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Equity is Quality  
kua takoto te manuka



**Healthcare quality** the degree to which **health care services** for individuals and populations **increase** the likelihood of **desired health outcomes** and are consistent with current professional knowledge

"**Health equity**" or "equity in health" implies that ideally **everyone** should have a **fair opportunity** to attain their **full health potential** and that no one should be disadvantaged from achieving this potential

# Quality in Healthcare



Safe



Timely



Patient Centered



Effective



Efficient



Equitable



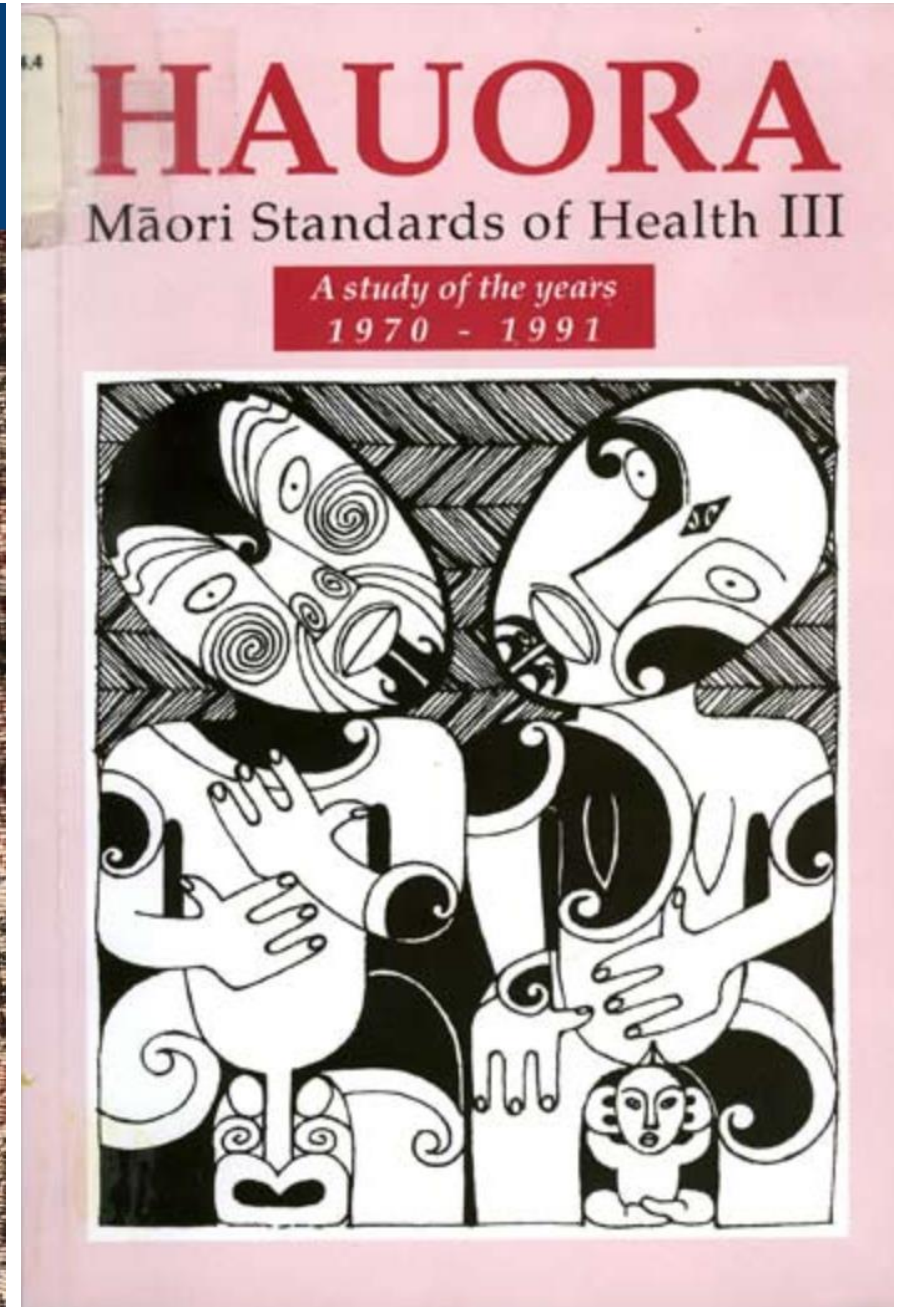
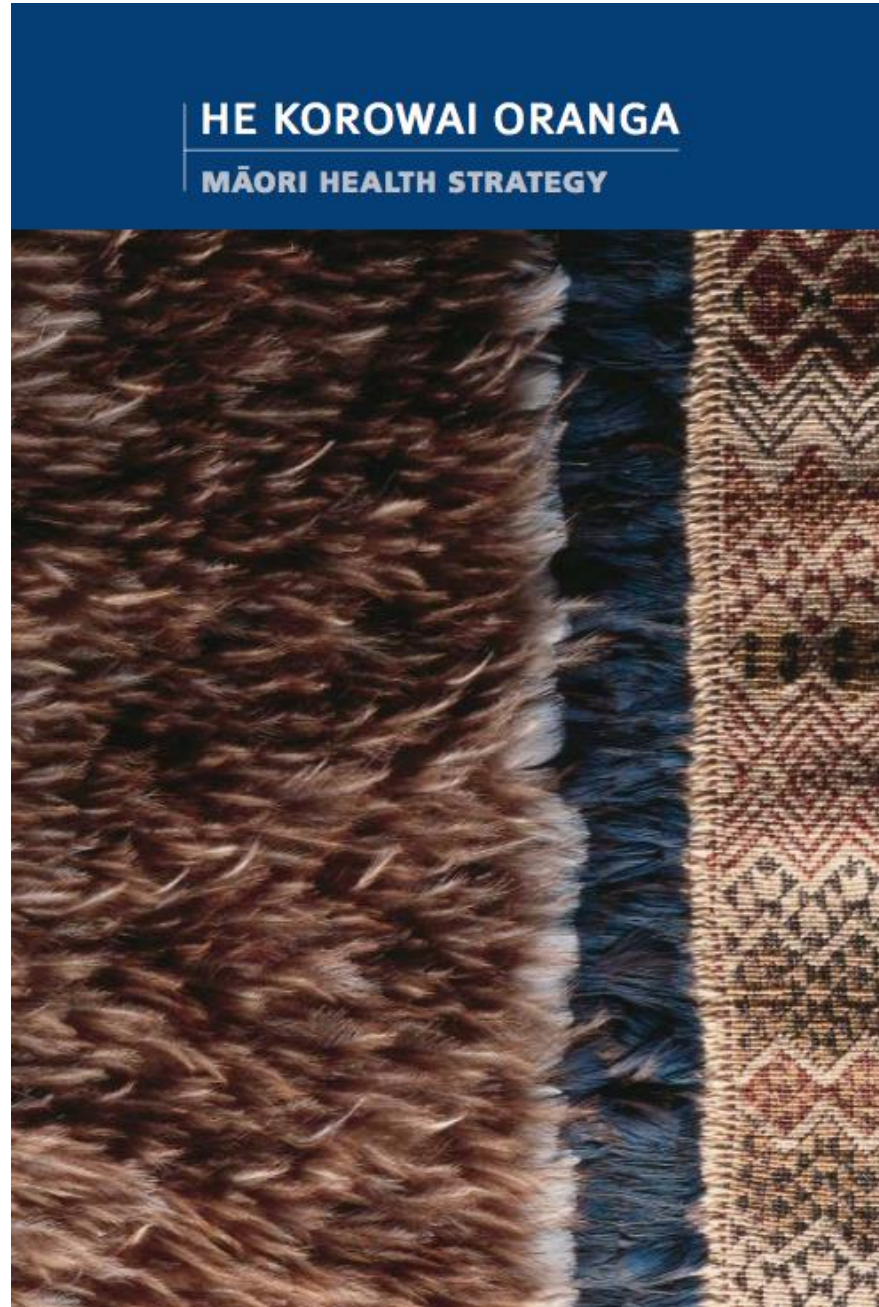
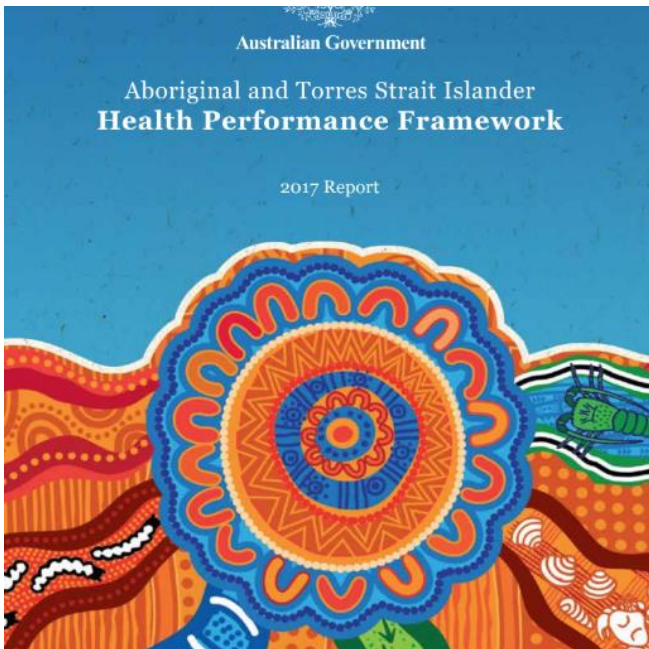
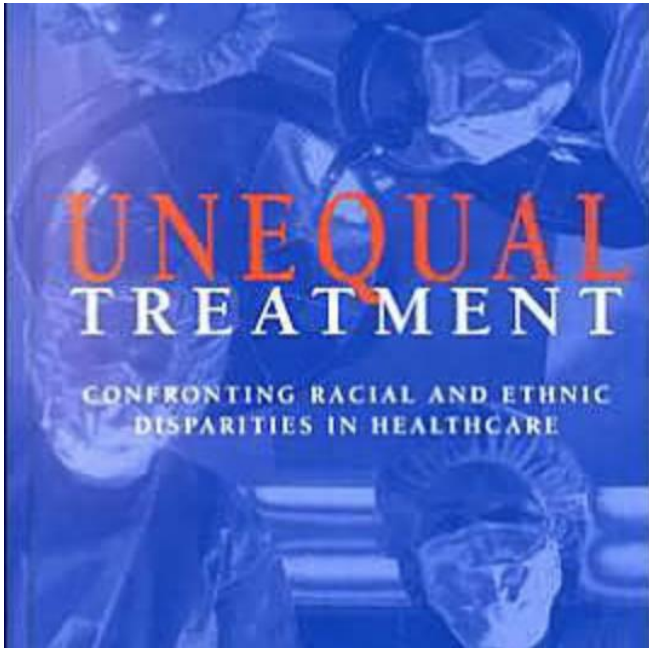
# Equality



# Equity

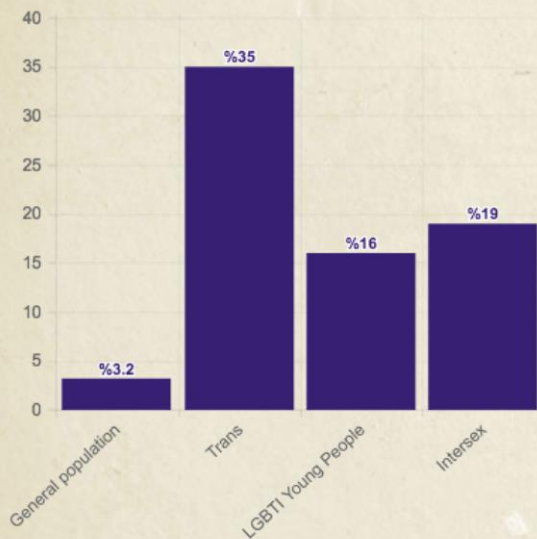








## Suicide attempts per population group



When compared with the general population, LGBTI people are more likely to attempt suicide

Māori children have high rates of hospitalisation due to assault, neglect, and maltreatment.

26

Māori children per 100,000.

23

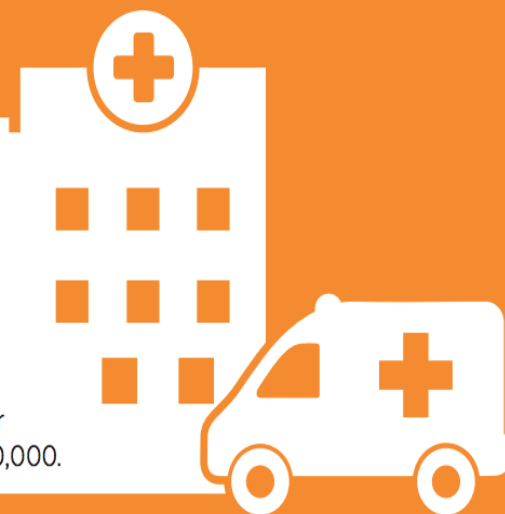
Pacific children per 100,000.

6

Asian/Indian children per 100,000.

11

European/Other children per 100,000.



In the USA, **African Americans** represent **13%** of the **population** but account for nearly **HALF** of **new HIV** Diagnoses

## Global life expectancy gaps

Country	Indigenous Group	Indigenous Life Expectancy (years)	Non-Indigenous Life Expectancy (years)	Gap (years)
Cameroon	Baka	35.5	57	21.5
Kenya	Maasai	43.5	56.6	13.1
Canada	Inuit	68.5	81	12.5
Australia	Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander	71.4	81.4	10



# Why is Equity in healthcare good?

It is morally right

It saves money

- **directly costs** the NHS about **£5 billion** per year
- **directly costs** the Canadian Government **\$6.5 billion** per year

It Improves Quality

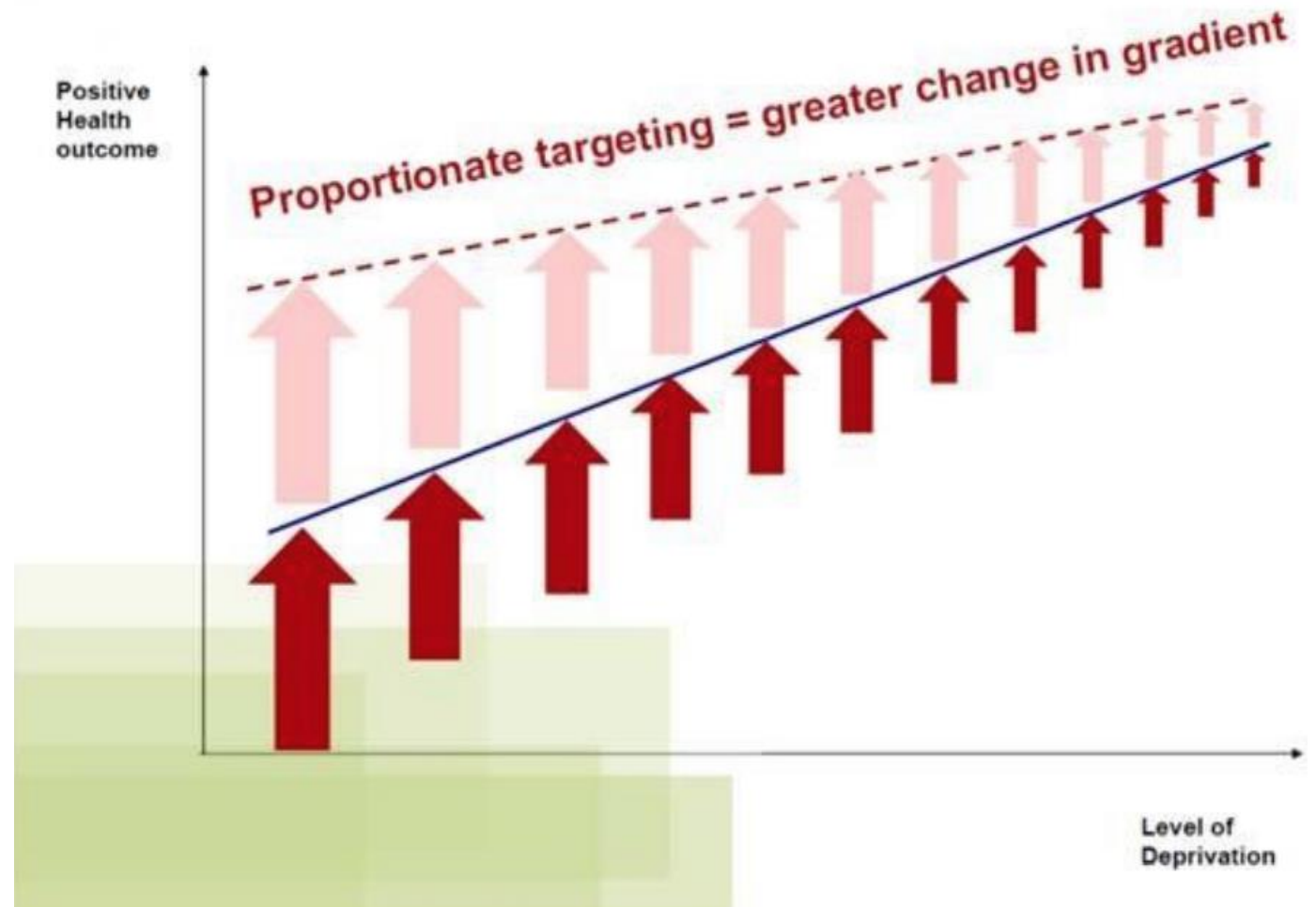
- Safety
- Timely
- Efficiency
- Patient centric





Those who need the most healthcare receive the least  
Hart 1971

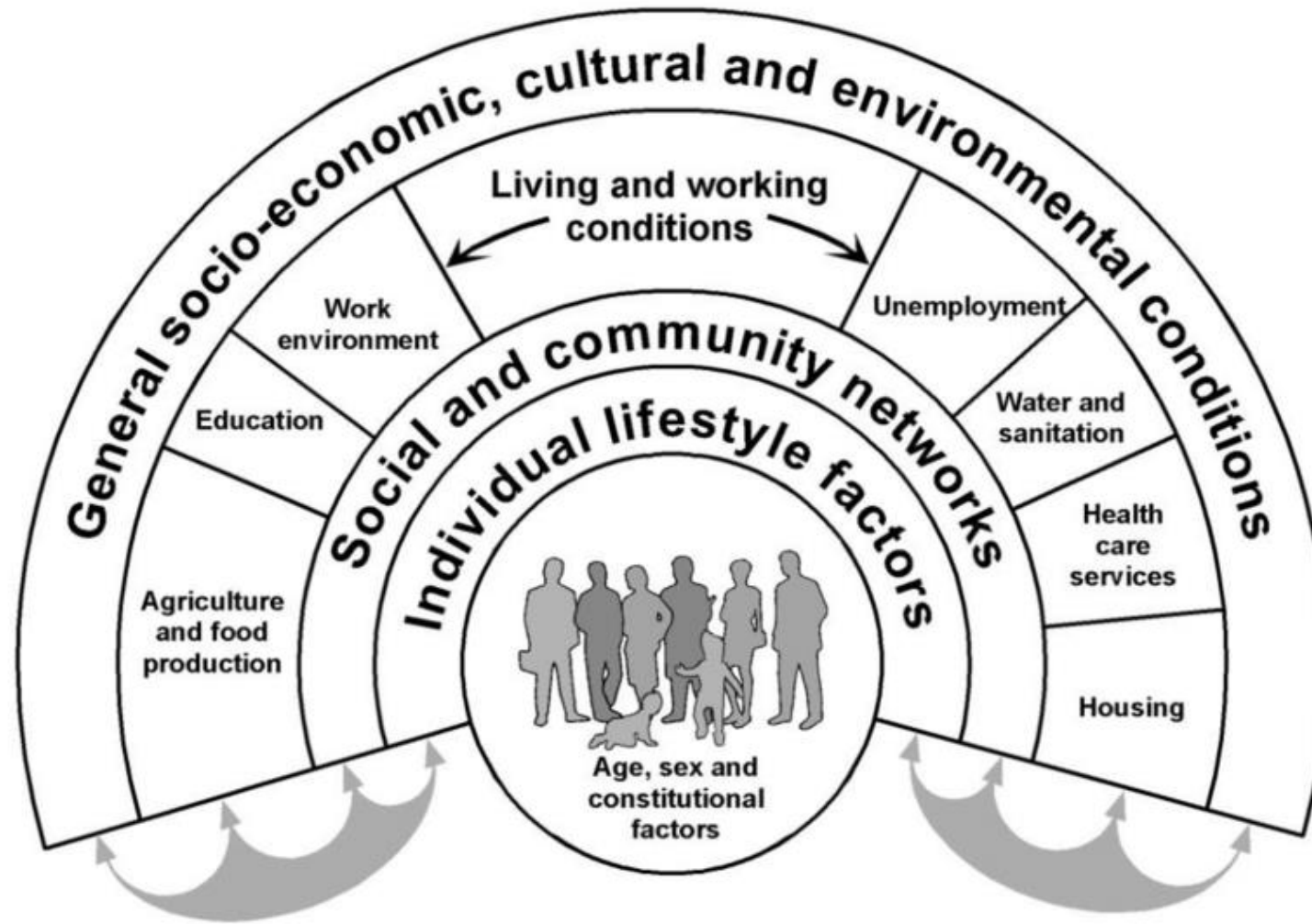
# Proportionate Universalism





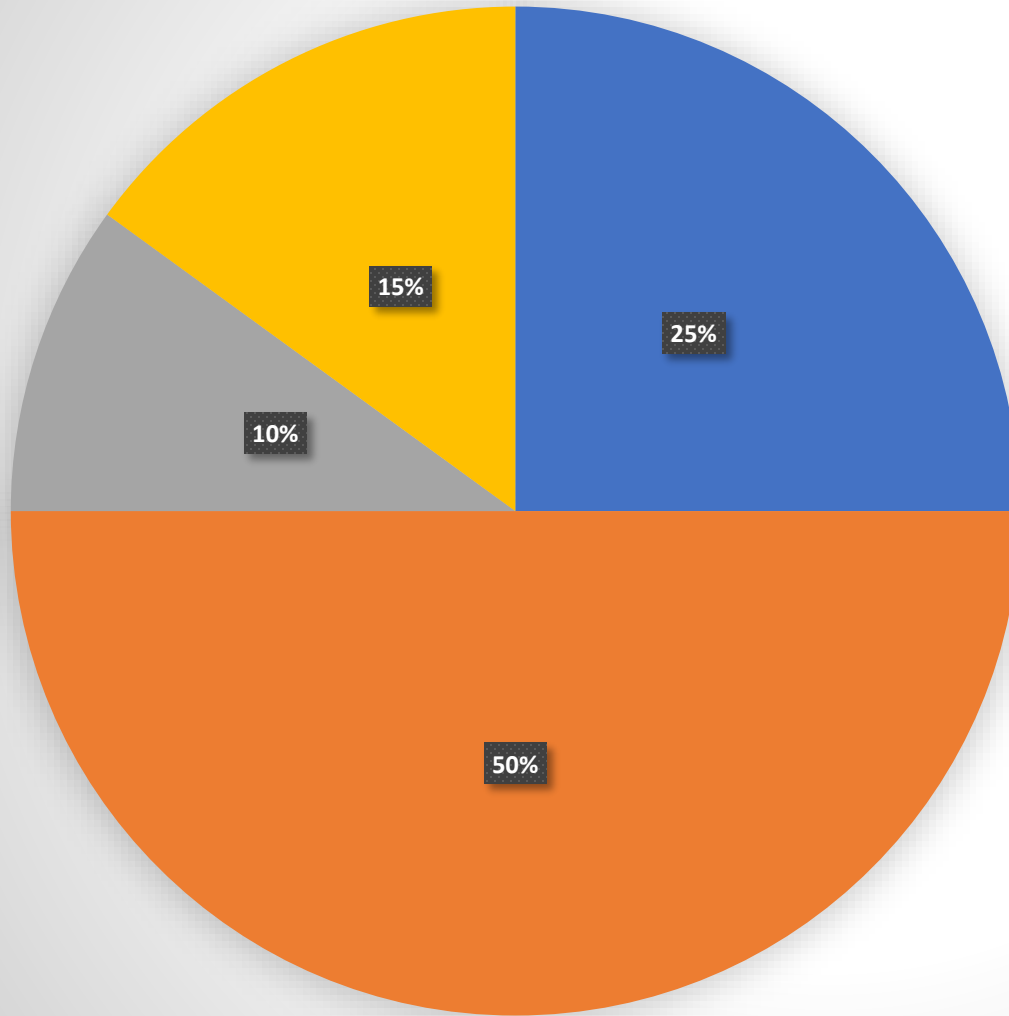


# The Main Determinants of Health



Source: Dahlgren and Whitehead, 1993

## Contribution to inequity in Health Outcomes



■ Health Care System

■ Social & Economic Environment

■ Physical Environment

■ Biology/Genetic



Every system is perfectly designed  
to get the results it gets

Dr Paul Batalden

Institute for Healthcare Improvement



# Areas of influence for change



Society



Health System



Care-process



Patient level

# WHAT IS HEALTH IN ALL POLICIES?



Good health requires policies that actively support health 

It requires different sectors working together, for example:



HEALTH



TRANSPORT



HOUSING



WORK



NUTRITION



WATER &  
SANITATION

TO ENSURE ALL PEOPLE HAVE EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES TO ACHIEVE THE  
HIGHEST LEVEL OF HEALTH

50% of reduction in child mortality  
from 1990-2010 was from non  
Health Sector Investment





# Health System

- Easy to access and navigate as a patient
- No inherent bias for those with limited English proficiency
- Objectively shown to be easy to navigate





- Bias
- Stereotyping
- Discrimination
- Poor communication

## Care process Variables



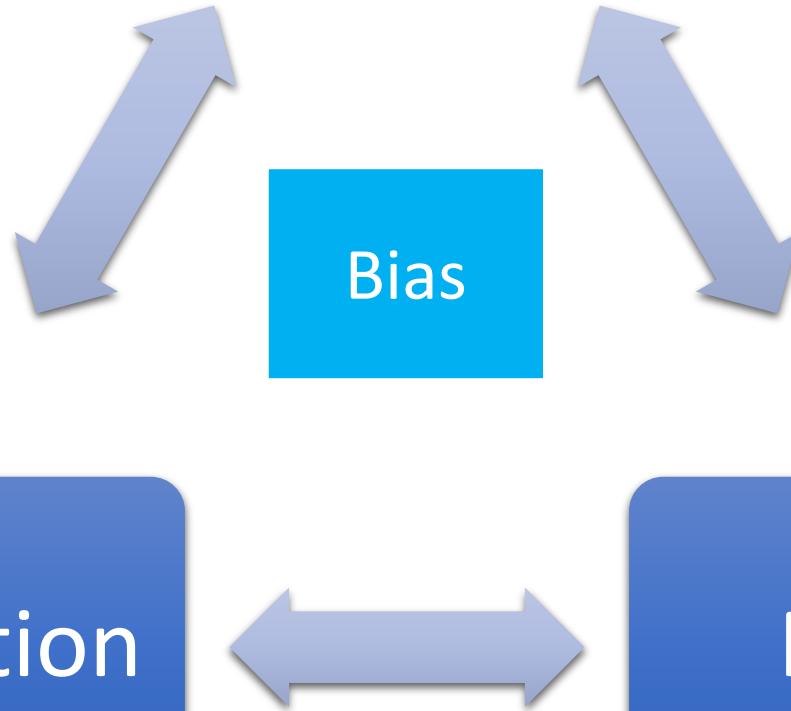


Stereotyping

Bias

Discrimination

Prejudice





Academic Emergency Medicine

Official Journal of the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine

Original Contribution |  [Free Access](#) |

# The Impact of Cognitive Stressors in the Emergency Department on Physician Implicit Racial Bias

Tiffani J. Johnson MD, MSc , Robert W. Hickey MD, Galen E. Switzer PhD, Elizabeth Miller MD, PhD, Daniel G. Winger MS, Margaret Nguyen MD ... [See all authors](#) ✓

SYSTEMATIC REVIEWS AND META-ANALYSES (OTHER THAN EVIDENCE-BASED DIAGNOSTICS)

# A Systematic Review of the Impact of Physician Implicit Racial Bias on Clinical Decision Making

Erin Dehon, PhD, Nicole Weiss, PhD, Jonathan Jones, MD, Whitney Faulconer, MD, Elizabeth Hinton, MSIS and Sarah Sterling, MD

# Ignoring It Isn't an Option: Racial Bias in Emergency Medicine

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by WILLIAM B. MILLARD, PHD

*Special Contributor to  
Annals News & Perspective*



HARVARD  
UNIVERSITY



<https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/takeatest.html>



Project Implicit®

# Patient Level Variables



UNDERSTANDING



MISTRUST OF THE  
SYSTEM



ADHERENCE TO  
THERAPY





MASSACHUSETTS  
GENERAL HOSPITAL

Institute for Health Policy

# Improving Quality and Achieving Equity: A Guide for Hospital Leaders



# Make a Change

## Getting Started

Form a taskforce or work group  
Current state of play within organization  
Educate leadership

## Creating Foundation

Collect the data  
Policy  
Community Engagement  
Hospital Education  
Strategic goals

## Moving to Action

Monitor for disparities  
Develop Pilot plan

## Evaluate, Disseminate, Re-Engineer

Evaluate against goals  
Present data to Governing body  
React to feedback and change as necessary



Health Care Quality is an objective measure how well we take care of patients



Certain groups of people have higher rates of disease with less intervention



Diverting resources to these groups improves quality performance measures and improves outcomes (win-win)

# Take home

The physicians surely are the  
natural advocates of the poor, and  
social problems largely fall within  
their scope

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Rudolf Virchow

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