The Patient Voice and the Social Determinants of Health

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Presentation Objectives

- Re-enforce nurses’ role in actively listening to the patients' voice in order to determine the unique factors impacting their health;

- Discuss how building therapeutic relationships allows nurses to assess their patients' unique circumstances and facilitates patients' engagement in co-creating care plans;

- Share best practices in incorporating the SDOH in the nursing process;
Agenda

- Overview of the SDOH
- Why focus on the SDOH?
- Patient voice and the SDOH
- Why the nurses?
- How?
- When?
- Where?
- Who can help?
- Key messages and handout
Overview of the SDOH

Graphic from Massachusetts Public Health Association
Ten Tips for Staying Healthy

1. Don't be poor. If you can, stop. If you can't, try not to be poor for long.
2. Don't have poor parents.
3. Own a car.
4. Don't work in a stressful, low paid manual job.
5. Don't live in damp, low quality housing.
6. Be able to afford to go on a foreign holiday and sunbathe.
7. Practice not losing your job and don't become unemployed.
8. Take up all benefits you are entitled to, if you are unemployed, retired or sick or disabled.
9. Don't live next to a busy major road or near a polluting factory.
10. Learn how to fill in the complex housing benefit/ asylum application forms before you become homeless and destitute.
# Why focus on the SDOH?

## Infographic from the Canadian Medical Association

### WHAT MAKES CANADIANS SICK?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Factors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>50%</td>
<td>YOUR LIFE</td>
<td>Income, Early Childhood Development, Disability, Education, Social Exclusion, Social Safety Net, Gender, Employment/Working Conditions, Race, Aboriginal Status, Safe and Nutritious Food, Housing/Homelessness, Community Belonging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25%</td>
<td>YOUR HEALTH CARE</td>
<td>Access to Health Care, Health Care System, Wait Times</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15%</td>
<td>YOUR BIOLOGY</td>
<td>Genetics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10%</td>
<td>YOUR ENVIRONMENT</td>
<td>Air Quality, Civic Infrastructure</td>
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These are Canada’s Social Determinants of Health #SDOH
The patient voice and the SDOH

- A Tale of Two Smokers
- The Jason Story
- Teresa’s story
"Why is Jason in the hospital?
Because he has a bad infection in his leg.
   But why does he have an infection?
Because he has a cut on his leg and it got infected.
   But why does he have a cut on his leg?
Because he was playing in the junk yard next to his apartment building and there was
some sharp, jagged steel there that he fell on.
   But why was he playing in a junk yard?
Because his neighborhood is kind of run down. A lot of kids play there and there is no one
to supervise them.
   But why does he live in that neighborhood?
Because his parents can't afford a nicer place to live.
   But why can't his parents afford a nicer place to live?
Because his Dad is unemployed and his Mom is sick.
   But why is his Dad unemployed?
Because he doesn't have much education and he can't find a job.
   But why …?"

from Toward a Healthy Future: Second Report on the Health of Canadians
Why nurses?

Graphic from Health Nexus
How?

**Strategies**
- Awareness raising & skill building
- Surveillance and monitoring
- Partnerships
- Advocacy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Globalization</th>
<th>Macro Level</th>
<th>Mesa Level</th>
<th>Micro Level</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Environment</td>
<td>• Public Policy</td>
<td>• Community</td>
<td>• Individual Interaction</td>
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</table>
When?

Assessment

Evaluation

Nursing Diagnosis

Implementation

Planning
Where?

- Community practice
- Acute care
- Public health
- Long-term care
Who can help?

- Nursing organisations
  - CARNA
  - RNAO
  - CNA
- Heath professionals
  - Social workers, doctors, occupational therapists, dentists, etc.
- Other professionals
  - Educators, administrators, politicians, etc.
- National organizations
  - Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives
Handout and Key Messages

- Listen actively
- Build therapeutic relationships
- Use best practices
- Consult with others

Patient
Questions? Comments?