Lessons Learned for Achieving Health Equity Across Diverse General Populations









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Disclosures / Funding

- William Evans Visiting Fellow, University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand
- NIDDK P30 DK092949
- Merck Foundation
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
- HRSA HHSH250201300025I
- CDC Community Preventive Services Task Force
- Co-Chair, NQF Disparities Standing Committee
- PCORI Disparities consultant
- NIMHD National Advisory Council
- Families USA Equity and Value Task Force Advisory Council

Based on:

- Own research multi-level interventions to reduce disparities
- RWJF Advancing Health Equity
- Merck Foundation Bridging the Gap
- Systematic reviews of literature
- University of Chicago experience
- National meetings and committees

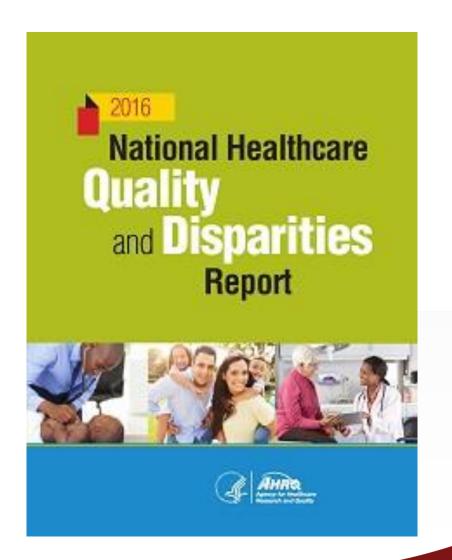
5 Lessons

- No magic bullet solution
- Achieving equity is a process
 - Culture
 - Quality improvement
 - Implementation and context
 - Sustainability
- Address social determinants of health
 - Individual patient needs
 - Underlying structural drivers

5 Lessons (cont.)

- Address payment and incentives
 - Healthcare organization business case
 - Policymaker and payer
- Frame equity as a moral and social justice issue

Equity Goal: Move the National Numbers



No Magic Bullet

- Circa 2005 Find disparities solutions
- Context matters
 - Patients and communities
 - Organization
 - Political and financial
 - History
 - Need to work thru your own solution
- Value of menu of evidence-based interventions; organizations like options/models

Evidence-based Interventions

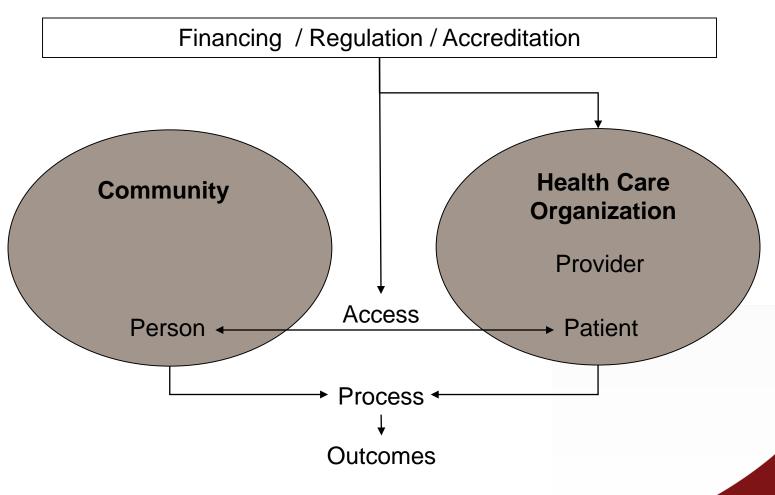
- Multifactorial attacking different levers
- Culturally tailored QI
- Team-based care
- Families and community partners
- Community health workers
- Interactive skills-based training







Multiple Levels for Clinical and Policy Action



Chin MH et al. JGIM 2012; 27:992-1000

Achieving Equity is a Process

RWJF Advancing Health Equity: Roadmap for Reducing Disparities

- 1) Create culture of equity
- 2) Implement QI infrastructure and process
- 3) Make equity an integral part of quality
- 4) Design intervention(s) equity lens
- 5) Implement, evaluate, and adjust intervention(s)
- 6) Sustain intervention(s)

Chin MH et al. JGIM 2012; 27:992-1000

www.solvingdisparities.org

Quality Improvement

- Root cause analysis no substitute for talking with the affected patients and communities
- Iteratively address specific barriers and facilitators to change

Consolidated Framework for Implementation Research

- Intervention (relative advantage)
- Outer (external incentives)
- Inner (culture)
- Individuals (beliefs)
- Process (plan, execute, evaluate)



Implement Sci 2009; 4:50.

Address Social Determinants of Health

- Individual patient social needs
 - Screen, refer to community, info loop
 - Population health management "High utilizers"
- Underlying structural drivers
 - Free, frank, fearless discussions about structural racism, colonialism, and social privilege
 - Intersectoral partnerships

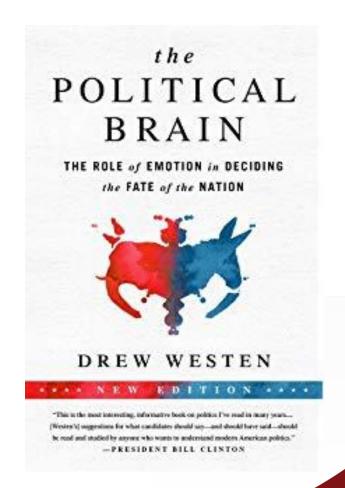


Power is the Issue

- Control over resources
- Control over the historical narrative
- Control over the framing of health disparity issues

Effective Communication





La Clinica – Washington, D.C.





Address Payment and Incentives

Need business case





Policy Gap

 Rhetoric about how nation values health equity and relative lack of policies that support and incentivize health equity

Policy Goals:

- Explicitly design quality of care and payment policies to achieve equity
- Hold the healthcare system accountable through public monitoring and evaluation
- Support with adequate resources

National Quality Forum 4 I's for Health Equity

- Identify priority disparity areas
- Implement evidence-based interventions to reduce disparities
- Invest in health equity performance measures
- Incentivize the reduction of health disparities and achievement of health equity

NQF. A Roadmap for Promoting Health Equity and Eliminating Disparities: The Four I's for Health Equity. September 14, 2017.

NQF 10 Incentivize Recs

- Accountability
 - Stratified health equity outcome measures
- Redesign payment models to support health equity
 - Infrastructure capitation
 - Specific processes P4P
 - Integrate health and social services
- Tailor the safety net QI and \$



Align State Medicaid agencies, Medicaid managed care organizations, and health care organizations to achieve health equity

Frame Equity as a Moral and Social Justice Issue

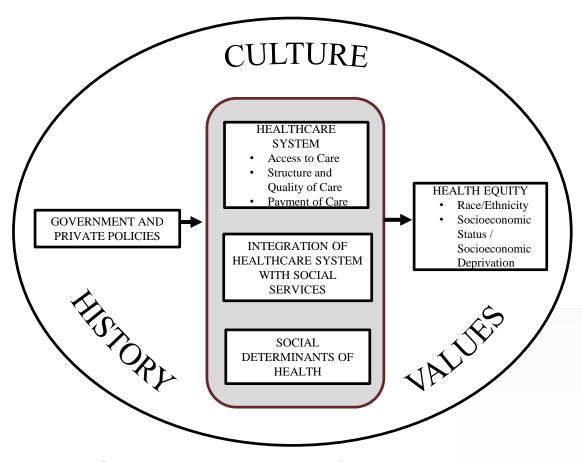
"Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health is the most shocking and the most inhuman."

- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. 1966

Distributive justice

John Rawls – Veil of ignorance

Conceptual Framework



Chin MH, King PT, Jones RG, Jones B, Ameratunga SN, Muramatsu N, Derrett S. Lessons for achieving health equity comparing Aotearoa/New Zealand and the United States. Health Policy 2018.

St. Mary's/ Clearwater Valley Frontier Idaho



Health and Harmony

PASSION & PURPOSE

With Compassion, Gratitude,
Integrity and Joy,
I guide myself and others
to treasure the beauty and
goodness in our world,
and to discover and achieve
the unique ways in which
we are called to
make it even better.

Kelly McGrath October 21, 2016

Addressing Disparities Honestly

 "Dr. [Jennifer] Smith explained that a conflict is a personal narrative with a beginning, middle, and end. At the beginning, parties frequently experience powerful emotions such as anger, frustration, fear, and surprise, and often make assumptions based on their values and biases. The middle phase encompasses listening and telling, adjusting facts, and clarifying options. In the end, one can hope for agreement, compromise, and reconciliation, but at a minimum it should be possible to envision a new future with common facts, decreased emotion, and more clarity moving forward."

Chin MH. JNMA 2017.



Leadership Matters



"Leadership matters. It is our professional responsibility as clinicians, administrators, and policymakers to improve the way we deliver care to diverse patients. We can do better."

Chin MH. NEJM 2014.