

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' (CMS)

Social Determinants of Health (SDoH) Reporting Requirements for Calendar Years 2023 & 2024

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Social Determinants of Health (SDoH) are the conditions in which people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship and age and are recognized as potential predictors of risk that conditions such as diabetes or obesity may develop.¹

SDoH are categorized under 5 domains: economic stability; education access and quality; healthcare access and quality; neighborhood and built environment; and social and community context. Determinants are coded using ICD-10-CM codes in the ranges Z55-Z65.9, based on clinical documentation. CMS mandated SDoH reporting as one of many objectives towards the Healthy People 2030 strategic program.²

There is growing recognition that capturing and accessing SDOH data during the course of a health care visit may help clinicians address non-clinical factors more readily. Health care providers are encouraged to document SDOH data, specifically in clinical notes and assessments sections of an electronic medical record.

- Documentation would help capture these SDOH conditions for CMS data tracking purposes and also billing purposes. When documented, SDOH supports a moderate level of risk of complications and/or morbidity or mortality of patient management.
 - o Example: Documentation that states patient with wound but due to homelessness the wound is not properly cared for due to the living conditions.

The following new measures are *voluntary* for CY 2023 and *mandatory* for CY 2024/FY 2026 payment determination.¹

- 1. Hospital Commitment to Health Equity
- 2. SDoH-1 Screening for Social Drivers of Health
- 3. SDoH-2 Screen Positive Rate for Social Drivers of Health

CMS's Strategic plan includes 5 pillars, with their primary priority being advancing health equity by identifying ways in which social disparities negatively affect health outcomes.³ This Health Equity pillar aims to reduce healthcare costs and improve care for historically underserved populations. Determining the next course of action requires CMS to study SDoH data.

CMS proposed 1 Health Equity and 2 SDoH reporting measures in the 2023 IPPS Final Rule as part of 10 new measures for the Hospital Inpatient Quality Reporting (IQR) program.

Find out more about how CMS recommends we approach collecting SDoH with the CMS Z-Codes Infographic: https://www.cms.gov/files/document/cms-2023-omh-z-code-resource.pdf.

For an in-depth look at the recognized SDOH that clinicians are encouraged to capture in their note, specifically in the assessment and plan, <u>click here to download a tip-sheet</u>.

 $^{^1} https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2022/08/10/2022-16472/medicare-program-hospital-inpatient-prospective-payment-systems-for-acute-care-hospitals-and-the$

² Retrieved from https://health.gov/healthypeople

³ Retrieved on 7/10/2023 from https://www.cms.gov/cms-strategic-plan