

Population Health: Major Opportunities for an Evolving Field

Marc N. Gourevitch, MD, MPH
Department of Population Health
NYU Grossman School of Medicine

Population Health Research Institute
Case Western Reserve University

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Disclosures

NuTopia (consulting re PBS script)

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- NIDA
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
- PCORI / PCRF
- Robin Hood Foundation



Overview

Population health: definitions and some context

Partnership

Opportunities and challenges ahead



What Is Population Health?

Population health is a relatively new term that has not yet been precisely defined. Is it a concept of health or a field study of health determina

We propose that the dition be "the health outcome a group of Individual cluding the distribution of outcomes within the ground we argue that the fle population health inclinealth outcomes, patter health determinants, and cles and interventions that these two.

We present a rational this definition and note it ferentiation from public health health promotion, and social epidemiology. We invite critiques and discussion that may lead to some consensus on this emerging concept. (Am J. Public. Health. 2003;93: 380–383)

David Kindig, MD, PhD, and Greg Stoddart, PhD

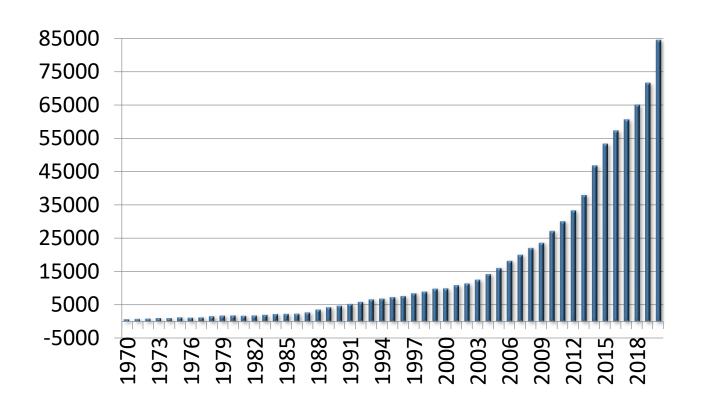
We propose that the definition be "the health outcomes of a group of individuals, including the distribution of such outcomes within the group."

grew out of the work of the Population Health Program of the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research. No concise definition of the term appears in this volume, although its authors state the concept's "linking thread [to be] the common focus on trying to understand the determinants of health of populations." 1(p28)

eral meaning. Evans and Stoddart, while supporting an emphasis on "understanding of the determinants of population health," have also stated, however, that "different concepts [of health] are neither right or wrong, they simply have different purposes and applications. . . . [W]hatever the level of definition

rovincial/Territorial Advimmittee on Population write that "population efers to the health of a on as measured by tatus indicators and as ed by social, economic, sical environments, peralth practices, individual and coping skills, biology, early childhood ment, and health sers an approach, populaalth focuses on interreonditions and factors that influence the health of populations over the life course, identifies systematic variations in their patterns of occurrence, and applies the resulting knowledge to develop and implement policies and actions to improve the health and well being of those populations."5(p57) Kindig has suggested a similarly broad defi-

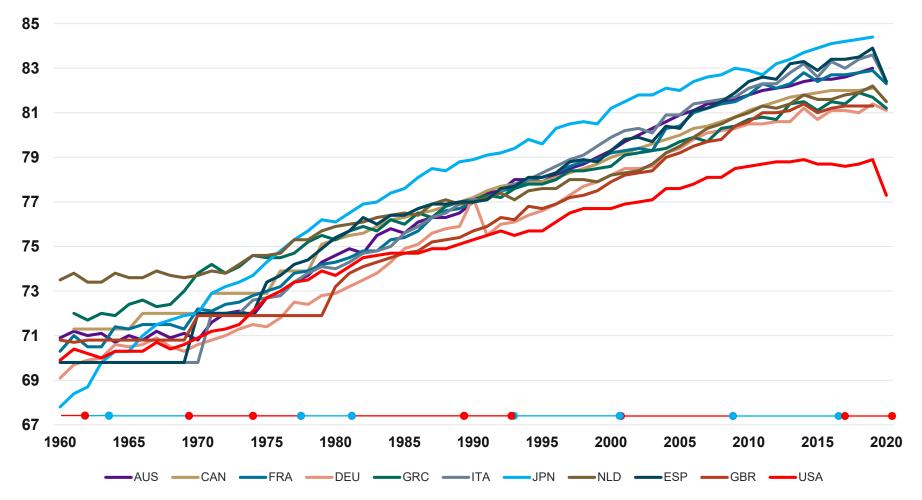
"Population Health" in title or abstract



Source: PubMed

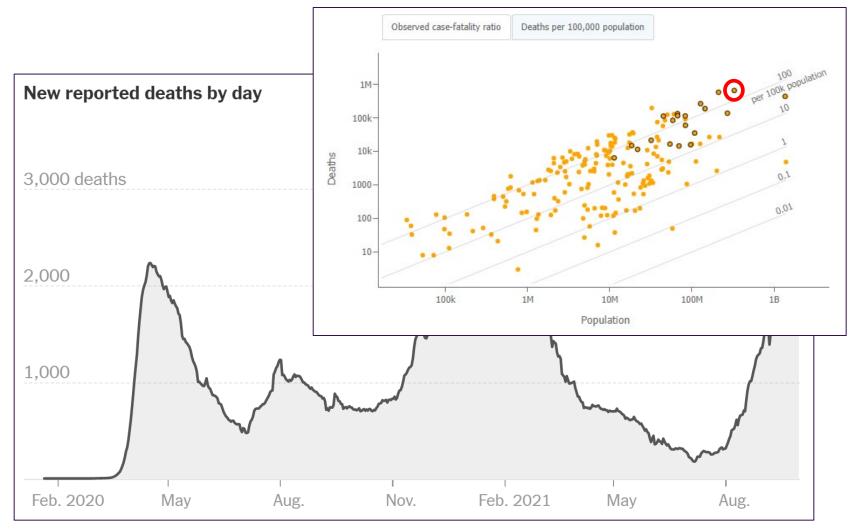
Life Expectancy is Declining in the US

Life expectancy at birth, selected high-income countries, 1960-2020



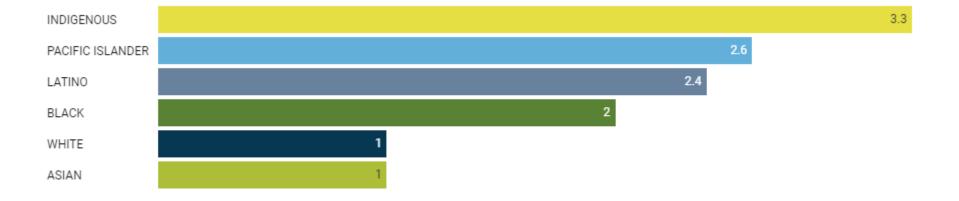


COVID-19 snapshot, October 2021





Relative risk of mortality from COVID in US, age-adjusted



APM Research Lab (through 3/21)



COVID snapshot: vaccination

PEOPLE FULLY VACCINATED



COVID snapshot: vaccination

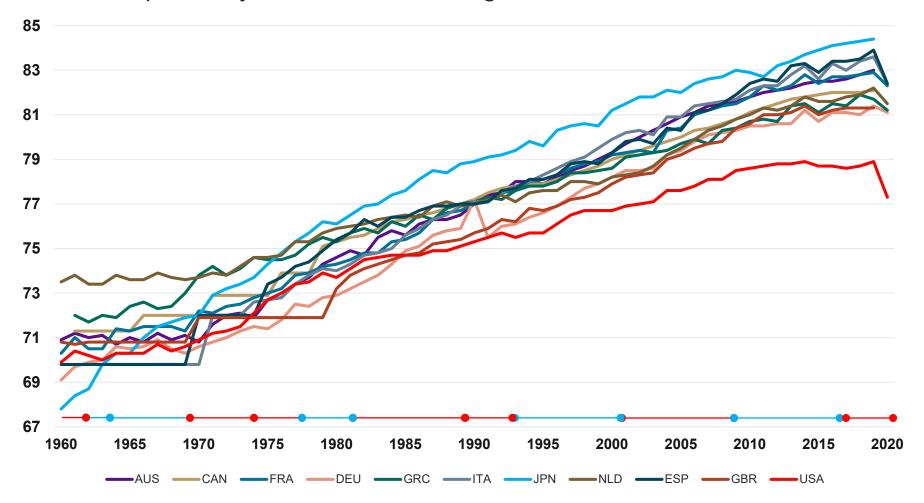


PEOPLE FULLY VACCINATED



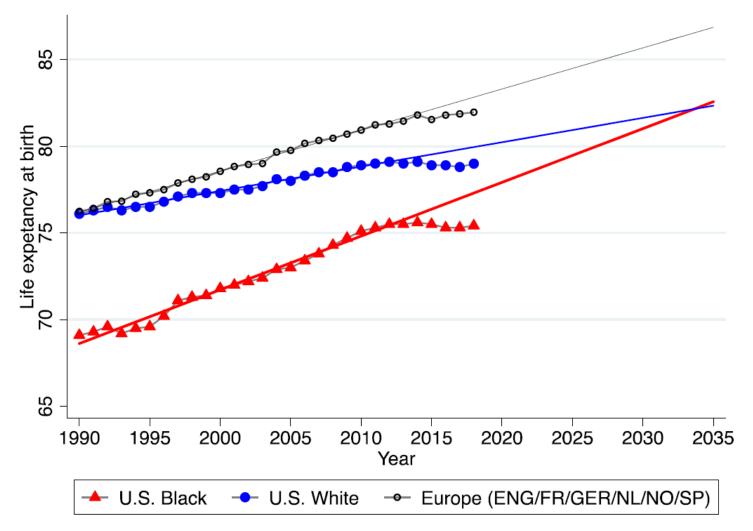
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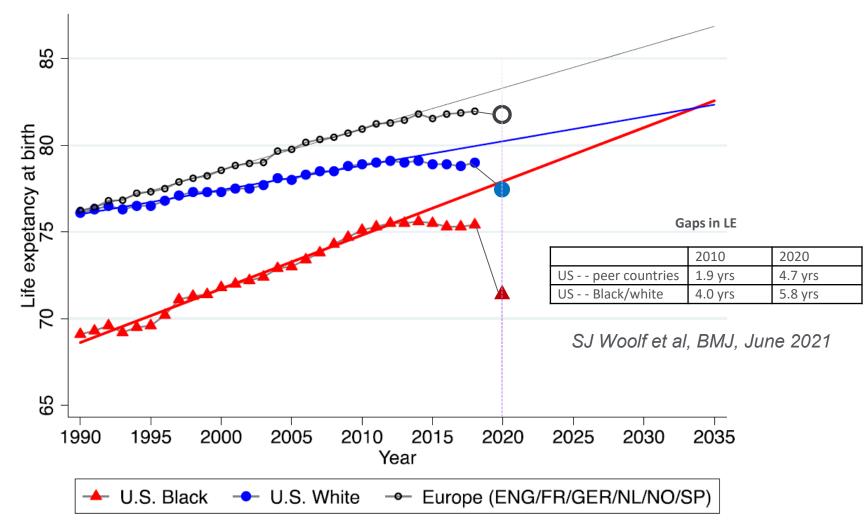


Life expectancy for Black Americans, White Americans, and six European countries, extrapolated to 2035 fitting a linear trend through 1990-2012





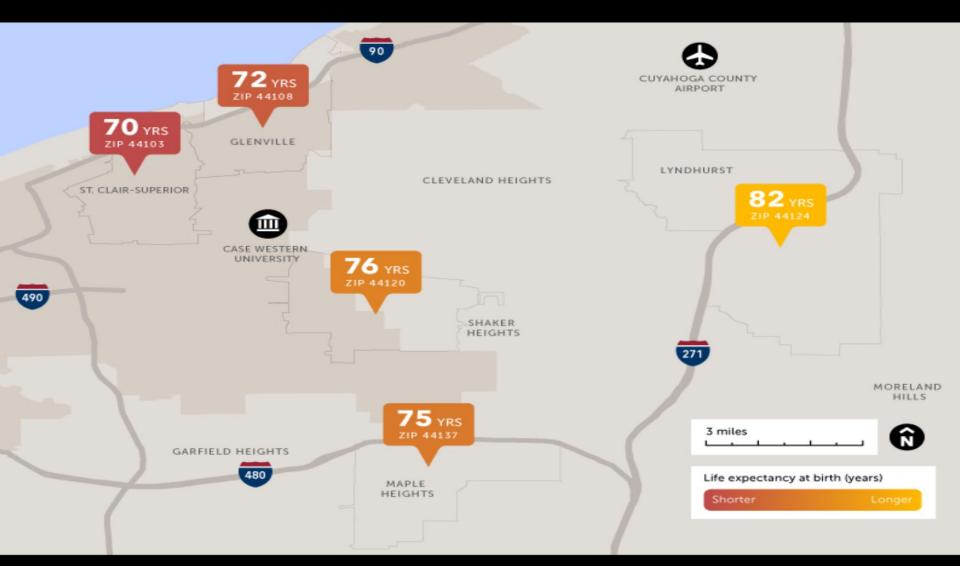
Impact of COVID-19 on life expectancy for Black Americans, White Americans, and European countries, 1900 - 2020





#CloseHealthGaps

Short Distances to Large Gaps in Health









What produces health?

Proportional Contribution to Premature Death

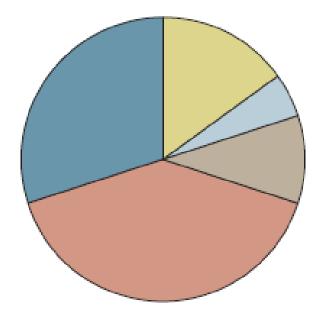
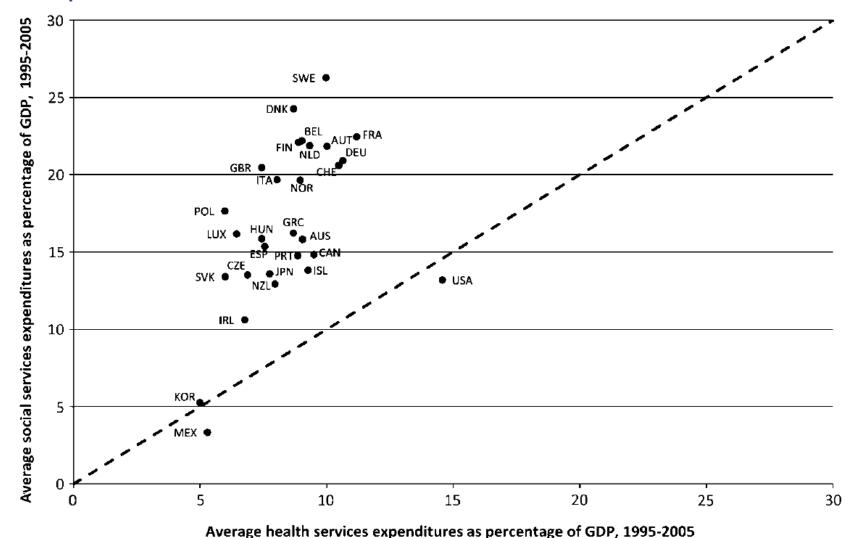


Figure 1. Determinants of Health and Their Contribution to Premature Death.

Adapted from McGinnis et al. 10

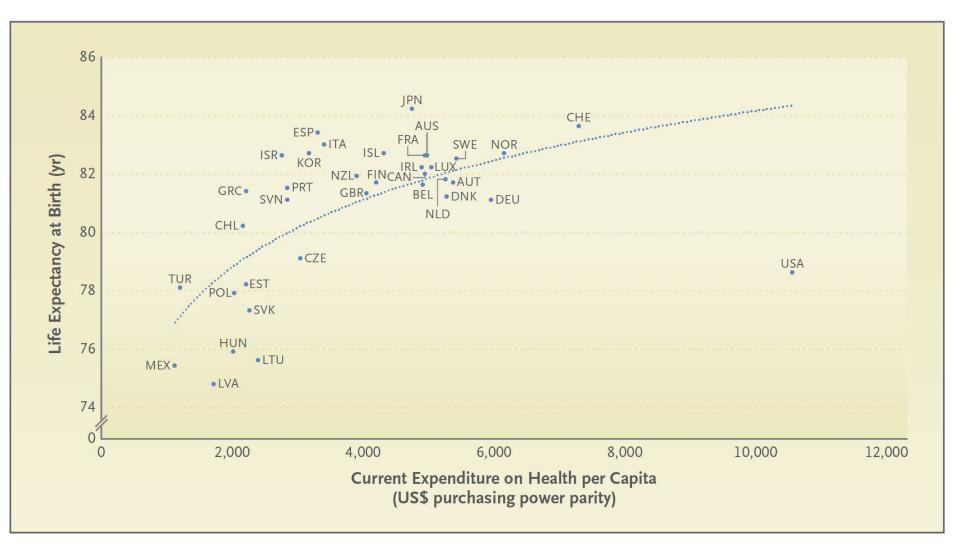
- Social circumstances
- Environmental exposure
- Genetic predisposition
- Behavioral patterns
- Socioeconomic status
- Racism

Average social service expenditures vs. average health expenditures as % of GDP, OECD countries, 1995-2005



Bradley, Elkins, Herrin, Elbel, BMJ Qual Saf, 2010

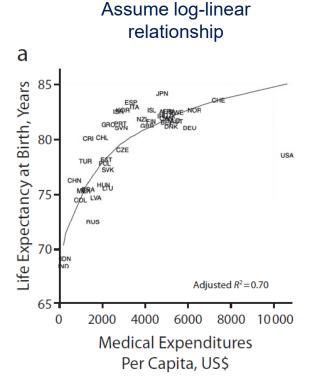
Life Expectancy at Birth and Health Spending per Capita, 2019

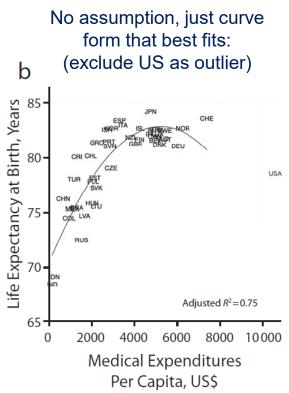


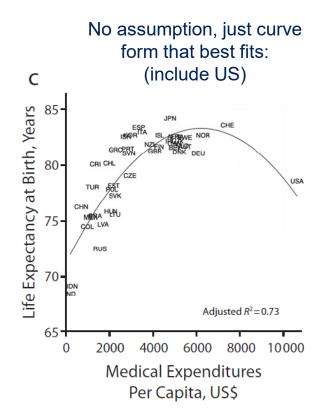
Data from Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development Health Statistics 2019.



Relationship between medical spending and life expectancy







OECD data, 2017



Fundamental Causes of Health Inequities

 Association persists despite radical changes in risk factors and disease

SES (Phelan & Link, 1995)

Embodies an array of resources (money, knowledge, prestige, power, beneficial social connections) that protect health no matter what mechanisms are relevant at any given time

Racism (Phelan & Link, 2015)

"racism, largely via inequalities in power, prestige, freedom, neighborhood context, and health care, also has a fundamental association with health independent of SES"



Racism and health

	White non-H	Asian	Hispanic	Black non-H
Wealth (median household assets, 2011)	\$110,500	\$89,339	\$7,683	\$6,314
Poverty (% <pov 2014)<="" level,="" td=""><td>10.1%</td><td>12.0%</td><td>23.6%</td><td>26.2%</td></pov>	10.1%	12.0%	23.6%	26.2%
Unemployment (2014)	5.3%	5.0%	7.4%	11.3%
Incarceration (male inmates/100,000, 2008)	610	185	836	3611
Infant mortality (per 1000 live births, 2013)	5.1	4.1	5.0	10.8

Fundamental cause → exposure → outcome

Fundamental cause	Exposure	Risk (example)	General mechanism	Proximal mechanism	Health outcome
Racist drug - Over-policing,	- Violent injury - Death			- Violent injury - Death	
policies		Social disruptionSustained stressEtc	- Chronic HPAA activation	- Up-reg cortisol& inflammatoryresponse- Reward dysreg	- CVD
Low SES	Food insecurityMarketing of SSB, hi-fat foods	- ↑ dietary risk	- Metabolic syndrome	Infusion of lipids, sugars	- CVD
Low SES	- Low wage employment	Lack capital (\$400)for emergenciesInability to afford Rx, attend med appts	Lack of preventive careMedication "nonadherence"	Undermining effective Tx (for CVD, SUD, etc)	- CVD - SUD
Racist zoning policies	 Redlining → chronic disinvestment 	- Hollowed-out support for early childhood	Poor readinesson K entryHigh ACEs	Lifecourse impact through all of the above	- CVD - SUD

Or, replace outcome with: CA, LBW, maternal mortality. depression...

Redlining: Richmond, VA

High demand areas with room for new residential growth. Lenders were "willing to make their maximum loans" in these "hot spots during good times or bad.

Completely developed neighborhoods. Not as desirable as the hot spots, but still good.

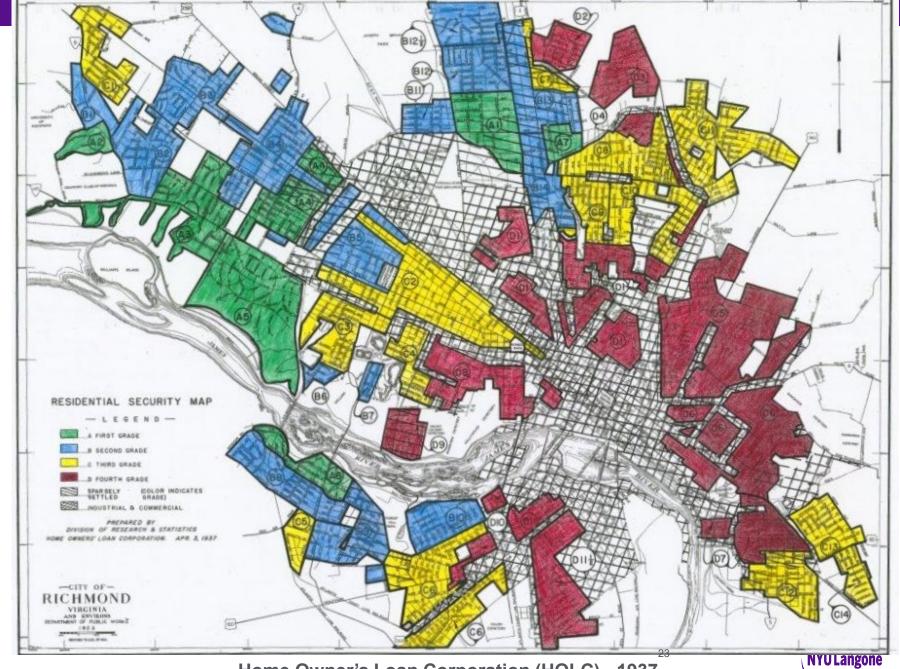
Older neighborhoods water a transitional period Expiring or missing deer grade populations" such infiltrate the neighborh homogeneity.

e. Infiltration of Negroes;

homeownership rates, undesirable population.

Denied investment by lenders—seen as extremely high risk. Applied to ALL African American areas in Richmond.

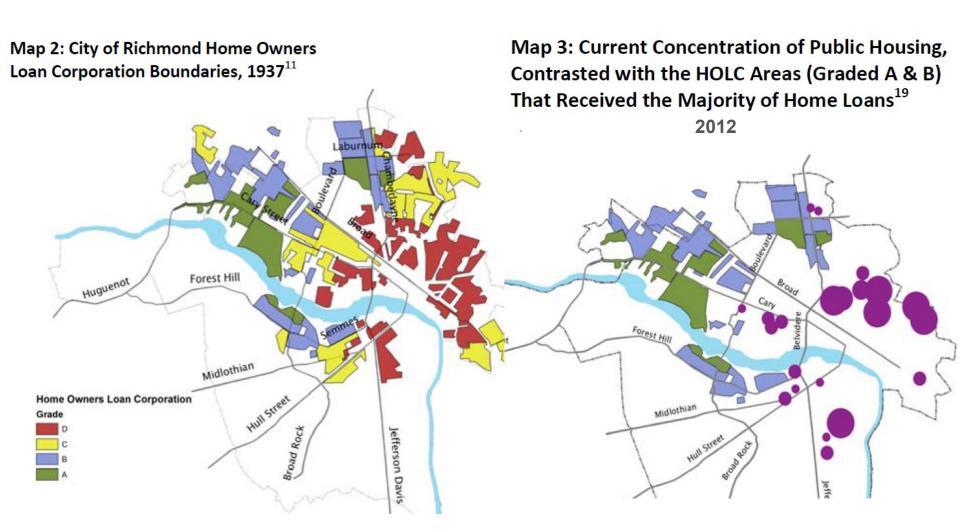




Home Owner's Loan Corporation (HOLC) - 1937

D. Chapman, VCU

Richmond, VA

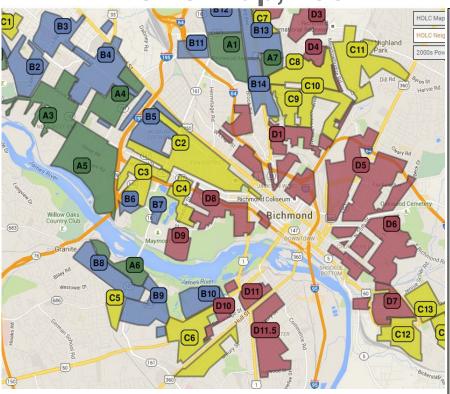


Source: http://www.phonehome.org/Portals/0/Images/PDF/whereyouliivemakesallthedifferenceoppmapreport.pdf

Richmond, VA

HOLC map, 1937

Life expect @ birth, 2002-11

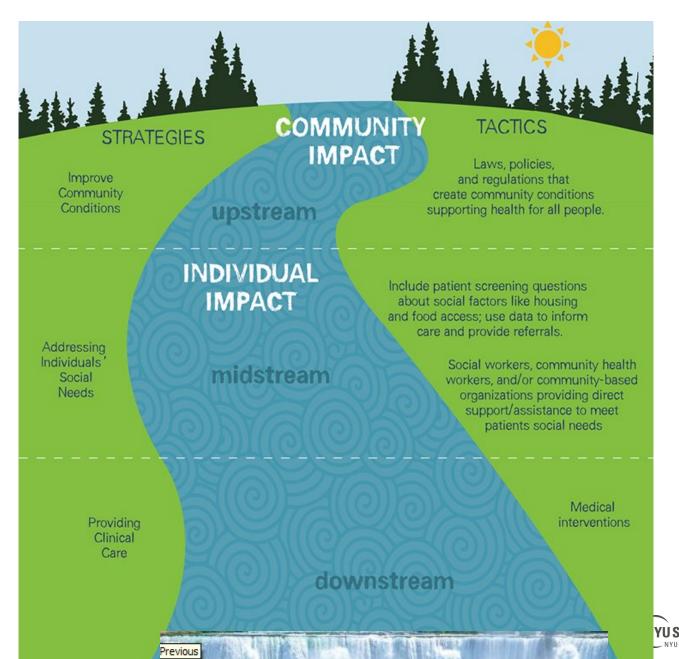


HOLC = Home Owners Loan Corp



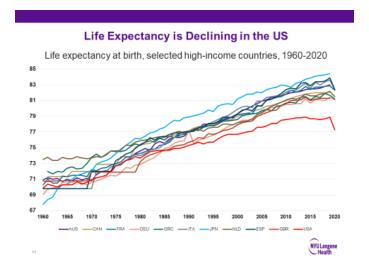


Upstream ← **Downstream**



NYU Langone

So then, what's academic medicine got to do with it?



Pathways

Fundamental cause	Exposure	Risk (example)	General mechanism	Proximal mechanism	Health outcome
Racist drug - Over-policing, policies incarceration	- Over-policing	- Violent injury - Death			- Violent injury - Death
	- Social disruption - Sustained stress - Etc	- Chronic HPAA activation	- Up-reg cortisol & inflammatory response - Reward dysreg	- CVD - SUD	
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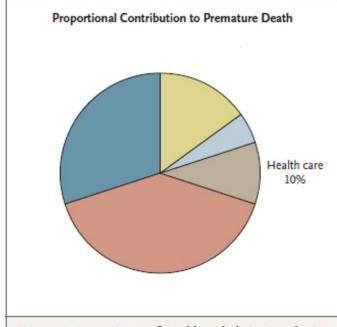


Figure 1. Determinants of Health and Their Contribution to Premature Death.

Adapted from McGinnis et al.10



Audience reminder: academic medicine is after all...

- Huge ecosystem thrumming with health-focused energy
- Deeply expert in clinical prevention, diagnosis, treatment, underlying science
- Should healthcare even be "addressing" social determinants?
 - Education; housing; the built environment?
 - "Seriously? When you're still struggling to share information effectively between my two doctors, let alone to deliver care error-free?"
- Housing / education / built environment are their whole own sectors,
 with their own expertise, policy, finance, history, deep complexity
- In short: partnership, partnership



Upstream action requires partnership

	Health care system	Public health agency	Human, social services or other sector
Upstream	Partner	Lead or partner	Lead or partner
Midstream	Partner	Lead or partner	Lead or partner
Downstream	Lead	Partner	Partner



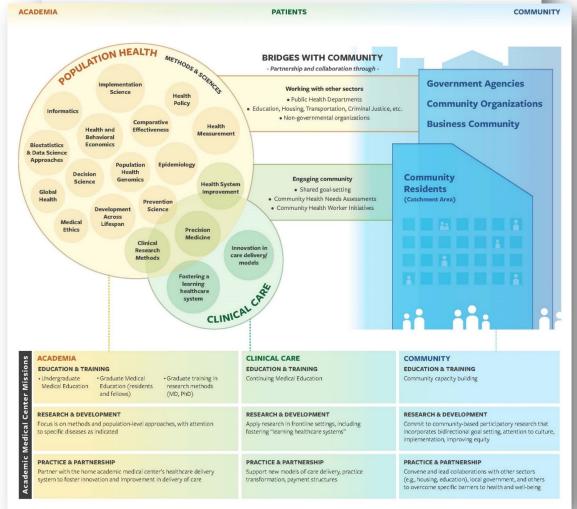
Upstream action requires partnership

	Health care system	Public health agency	Human, social services or other sector
	Partner	Lead or partner	Lead or partner
Upstream	Respite housing	Youth employment	Optimizing benefit access (DHS)
	Partner	Lead or partner	Lead or partner
Midstream		Expand care in CJS;	Blighted lot rehab
	Peer navigators	PDMPs	(Planning Dept)
	Lead	Partner	Partner
Downstream	MAT @ all clinical sites	SEP, fentanyl testing kits	K-3 programming (DOE)



Population Health in Academic Medicine: towards an inflection point?



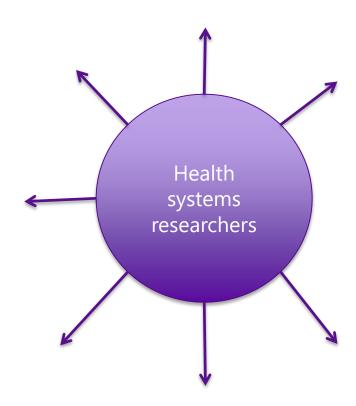




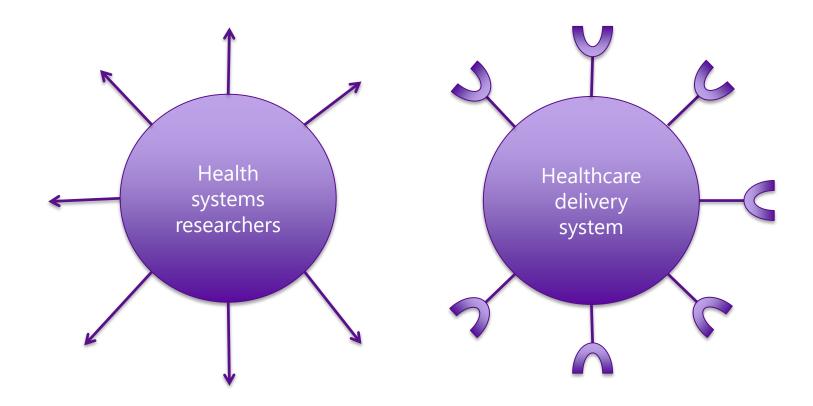
Partnerships: of academic investigators with...

- Healthcare delivery system
- Area CBOs for community health improvement
- Cities and communities nationally

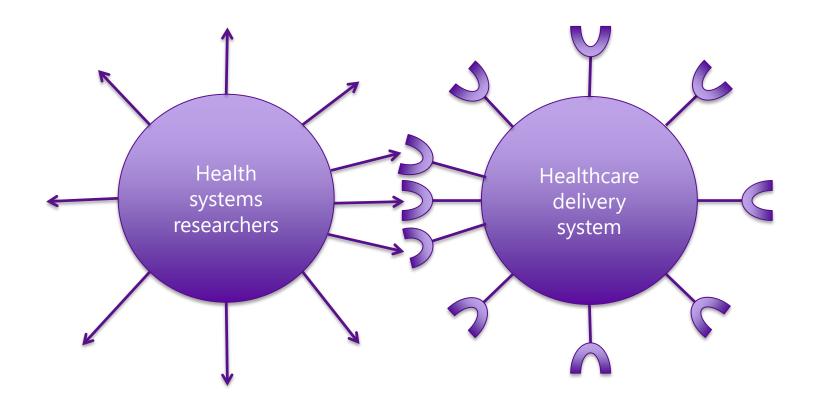




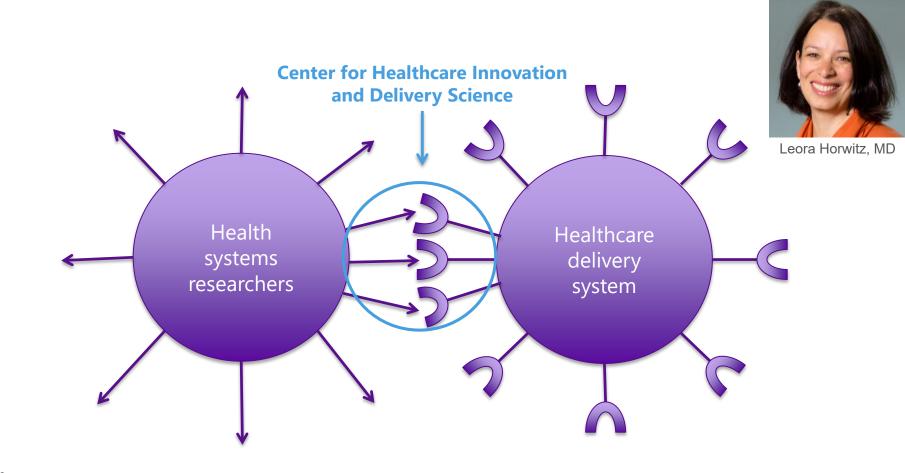








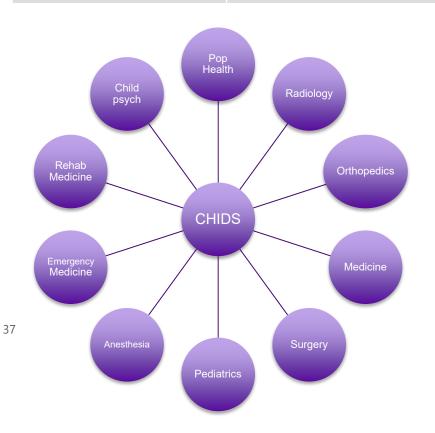


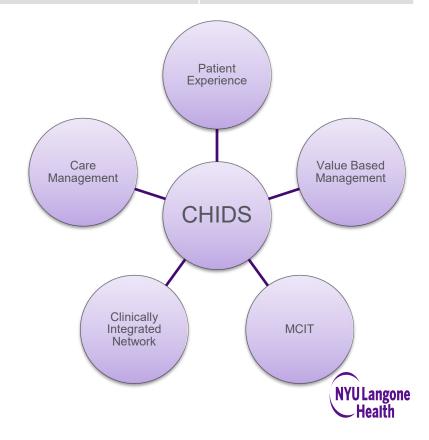




CHIDS: Governance and collaborations

Steering Committee			
Chief Quality Officer	Chief Medical Officer	Chief Operating Officer	Chief Nursing Officer
Chief Information Officer	Clinical Aff & Strategy	Network integration	FQHCs
NYU-Brooklyn	NYU-Long Island	Dept Population Health	





CHIDS impact

- Clinical/operational interventions
- Evaluation and support
- Culture and capacity
- Reputation
- Grant revenue

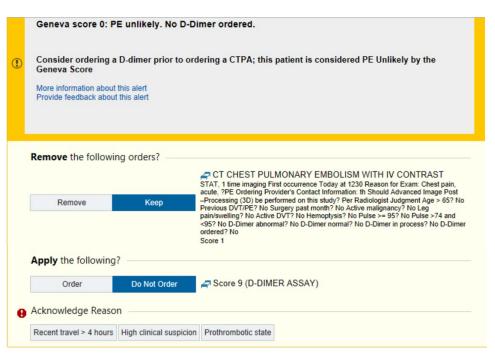


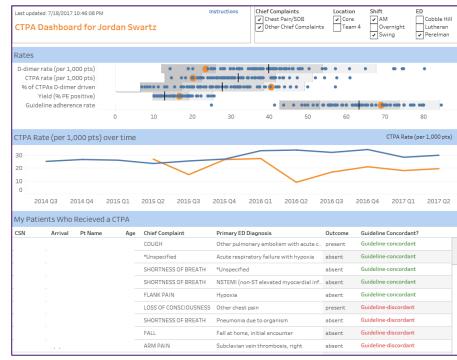
Specific projects

- Predictive analytics unit
- Patient Imaging Quality and Safety Lab
- Pilot grants
- Rapid cycle RCT lab



PIQS Lab: Optimizing CT Pulmonary Angiography





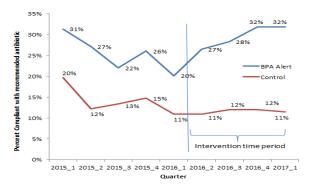
First 6 months: **95** avoided CTPAs
Guideline adherence **1** from 68.4% to 76.4%





Pilot grants

- Fully integrated into routine care: 4
 - e.g., UTI prescribing, colon surgery pathway, behavioral health in pediatric specialty care, pain management dashboard
- Continuing in pilot/restricted form: 6
- Pilot grant still running: 9
- Abandoned: 3





Rapid cycle randomized trial lab

- Transform NYULH to a learning health system
 - Flu vaccination BPA, NYULH inpatient
 - Post-discharge calls, NYU Brooklyn inpatient
 - Community health workers, NYU Brooklyn ED
 - Preventive care phone calls, Florida outreach center, CIN
 - Mailers for preventive care, Clinically Integrated Network
 - Tobacco cessation BPA, NYULH outpatient
 - Messaging for PRO completion, Center for Musculoskeletal Care



RCT: Smoking cessation counseling



↑ TOBACCO CESSATION INTERVENTION NEEDED

Evidence shows that a brief counseling session reduces tobacco use.

Evidence-based



Adam Szerencsy, DO

VS.

↑ TOBACCO CESSATION INTERVENTION NEEDED

Tobacco cessation counseling is an NYULH priority clinical quality measure.

Institutional priority



Devin Mann, MD

VS.

⚠ TOBACCO CESSATION INTERVENTION NEEDED

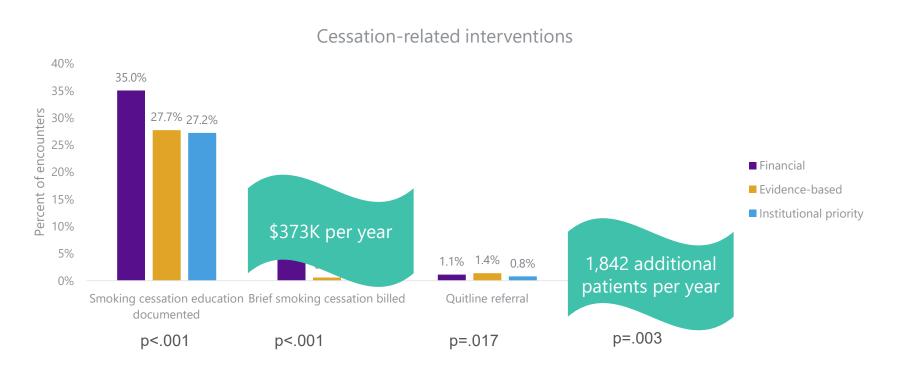
Tobacco cessation counseling is a billable service (3-10 minutes: CPT 99406/0.38 RVU). Charges are automatically filed using the SmartSet documentation.

Financial



RCT: Smoking cessation counseling







RCT: Preventive care outreach

Annual visit call script appointment success rate 50 44.4 45 39.1 29% increase in 40 Percent of phone calls appointment rate; 34.1 29.8 23.2 ■ Adult Pediatric 17.6 15 15.1 54% increase in appointment rate; 10 p = 0.115 0 Original Iteration 1 Iteration 2 Iteration 3 N: 120 132 121 119 125 161 125 142



CHIDS impact to date

- Clinical/operational interventions
- Evaluation and support
- Culture and education
- Reputation
- Grant revenue



Evaluation and support



- Value-based management
- CIN analytics
- Physician quality leadership
- Readmissions oversight committee
- Informatics research
- Digital design lab



VBM evaluation support

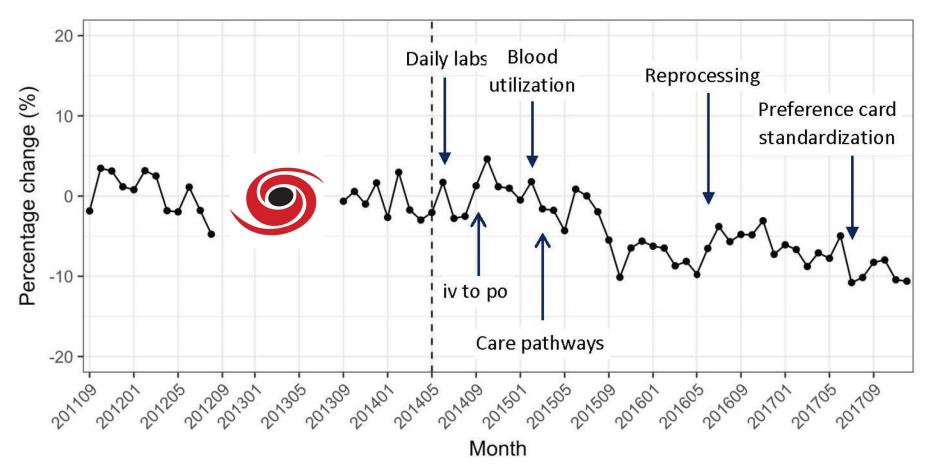


Figure 1 Percentage change in total variable direct costs relative to the preintervention period mean. Costs adjusted for DRG weight; all costs are denominated in September 2011 dollars.

Healthcare delivery system partnership

ORIGINAL RESEARCH

Bending the cost curve: time series analysis of a value transformation programme at an academic medical centre **BMJ Quality & Safety**

Steven C Chatfield, Frank M Volpicelli, Nicole M Adler, 1 Kunhee Lucy Kim, 3,4 Simon A Jones, 3,4 Fritz François, 1,5 Paresh C Shah, 1,6 Robert A Press. 1,7 Leora I Horwitz 2,3,4

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

SOUNDING BOARD

Creating a Learning Health System through Rapid-Cycle, **Randomized Testing**

Leora I. Horwitz, M.D., M.H.S., Masha Kuznetsova, M.P.H., and Simon A. Jones, Ph.D.

RESEARCH © 0 © OPEN ACCESS Factors associated with hospital admission and critical illness among 5279 people with coronavirus disease 2019 in New York Check for updates City: prospective cohort study FAST TRACK Christopher M Petrilli, ^{1,2} Simon A Jones, ^{3,4} Jie Yang, ⁴ Harish Rajagopalan, ² Luke O'Donnell, ¹

Yelena Chernyak, ² Katie A Tobin, ² Robert J Cerfolio, ^{2,5} Fritz François, ^{2,6} Leora I Horwitz^{1,3,4}



Partnership to advance local community health improvement

Community Service Plan DPH leads institution's CHNA & Community Health Improvement portfolio

NYUHC 2019-2021 Community Service Plan: Lower East Side/Chinatown and Sunset Park

Family-centered, multi-sector approach to improving health





Preventing Chronic Disease

- ↓ obesity risk
- tobacco use / SHS exposure

Women, Infants & Children

- supporting parenting
- ↑ health literacy
- ↓ teen pregnancy/ STDs





Partnership - with cities & communities re health/equity improvement

Problem

- Cities can't manage what they can't measure
- Yet health data not analyzed to city level in US

Approach

- City Health Dashboard (RWJF funding)
- 37 measures of health and determinants
- 750 largest US cities (≥ 50,000 pop'n)
- www.cityhealthdashboard.com (check it out!)





Select a Metric

Health Outcomes

Breast Cancer Deaths

COVID Local Risk Index

Cardiovascular Disease Deaths

Colorectal Cancer Deaths

Diabetes

Frequent Mental Distress

Frequent Physical Distress

High Blood Pressure

Life Expectancy

Low Birthweight

Obesity

Opioid Overdose Deaths

Premature Deaths (All Causes)

Social and Economic Factors

Absenteeism

Broadband Connection

Children in Poverty

High School Completion

Housing Cost, Excessive

Income Inequality

Neighborhood Racial/Ethnic Segregation

Racial/Ethnic Diversity

Third-Grade Reading Proficiency

Unemployment

- Current, City-Level
- · Annual, Neighborhood-Level

Violent Crime

Health Behavior

Binge Drinking

Physical Inactivity

Smoking

Teen Births

Physical Environment

Air Pollution - Particulate Matter

Housing with Potential Lead Risk

Lead Exposure Risk Index

Limited Access to Healthy Foods

Park Access

Walkability

Clinical Care

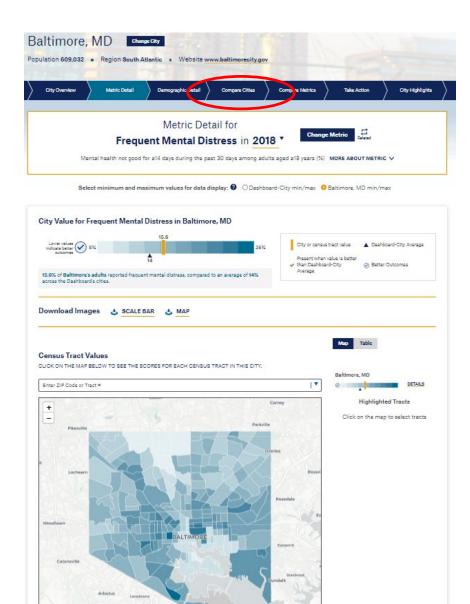
Dental Care

Prenatal Care

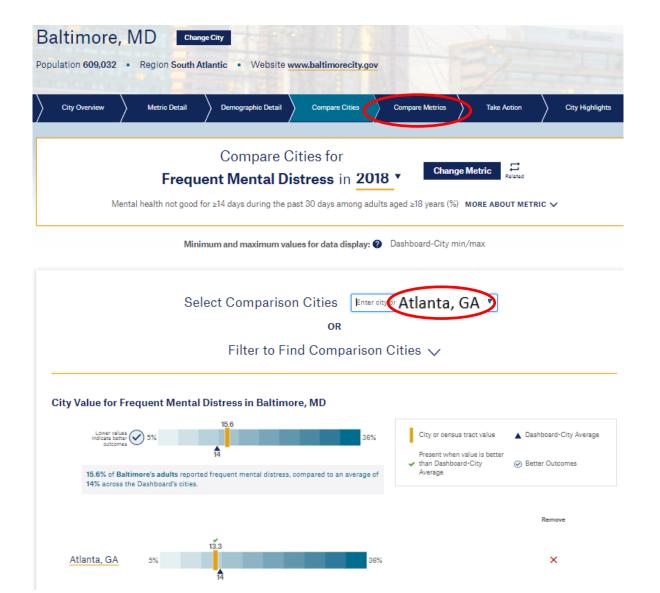
Preventive Services, 65+

Uninsured







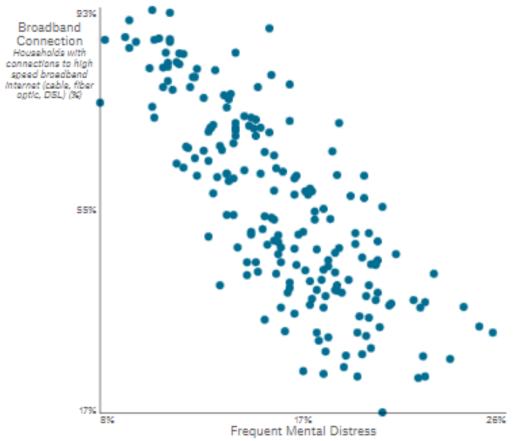




Scatterplot View

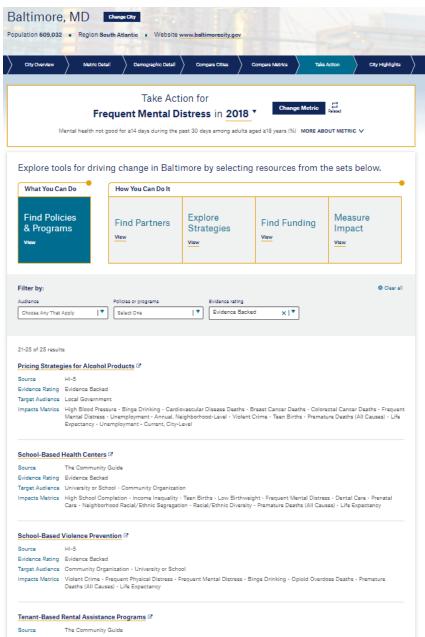
This plot shows the census tract values of frequent mental distress plotted against census tract values of broadband connection in Baltimore, MD. Each point represents a census tract within Baltimore.

Caution is important when examining scatterplots: just because two items are correlated does not mean that one causes the other.



You can click on a point to see the values for a specific census tract.

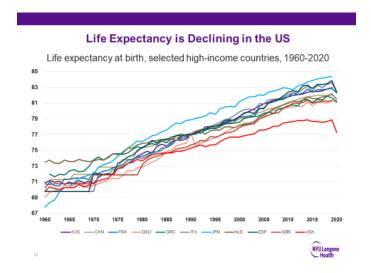
Facilitating city-level access to comparable data



- Data visualization & rich resources
- Steadily growing national uptake
- Myriad research applications
- Catalyzing improvements in population health and health equity



Research: what's really important?







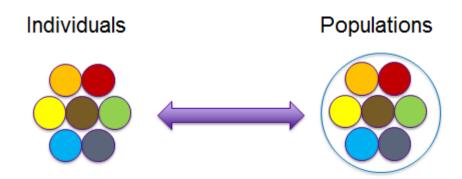


Tensions

- Navigating evolving institutional landscapes
- Boundaries with other departments / entities
 - Methods/analytics
 - Community-partnered research
 - Preventive medicine, community health, family medicine, social medicine, etc.
- Promotion and tenure criteria
- 'Basic science department' categorization
- Diversity of funding sources
- Partnership- and trust-building takes time
- Maximizing policy impact (+/- alignment w/ institutional priorities)
- Maintaining mission focus while delivering on institutional goals



Research: health systems and population health



- How to better align payment with improvements in population health?
 In health equity?
- Does screening for SDH improve meaningful outcomes? When/how?
- Closed loop referral systems: effectiveness?
- Summary measures of health: HALE, WALY, et al.
- Embedding RCTs into daily operations



Research: what drives health, equity and improvement?

- ightharpoonup How does stress get under the skin ightarrow
 - Can the impact of stress on health be attenuated?
- Honing research questions to yield findings that contribute to shaping anti-racist policies (and to dismantling structurally racist ones)?
- Parsing cause & impact among tangled threats & costs (Milstein), leveraging deep data
- Policy evaluation: rigorous, timely, and equity-focused
- Communication, cognitive science and population health
 - What can we learn from the vast natural experiment in which we find ourselves?
 - Tackling disinformation as public health threat
- ➤ Food environment, climate, firearms, universal basic income, education, transportation, housing, deincarceration, e-culture, public safety, social/economic mobility...



In closing

- Dynamic, evolving field!
 - Fundamentally discipline-bridging
 - Porous boundaries: tension and a strength
- Enormous challenges to address
- Stay grounded to local context and community
- Traction through partnerships
- Set sights high
 - What tough, important problems can you make a dent in together?



Questions?

