

# COLLECTING SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH DATA TO ADDRESS MEMBERS' UNMET NEEDS



At AmeriHealth Caritas Pennsylvania, care is the heart of our work. That means that every day we put our members and their families first. We work to improve not only their health, but also the economic and social issues that can act as a barrier to proper care — social determinants of health that are estimated to account for 70 percent of avoidable mortality<sup>1</sup> in the United States alone.

AmeriHealth Caritas Pennsylvania assesses, identifies, and addresses health care and social determinants of health needs in the populations we serve, helping to enable our members to live healthier lives and achieve maximum independence.

## What are social determinants of health?

Our mission to build strong, healthy communities goes beyond clinical care. Up to 80 percent to 90 percent of a person's health is tied to factors other than clinical care.<sup>2</sup> These factors, known as the social determinants of health (SDOH), include nutritious food, access to care, safe housing, reliable transportation, and community supports.

## What is the impact of SDOH?

These underlying drivers of health impact every part of our physical, mental, and social well-being. When they work against someone or are left unaddressed, they create health inequalities — which lead to worse outcomes and more expensive care.

Social factors, including education, racial segregation and bias, social supports, and poverty, can affect a person's risk factors for premature death and life expectancy. SDOH disproportionately impact low-income individuals and minority populations. As SDOH have a significant impact on health outcomes, addressing the impacts of SDOH is essential to the achievement of greater health equity.

## How can I help?

As an AmeriHealth Caritas Pennsylvania provider, you deliver health care services to our members. Health care providers who serve our members are uniquely positioned to identify and address SDOH, and together we can customize person-centered programs to ensure that our members have the critical support and services they need, so they can make important lifestyle changes and lead healthier, more productive lives.

When you submit claims, please add the appropriate supplemental ICD-10 diagnosis codes that identify SDOH. On the next page are examples of ICD-10 codes and descriptions useful for classifying relevant socioeconomic information valuable for population health.

With your help, AmeriHealth Caritas Pennsylvania will have actionable data and be able to respond to our members' unmet needs.

### Sources:

1. J.M. McGinnis, P. Williams-Russo, J.R. Knickman, "The Case for More Active Policy Attention to Health Promotion," *Health Affairs* 21, 2 (2002): 78 – 93. PMID 11900188. See also National Academies Press free publication: *The Future of the Public's Health in the 21st Century*.
2. S. Magnan, "Social Determinants of Health 101 for Health Care: Five Plus Five," *NAM Perspectives*, Discussion Paper (Washington, D.C.: National Academy of Medicine, 2017), <https://doi.org/10.31478/201710c>.

**Note:** SDOH should not be used as the admitting or principal diagnosis.

Appropriate coding includes but is not limited to:

SDOH description	ICD-10 codes
<b>Education</b>	Z550 Illiteracy and low-level literacy Z551 Schooling unavailable and unattainable Z558 Other problems related to education and literacy Z559 Problems related to education and literacy, unspecified
<b>Employment</b>	Z56.0 Unemployment, unspecified Z56.2 Threat of job loss Z56.3 Stressful work schedule Z56.6 Other physical and mental strain related to work Z56.81 Sexual harassment on the job Z56.82 Military deployment status Z56.4 Discord with boss and workmates
<b>Housing and economic</b>	Z590 Homeless Z591 Inadequate housing Z592 Discord with neighbors, lodgers, and landlord Z593 Problems related to living in residential institution Z594 Lack of adequate food and safe drinking water Z595 Extreme poverty Z596 Low income Z597 Insufficient social insurance and welfare support Z598 Other problems related to housing and economic circumstances Z599 Problem related to housing and economic circumstances, unspecified
<b>Social environment</b>	Z600 Problems of adjustment to life-cycle transitions Z602 Problem related to living alone Z603 Acculturation difficulty Z604 Social exclusion and rejection Z605 Target of (perceived) adverse discrimination and persecution Z608 Other problems related to social environment Z609 Problem related to social environment, unspecified
<b>Upbringing</b>	Z6221 Child in welfare custody Z6222 Institutional upbringing Z6229 Other upbringing away from parents Z62810 Personal history of physical and sexual abuse in childhood Z62811 Personal history of psychological abuse in childhood Z62812 Personal history of neglect in childhood Z62819 Personal history of unspecified abuse in childhood

SDOH description	ICD-10 codes
<b>Family and social support issues</b>	Z630 Problems in relationship with spouse or partner Z6331 Absence of family member due to military deployment Z6332 Other absence of family member Z634 Disappearance and death of family member Z635 Disruption of family by separation and divorce Z636 Dependent relative needing care at home Z6371 Stress on family due to return of family member from military deployment Z6372 Alcoholism and drug addiction in family Z6379 Other stressful life events affecting family and household
<b>Experiences with crime, violence, and the judicial system</b>	Z650 Conviction in civil and criminal proceedings without imprisonment Z651 Imprisonment and other incarceration Z652 Problems related to release from prison Z653 Problems related to other legal circumstances Z654 Victim of crime and terrorism Z655 Exposure to disaster, war, and other hostilities
<b>Inadequate material resources</b>	Z753 Unavailability and inaccessibility of health care facilities Z754 Unavailability and inaccessibility of other helping agencies
<b>Contact with and suspected exposure</b>	Z77010 Contact with and suspected exposure to arsenic Z77011 Contact with and suspected exposure\to lead Z77090 Contact with and suspected exposure to asbestos Z570 Occupational exposure to noise Z571 Occupational exposure to radiation Z572 Occupational exposure to dust Z5731 Occupational exposure to environmental tobacco smoke Z5739 Occupational exposure to other air contaminants Z574 Occupational exposure to toxic agents in agriculture Z575 Occupational exposure to toxic agents in other industries Z578 Occupational exposure to other risk factors
<b>Stress</b>	Z733 Stress, not elsewhere classified Z734 Inadequate social skills, not elsewhere classified Z7389 Other problems related to life management difficulty Z739 Problem related to life management difficulty, unspecified Z658 Other specified problems related to psychosocial circumstances Z659 Problem related to unspecified psychosocial circumstances

**A full SDOH assessment can be conducted annually and updates provided at each visit to resolve prior concerns or add new ones. These Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) codes can be used when reporting: G9919-Screening performed and positive and provision of recommendations; G9920-Screening performed and negative.**

### Questions?

If you have questions, please contact your provider Account Executive or the Provider Services department at **1-800-521-6007**.



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