent-based modeling to test multilevel interventions for African American women in DC:
  - Digital Health Intervention
  - Impact of place-tailored messaging on physical activity (PA)
  - Promotes PA at recreation center classes close to home or work
  - Simulates community-based intervention developed by team







Powell-Wiley TM...Lee B et al. Under Revisions

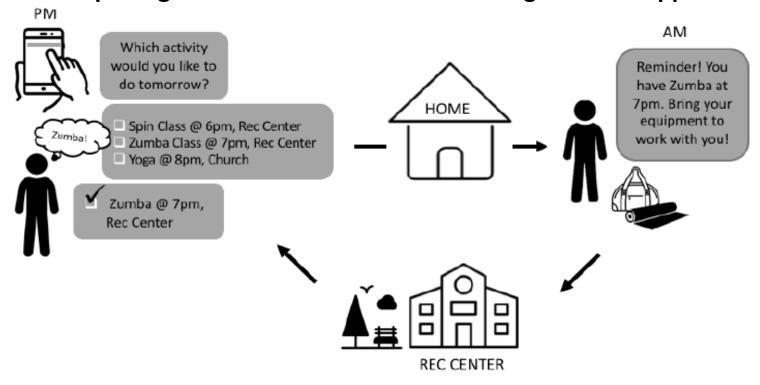
### Diagram of VPOP-DC Agent Based Model for Digital Health PA Intervention

Agent = African
American woman
aged 18-65 living in
Washington DC

**Step 1: Can Agent Use a Smart Phone?** 



**Step 2: Agent Receives Notifications through Mobile App** 



Note: Notifications may be sent in morning or afternoon

### Diagram of VPOP-DC Agent Based Model for Digital Health PA Intervention

#### **Step 3: Agent Makes Decision to Exercise**

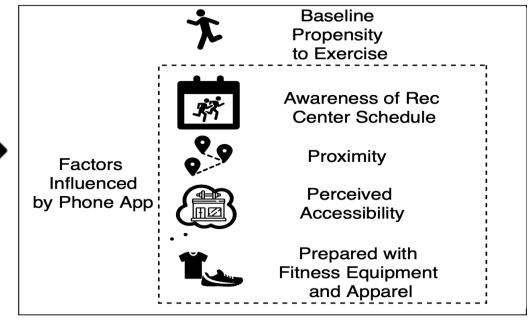
#### **Baseline Propensity**

- Neighborhood Factors
- Chronic Disease
- Weather

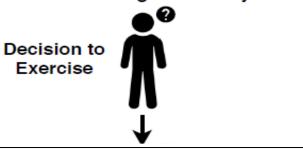
Steps 1 and 2

### Obesity prevalence based on:

- PA duration for recreation center class
- Caloric expenditure imbedded metabolic model



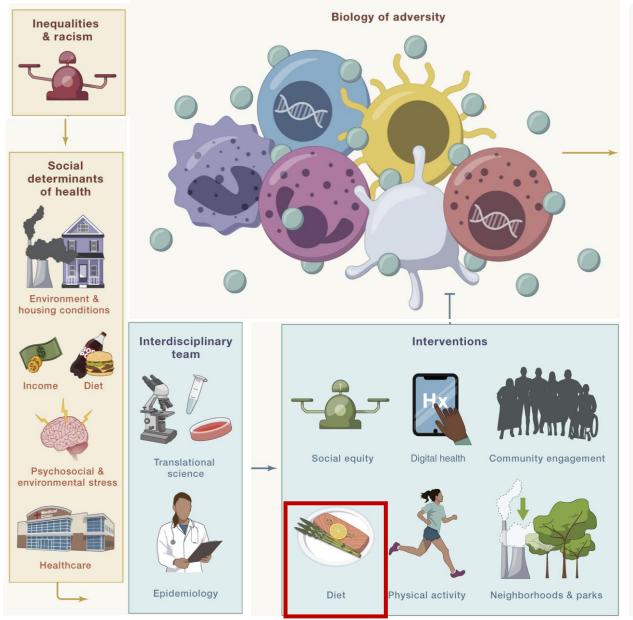
#### Factors Influencing Probability of Exercise



**Attends Fitness Class** 

### Interdisciplinary Collaborations for Translational Studies of Social Determinants of Health

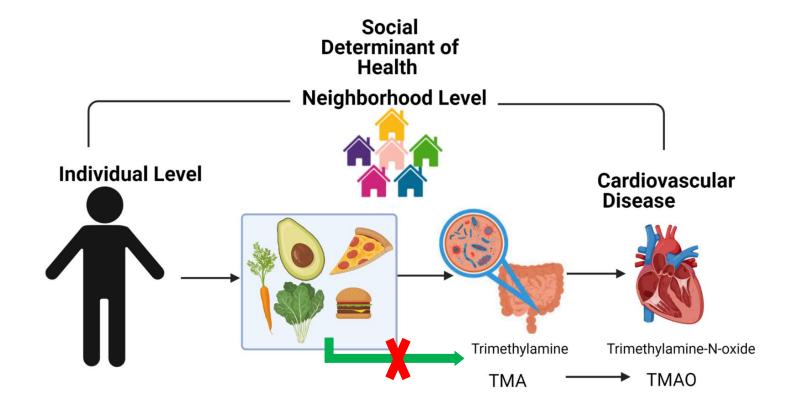
### Interdisciplinary Work on the Biology of Adversity





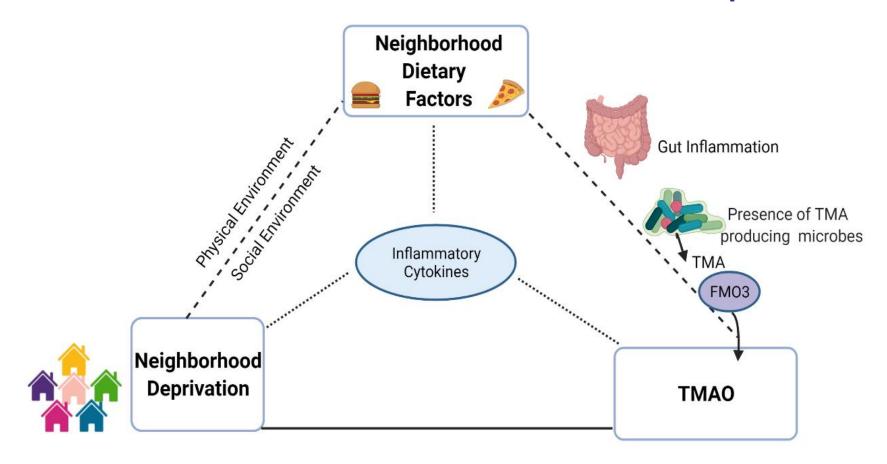
#### **Diet and Microbial Metabolites in Diet-related Disparities**

Targeted Microbial Metabolomics and Neighborhood



**Explore the role of neighborhood in microbiome-based risk for CVD** 

### **Diet and Microbial Metabolites in Diet-related Disparities**



**Figure 1.** Graphical depiction of hypothesis for neighborhood-diet-inflammatory connection to explain hypothesized differences in trimethylamine-N-oxide levels based on neighborhood deprivation. NDI: neighborhood deprivation index; TMA: trimethylamine; FMO3: flavin monooxygenase isoform 3; TMAO: trimethylamine-N-oxide.

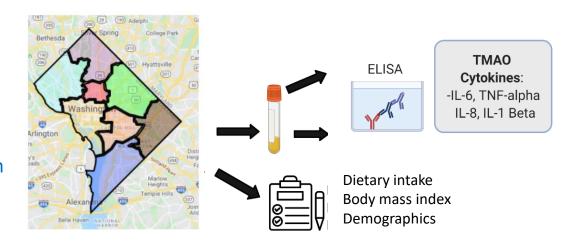
#### **Diet and Microbial Metabolites in Diet-related Disparities**

Targeted Microbial Metabolomics and Neighborhood

African-American adults (n=60) with CVD risk factors

#### Neighborhood level measure:

 Neighborhood Deprivation Index (NDI)



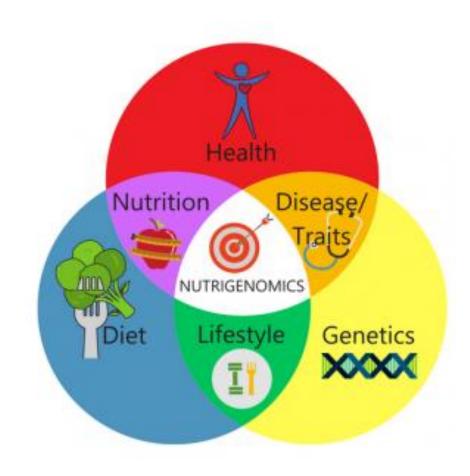
#### **Key Findings:**

- NDI and TMAO levels were positively associated
  - Independent of 10-year CVD risk score and BMI
  - Dependent upon clustering of individuals within a census-tract
- Inflammatory cytokines mediated the relationship between NDI and TMAO
  - TNF- $\alpha$  60% effect mediated
  - Interleukin  $1-\beta 49\%$  effect mediated

### Opportunities for Translational Studies in Social Determinants of Health in Nutrition

 Explore relationships between metabolomic or nutrigenomic markers and social determinants

 Examine impact of dietary interventions on biologic pathways related to social factors



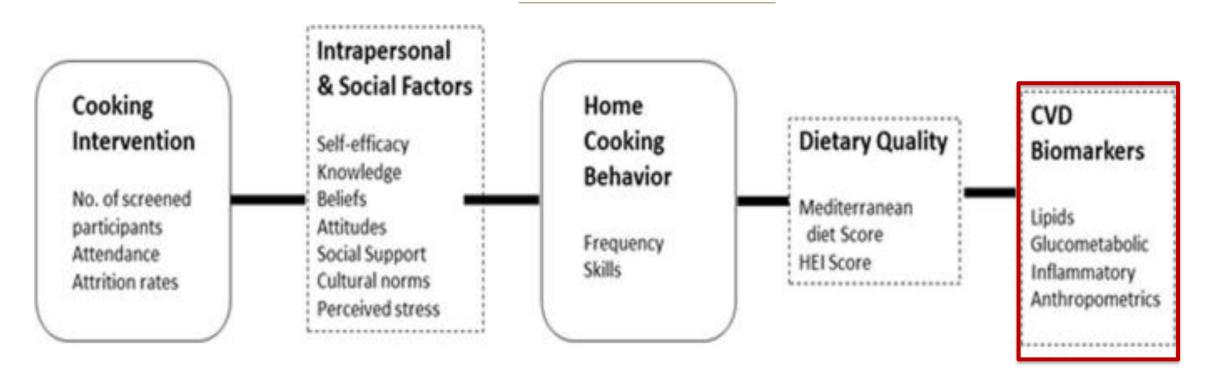


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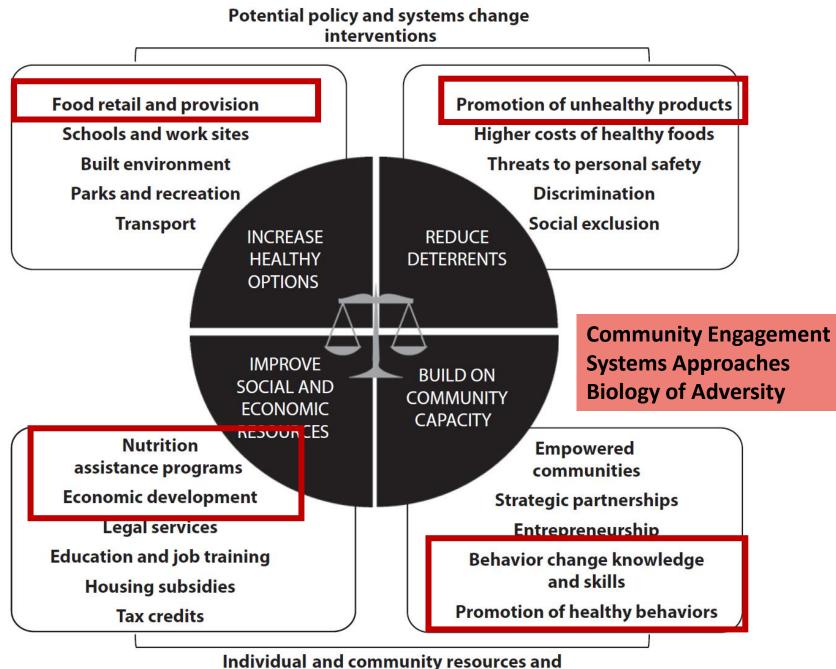
Potential mediators or confounders: demographics, lifestyle behaviors (sleep, physical activity), built environment, self-rated health



# Multi-level Approaches for Getting to Health Equity

Kumanyika S. AJPH 2019

# Cardiovascular Health Equity as the Ultimate Goal



Individual and community resources and capacity

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- Study Participants
- Current and Former Members of the Powell-Wiley Research Group
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   Health and Obesity Collaborative
- NHLBI Flow Cytometry Core

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  - George Washington University
  - CUNY School of Public Health
  - University of North Carolina Chapel Hill
  - UT Southwestern Medical Center
  - University of Washington
- Study Data Collection Volunteers
- Washington, D.C. Faith-based and Civic Organizations





### Thank you for your attention



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### Simulating the Impact of Crime on African American Women's Physical Activity and Obesity

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- As exercise propensity increases, crime reductions and increase in PA location accessibility have larger impact
- Policies aimed at reducing obesity by increasing leisure-time PA should take multi-level approach
- Consider targeting crime through urban renewal and policies to improve perceived safety in resource-limited urban communities