

Fostering Community Health

A Preventive Approach to Reducing Disparities in Health and Safety



www.preventioninstitute.org

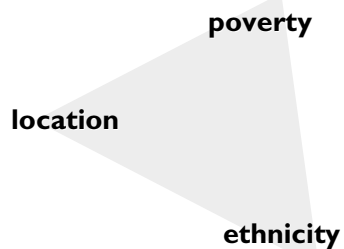
Health Disparities

Differences in the incidence, prevalence, mortality, and burden of diseases and other adverse health conditions that exist among specific populations.

National Institutes of Health

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What Leads to the Greatest Disparities?

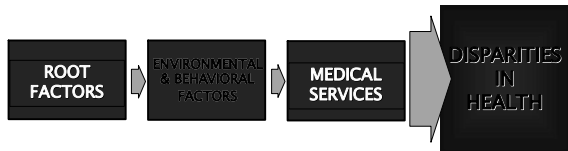


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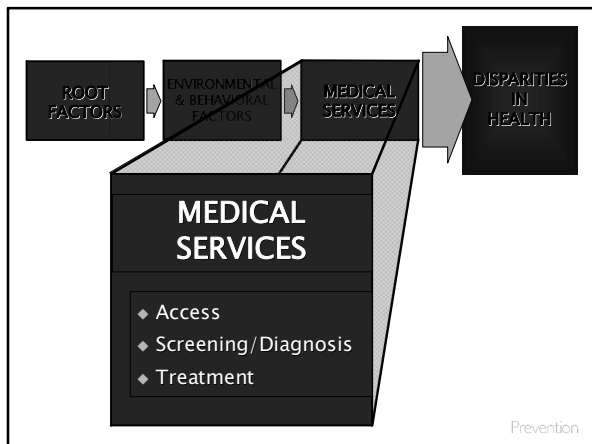
**The same
injuries and
illnesses only
*more so***

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The Trajectory of Health Disparities



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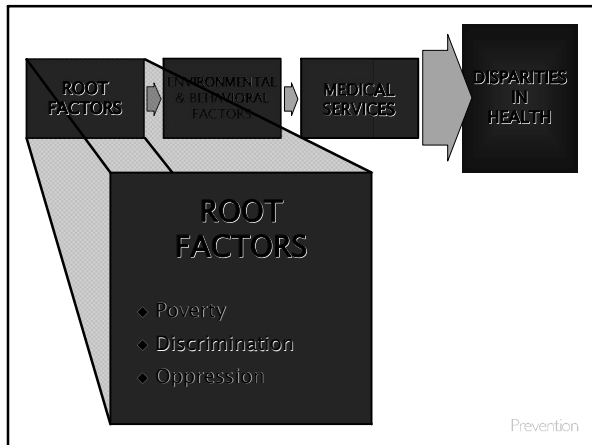


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Medical Care Alone Cannot Reduce Disparities

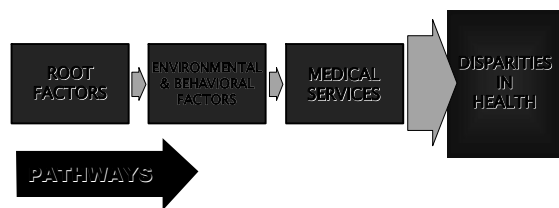
- ◆ Not the primary determinant of health
- ◆ Treats one person at a time
- ◆ Often comes late; can't always restore health

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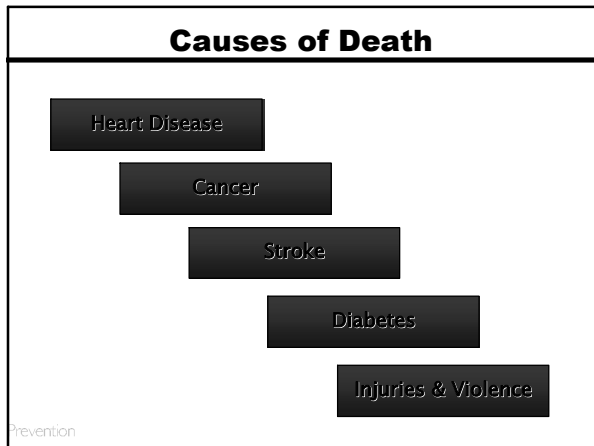


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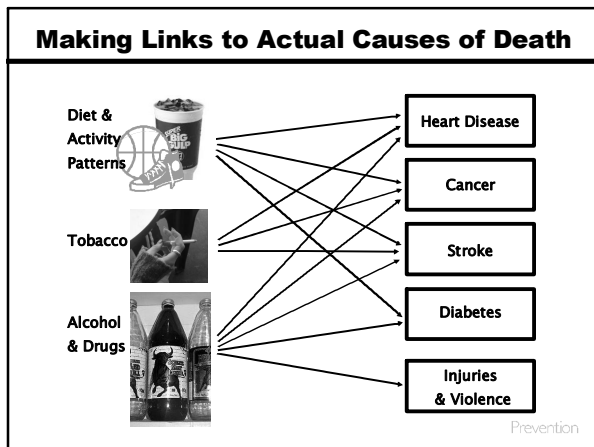
Root Factors are Pathways to Environmental & Behavioral Factors

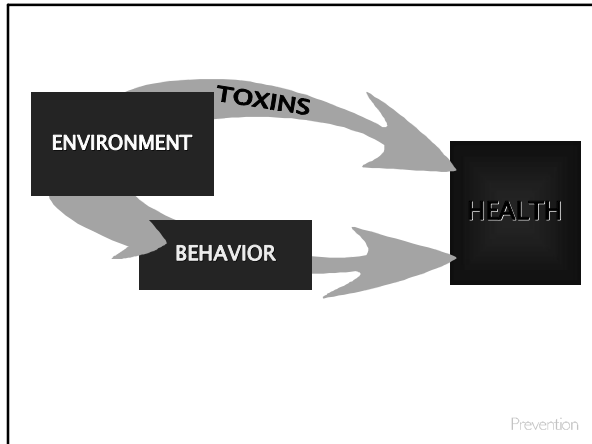


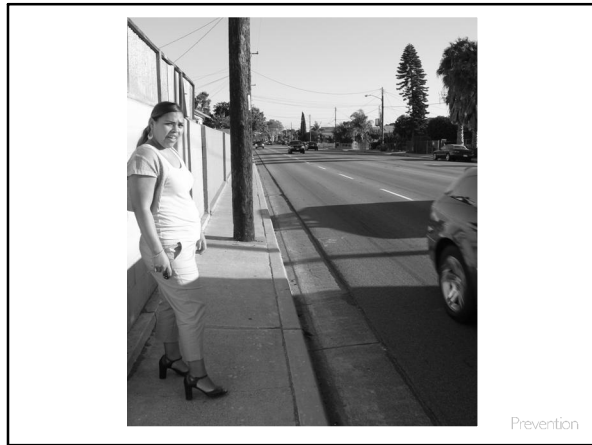
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“It is unreasonable to expect that people will change their behavior *easily* when so many forces in the social, cultural, and physical environment conspire against such change.”

Institute of Medicine

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Let's take another step back...

Community Factors Actual Causes

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Elements of Community Health

Equitable Opportunity

Place

People

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Community Health Factors

Opportunity

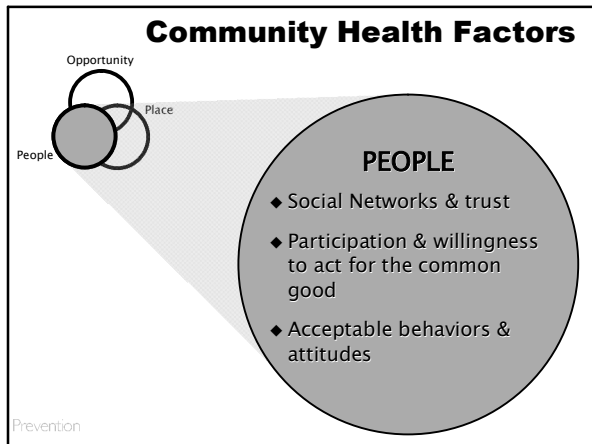
Place

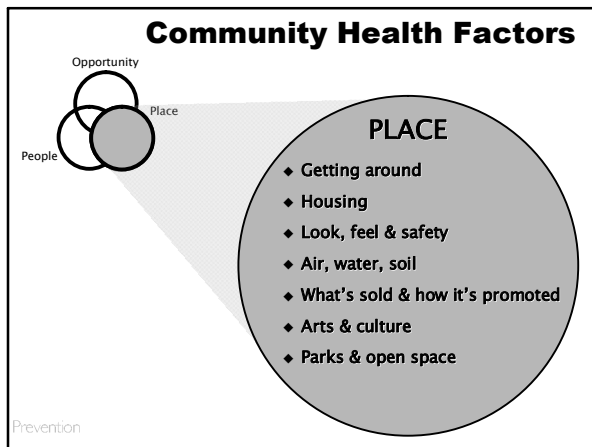
People

EQUITABLE OPPORTUNITY

- ◆ Racial justice
- ◆ Jobs & local ownership
- ◆ Education

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Prevention Strengthens Treatment Outcomes

- ◆ Healthy eating and activity habits are critical for prevention and disease management.
- ◆ Reliable, affordable, and accessible transportation system transports people to screening and treatment appointments.
- ◆ Literacy improves the ability to read and understand prescription labels.
- ◆ Strong social networks are associated with people looking out for each other and taking care of each other during treatment and recovery.

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“The determinants of health are beyond the capacity of any one practitioner or discipline to manage... We must collaborate to survive, as disciplines and as professionals attempting to help our communities and each other.”

—Mitchel and Crittenden,
Washington Public Health Fall 2000

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