Identifying and Addressing Health Disparities in your PBHCI Program

What are health disparities?

“Population-specific differences in the presence of disease, health outcomes, or access to health care.”
- Health Resources and Services Administration

Why care about health disparities?

- Disparities negatively affect the quality of life for affected populations
- Disparities cost money
- Addressing disparities may be a requirement of your PBHCI grant agreement
  - Impact statement
  - Implementation plan (including how to review data for health outcomes)
  - Policies and procedures that comply with CLAS standards
It’s easy to develop a PDSA cycle for tracking health and wellness interventions

- **Plan**
  - Identify needs of subsets in your population
  - Identify disparities in outcomes

- **Do**
  - Provide culturally sensitive interventions

- **Study**
  - Review outcomes after implementing new interventions

- **Act**
  - Use new data to determine next course of action

**IDENTIFY NEEDS AND CURRENT OUTCOMES OF POPULATION SUBSETS**

Incidence of Obesity (BMI>25) by Race/Ethnicity

- **Black**
- **Asian**
- **White**
- **Hispanic or Latino**
- **Total**

- **National**
- **PBHCI**

http://kff.org/other-state-indicator/adult-overweight-obesity-rate-by-race-ethnicity/
Incidence of Obesity (BMI > 25) by Gender

To the extent possible, try to make honest comparisons

Incidence of Smoking (daily smoker) by Race/Ethnicity
You can obtain prevalence and outcomes data for your population from two sources:

- TRAC
- Patient Health Registry

Select the Services Outcome Measures (PBHCI only) Report in TRAC

Select all relevant demographic filters

- Gender
  - Female
  - Male
- Ethnicity
  - Hispanic/Latino
  - Not Hispanic/Latino
- Race
  - African-American
  - Asian/Pacific Islander
  - White
Race & Ethnicity in TRAC

- Ethnicity is only entered in TRAC if an individual identifies as Hispanic/Latino. Ethnicity categories are:
  - Central American
  - Cuban
  - Dominican
  - Mexican
  - Puerto Rican
  - South American
  - Other (specify)
  - Multi-Ethnic
- Race is entered for all consumers

Observe prevalence and improvement data

If you have a patient registry, does it track all relevant demographic information?
- Age
- Gender
- LGBT status
- Ethnicity
- Race
- Primary Language
Remember to engage with your evaluation team early in the process

- Create an evaluation plan (including timeline)
- Who will collect data?
- How will you define success?

PROVIDE CULTURALLY SENSITIVE INTERVENTIONS

Find an intervention that is appropriate for your target audience
Resources

- [Integration.samhsa.gov](http://integration.samhsa.gov)
- HHS Office of Minority Health
- CDC Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities
- National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities
- Websites for specific health conditions (diabetes.org)
- ACA guidance on collecting granular data

Also consider policy and system interventions

Examples:
- Healthy food options offered to clients / in vending machines
- Referral system in place to community-based resources that focus on population subset
- Staffing

REVIEW OUTCOMES AFTER IMPLEMENTING NEW INTERVENTIONS
"Hello, evaluator? Have our outcomes improved?"

**USE NEW DATA TO DETERMINE NEXT COURSE OF ACTION**

**How to Act**

- Meet as a team to review the data.
- If the new intervention provided improved health outcomes, you might not want to make a change.
- If the new intervention did not improve health outcomes, consider new interventions.
Upcoming TA Opportunities

Health Disparities Small Working Groups

- Wednesday, March 26
- Wednesday, May 28
- Wednesday, July 23
- Wednesday, September 24