

Communicating Social Determinants of Health: A Role for Coding

PRESENTED BY

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AMA: The Physicians' Powerful Ally in Patient Care



AMA: Driving the Future of Digital Health







AMA DIGITAL HEALTH PLAYBOOK SERIES (RPM, TELEHEALTH)



COMPREHENSIVE AMA TELEHEALTH INITIATIVES



DATA STANDARDS & INTEROPERABILITY INITIATIVES



HEALTH 2047



AMA RETURN ON HEALTH RESEARCH & VALUE FRAMEWORK



AI PRINCIPLES



CPT® CODING & PAYMENT GUIDANCE



ENSURING EQUITY
IN INNOVATION



STATE & FEDERAL ADVOCACY



PRIVACY
PRINCIPLES
(PRIVACY BY DESIGN)

Making technology an asset in the delivery of healthcare, not a burden.

Let's warm up with a poll

When you see the **poll** appear in the slide window, click on the **answer**, then click **SUBMIT**.



Poll #1

What is your role in health care?

- Clinician
- Software Developer
- Medical Coder
- Educator
- Health System leader
- Health Plan leader
- EHR provider
- Government administrator
- None of the above

Poll #1 Results

Poll results are a function of the live webinar. Please refer to the webinar recording for a snapshot of the live poll results.

The Gravity Project: New Data Standardization in Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) Data Interoperability

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The Gravity Project

Overview

- Introduction to AMA and health care data initiatives
- Why SDOH are important
- The Gravity Project
- Looking ahead

The Problem with Health Care Data

\$3 trillion a year on health care and generates more health care data than ever before.



Yet, some of the most meaningful data are still inaccessible and incomplete.



The Problem with Health Care Data

Data Liquidity

Data Portability

INACCESSIBLE

Data is largely inaccessible.
However, inaccessibility is only half the solution to the interoperability problem.

INCOMPLETE & INCOMPATIBLE

Once shareable, data is often incomplete and cannot be interpreted by other parties. (Semantic Interoperability)

LACK OF CLINICAL RELEVANCY

A lack of relevant clinical data elements diminishes the value of the data to the health care provider in clinical decision-making.



AMA's Role in Improving Health Care Data

- Established AMA's data standards group called IHMI in 2016
 - Recognized the lack of high-quality data to accurately capture patient function, state, goals and SDOH
 - Established a team of recognized leaders from the global health care data standards community
 - Advances AMA mission objectives through the development of open data standards like HL7[®] FHIR[®]
 - Improving health outcomes hypertension/self-measured blood pressure
 - Increasing health equity SDOH/social needs

→ CPT[®] code set



- 56-year-old procedural language curated by an independent, physicianled, evidence-based process that keeps pace with modern medicine
- Licensees based in over 40 countries



Innovative Strategies Thrive with Greater Collaboration

- AMA aspires to unleash innovative health solutions that address our chronic global health care crises and improve health equity
- No single organization can address these health care challenges alone
- We seek collaborative opportunities with engaged and influential stakeholders addressing major challenges

Today's discussion focuses on a highly-collaborative, successful project that the AMA has been working on since 2019 as a Founding Member.



Introducing the Gravity Project



Consensus-driven Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) Data Standards



One of today's important health care challenges

Slide developed by:

Laura Gottlieb, MD, MPH with permission from Jack Maypole, MD





- **Health Equity** is "achieved when every person has the opportunity to attain his or her full health potential and no one is disadvantaged from achieving this potential because of social position or other socially determined circumstances."
 - Social Determinants of Health: "The conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age," which are "shaped by the distribution of money, power and resources."
 - Protective Factors: Characteristics or strengths of individuals, families, communities or societies that act to mitigate risks and promote positive well-being and healthy development.
 - Social Risks: Adverse social conditions associated with poor health.
 - Social Needs: Non-medical patient prioritized needs that impact health.

Addressing SDOH and its various key areas is an approach that can be used to improve equity and reduce disparities.

Alderwick and Gottlieb (2019) Meanings and Misunderstandings: A Social Determinants of Health Lexicon for Health Care Systems Center for the Study of Social Policy (2018) About Strengthening Families™ and the Protective Factors Framework Physician-Focused Payment Model Technical Advisory Committee (2021) SDOH and Equity Report to the Secretary



Systems Level

Why SDOH are Important

There is growing awareness that SDOH information improves whole person care and lowers cost. Unmet social needs negatively impact health outcomes.

- **Food insecurity** correlates to higher levels of diabetes, hypertension, and heart failure.
- Housing instability factors into lower treatment adherence.
- Transportation barriers result in missed appointments, delayed care and lower medication compliance.

https://www.bridgespan.org/insights/library/public-health/the-community-cure-for-health-care-(1)



SIREN Study: Uses for Social Risk Data in Clinical Settings



Challenges in SDOH Data Capture and Exchange

- Standardization of SDOH data collection and storage
- Data sharing between ecosystem parties
- Access & comfort with digital solutions
- Concerns about information collection and sharing and duplicative data entry
- Social care sector capacity and capabilities

- Unnecessary medicalization of SDOH
- Consent management
- Competing government level networks
- Managing diverse needs of stakeholders
- Sustainable funding models

https://www.nasdoh.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/NASDOH-Data-Interoperability_FINAL.pdf https://aspe.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/migrated_legacy_files//199726/social-determinants-health-data-sharing.pdf







Gravity Project

A collaborative public-private initiative launched in May 2019 with the goal to develop consensus-driven data standards to support the collection, use, and exchange of social determinants of health (SDOH) data.

Project Scope

- Develop data standards to represent and exchange patient level SDOH data documented across four clinical activities:
 - Screening,
 - Assessment/diagnosis,
 - Goal setting, and
 - Treatment/interventions.
- Test and validate standardized SDOH data for use in patient care, care coordination between health and human services sectors, population health management, public health, value-based payment, and clinical research.



FOOD INSECURITY

TRANSPORTATION INSECURITY

HOUSING INSTABILITY

HOMELESSNESS

INADEQUATE HOUSING EDUCATION

ELDER ABUSE

FINANCIAL INSECURITY

INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE (IPV)

MARITAL HARDSHIP

SOCIAL CONNECTEDNESS

UNEMPLOYMENT

STRESS

HEALTH LITERACY

VETERANS

HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE STATUS

MEDICAL COST BURDEN

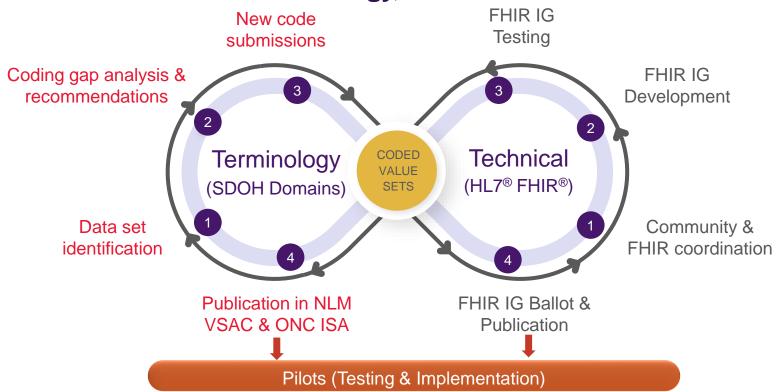
Domains grounded by those listed in the NASEM "Capturing Social and Behavioral Domains in Electronic Health Records" 2014



Project Execution:



Three workstreams - Terminology, Technical & Pilots



Public Collaboration via Two Public Workgroups

Gravity has convened over **2,500+** participants from across the health and human services ecosystem.

Terminology workstream products developed via public collaborative















 $\underline{https://confluence.hl7.org/pages/viewpage.action?pageld=46892669\#JointheGravityProject-GravityProjectMembershipListed (as a proposal page). The third of the project of$

Project Founders, Grants, and In-Kind Support To-Date



8+
PROVIDER
organizations

7+
SOCIAL
SERVICES
organizations

8+
PAYERS

11+
TECHNOLOGY
VENDORS

5+
GOVERNMENT
organizations

Gravity Project Timeline

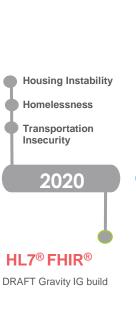
Gravity Project







Proiect









July: Gravity Data Sets in USCDI v3

August: Gravity IG STU1 Published



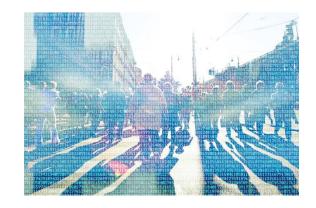
Stakeholder

Group





- Improving Personal Health Outcomes
- Improving Population Health Equity
- Ensuring Personal Control
- Designing Appropriate Solutions
- Ensuring Accountability
- Preventing, Reducing and Remediating Harm



https://confluence.hl7.org/display/GRAV/Gravity+Data+Principles



Technology Workstream



What is FHIR?

FHIR® — Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources

- An HL7 next generation standard
- Helps two computer systems talk to each other

FHIR "resources" are standardized & reusable

Patient, practitioner, organization, deviceRequest

FHIR supports common exchange methods

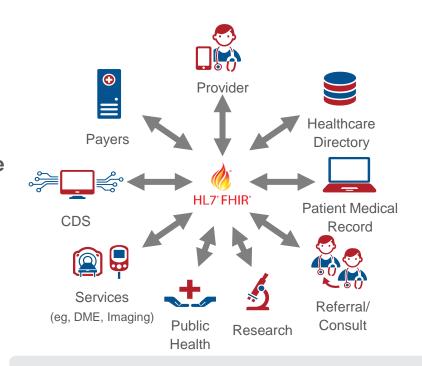
REST*, messaging, documents and services

FHIR supports the spectrum of integration

 Mobile phone apps, EHR-based data sharing, institutional solutions

FHIR helps with existing use cases & provides for future innovation

*Representational State Transfer (REST) defines a set of constraints used for creating web services



Data available in-workflow supports value-based care and population health management

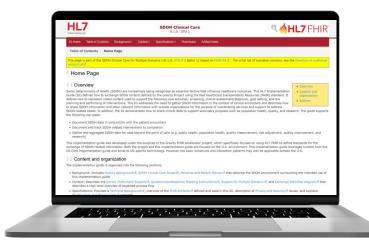
FHIR is a standard published by HL7

HL7, FHIR and the FHIR [FLAME DESIGN] are the registered trademarks of Health Level Seven International and their use does not constitute endorsement by HL7.

HL7 SDOH Clinical Care FHIR® Implementation Guide

gravity PROJECT:

- 1. This is a framework Implementation Guide (IG) and supports multiple domains
- 2. IG support the following clinical activities
 - Assessments
 - Health Concerns / Problems
 - Goals
 - Interventions including referrals
 - Consent
 - Aggregation for exchange/reporting
 - Exchange with patient/client applications
 - Draft specifications for personal characteristics including race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, recorded sex and gender, and personal pronouns
- 3. STU1 published August 2021
- 4. STU2 published November 2022

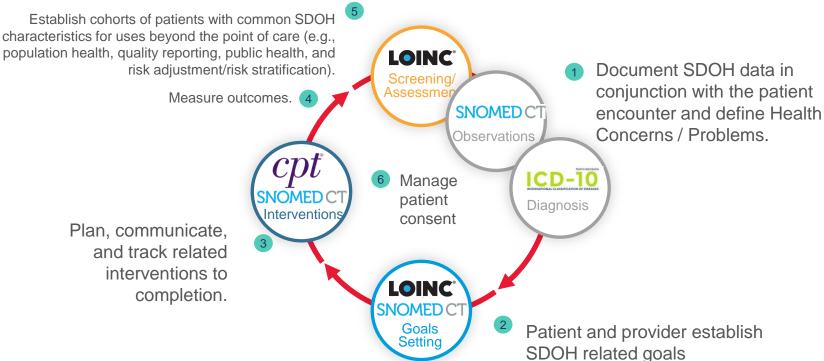


http://hl7.org/fhir/us/sdoh-clinicalcare/STU2/



Technical Workstream FHIR® Implementation Guide Use Cases





http://hl7.org/fhir/us/sdoh-clinicalcare/STU1/





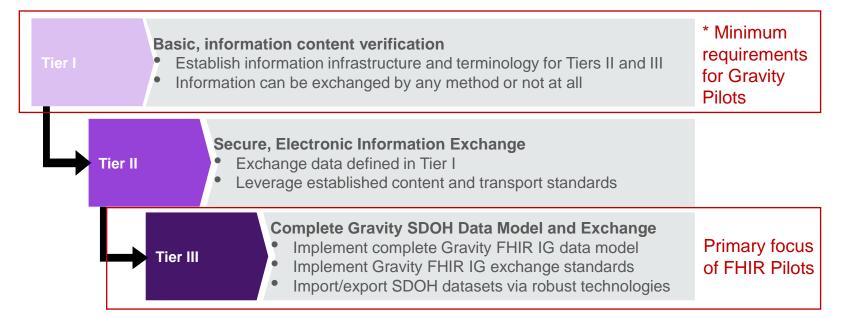
Pilots Workstream



Gravity Project Three-Tiered Piloting Approach



- Defines incremental tiers for testing Gravity standards (terminology and technical)
 - Will allow entities with limited health IT standards adoption to reach attainable milestones during piloting phases.
 - Entities may participate at any tier.



Call for Participation!





- We currently are seeking entities to participate in testing the Gravity defined coded concepts and/or the HL7 SDOH FHIR IG STU1 and/or STU2.
- HL7[®] FHIR[®] Connectathon Jan. 14-15, 2023 (Tier 3)
- The Pilots Affinity Group will convene participating sites via a monthly webinar. To learn more visit: https://confluence.hl7.org/display/GRAV/Gravity+Project+Pilots+Affinity+Workgroup+Home
- Please submit your Pilot interest to gravityproject@emiadvisors.net



Success Factors— Integration of Data Standards into...



POLICY

(e.g., ONC USCDI, CMS Promoting Interoperability, State Medicaid Director Letters)

INNOVATION

New tools for capture, aggregation, analytics and use

PRACTICE

(e.g., repeatable process for adoption, implementation, and use of SDOH data at practice level)

GRANTS

(e.g., ACL Challenge Grant, ONC Health IT LEAP)



PAYMENT MODELS

(e.g., CMMI SDOH Model)

PROGRAMS

(e.g., Medicare Advantage, Medicaid Managed Care, Hospital QRRP, MIPS)



OTHER STANDARDS

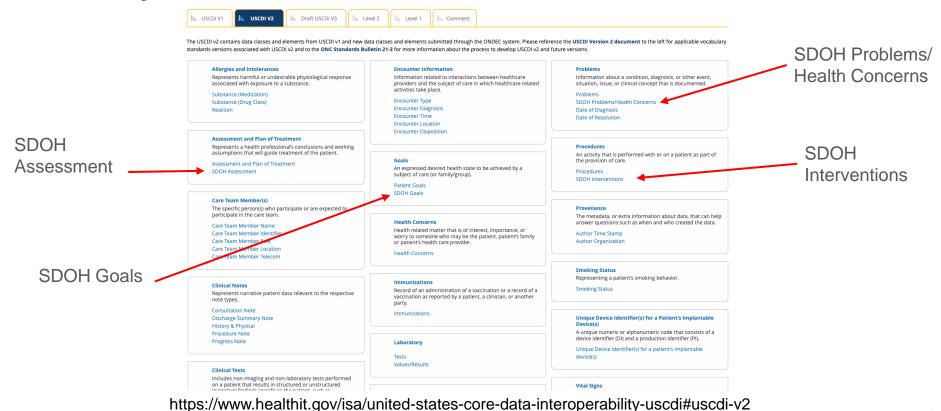
HL7® FHIR® Accelerators (DaVinci, Argonaut, CARIN)





Policy Integration: Gravity USCDIv2





Gravity Standards in Policy, Programs & Grants



- July 2021: Gravity data elements included in ONC USCDI version 2
- April 2022: CMS FY 2023 inpatient prospective payment system and long-term hospitals proposed rule includes voluntary reporting of screening for Social Drivers of Health, including using USCDI v2 SDOH data classes.
- May 2022: CMS CY 2023 Medicare Advantage (MA) and Part D final rule requires Special Needs Plans (SNPs) include standardized questions on housing stability, food security, and access to transportation as part of their currently required health risk assessments.
 - CMS will issue sub-regulatory guidance on the questions but intends to align them with the SDOH Assessment data element in USCDI v2.
- Gravity standards included in three federal grant programs:
 - Administration for Community Living (ACL) Social Care Challenge Grant
 - ONC Leading Edge Acceleration Projects (LEAP) in Health IT Referral Management to Address SDOH Aligned with Clinical Care
 - Administration for Children & Families (ACF) Human Services Interoperability Innovations Grant





Terminology Workstream

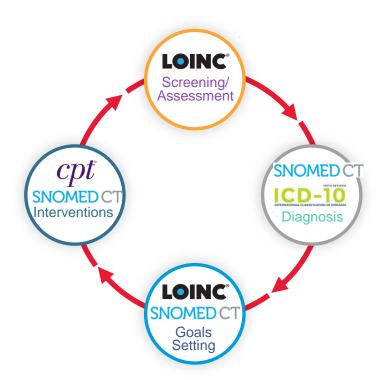




Terminology Workstream Accomplishments



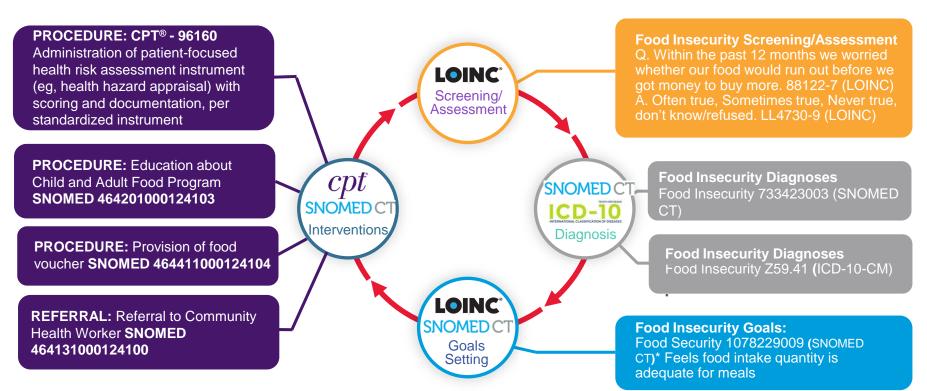
- Data definitions and code submissions for 17 SDOH Domains
- LOINC screener codes available for 15 domains
- ICD-10 z-codes available for 12 domains
- SNOMED-CT Diagnoses codes available for 16 domains
- SNOMED-CT intervention codes available for 17 domains
- Published 123 value sets in National Library of Medicine (NLM)
- Data class included in ONC USCDI v3



https://confluence.hl7.org/display/GRAV/SDOH+Data+Elements+And+Status



Food Insecurity Terminology Build



*Proposed. Not final.



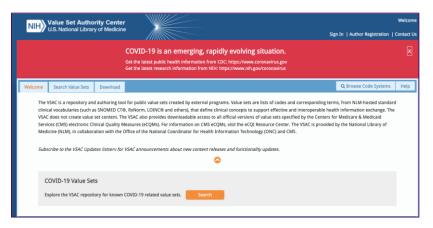
Interventions Framework



Gravity Term	Definitions		
Assistance/Assisting	To give support or aid to; help		
Coaching	Method of instruction, direction, or promoting that can include demonstration, reinforcement, motivation and feedback to improve performance, or achieve a specified goal.		
Coordination	Process of organizing activities and sharing information to improve effectiveness		
Counseling	Psychosocial procedure that involves listening, reflecting, etc. to facilitate recognition of course of action/solution.		
Education	Procedure that is synonymous with those activities such as teaching, demonstration, instruction, explanation, and advice that aim to increase knowledge and skills.		
Evaluation of eligibility (for <x>) Subtype of Evaluation</x>	Process of determining eligibility by evaluating evidence		
Evaluation/Assessment	Determination of a value, conclusion, or inference by evaluating evidence.		
Provision	To supply/make available for use		
Referral	The act of clinicians/providers sending or directing a patient to professionals and/or programs for services (e.g., evaluation, treatment, aid, information, etc.)		

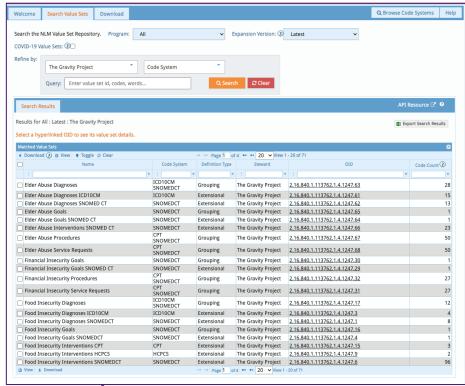
SDOH Value Sets Published in National Library of Medicine Value Set Authority Center (VSAC)





FIRST focused integration of social care concepts in VSAC

Value sets for each individual domain and general SDOH activity sets to align with US Core



Terminology Domains Under Consideration 2023+



Domains

- Digital Access and Digital Literacy
- Food Access
- Neighborhood Safety
- Green space/Environment/Climate
- Discrimination/Bias/Minority Strain
- Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES)
- Expanded Material Hardship elements
- History of Incarceration
- Undocumented Immigrants

Activities

- Collaborate on shared ontologies and open taxonomies.
- Develop supplemental terminology deliverables to address sharing information on social care program eligibility and enrollment.
- Participate in quality measure development to lend coding, content, and measurement insight relevant to Gravity's work.



How to Engage!





Learn More

https://confluence.hl7.org/display/GRAV/Join+the+Gravity+Project

- NOW- Pilot Affinity Group Meets Monthly Thursdays 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. ET
- 2023- SDOH FHIR IG Workgroup weekly on Wednesday from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. ET



- Help us with Gravity education and outreach
 - Use Social Media handles to share or tag us in relevant information
 - @thegravityproj
 - https://www.linkedin.com/company/gravity-project



Help us find new sponsors and partners

Partner with us on development of blogs, manuscripts, dissemination materials



CPT's Role in SDOH

Leslie Prellwitz, MBA, CCS, CCS-P

Director, CPT® Content Management and Development

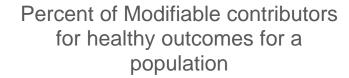
American Medical Association

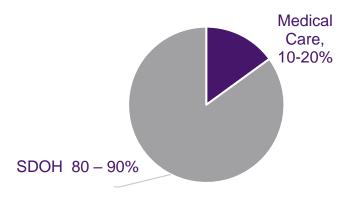


SDOH Widely Impact Health Outcomes

Social Determinants of Health







Social Determinants of Health

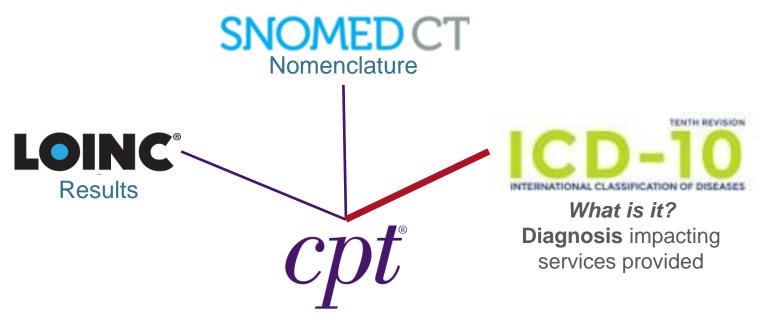
Copyright-free

Healthy People 2030

Graphic source: Healthy People 2030, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. Retrieved 10-31-2022, from https://health.gov/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/social-determinants-health
https://cookcountyhealth.org/wp-content/uploads/SP-discussion-Health-Equity-article-3-02-27-19.pdf



SDOH: CPT® Connection to Other Code Sets



What's being done about it?

Medical services and procedures performed by physicians/QHPs

Strongest connection: CPT and ICD-10-CM



CPT's Role in SDOH – Two Forms

Explicit
Built directly
into Code
selection
algorithms

Implicit
Addressing
SDOH during
encounter
influences key
code selection
outcome (e.g.,
time)

CPT's Role in SDOH: E/M Visits Using Medical Decision **Making**

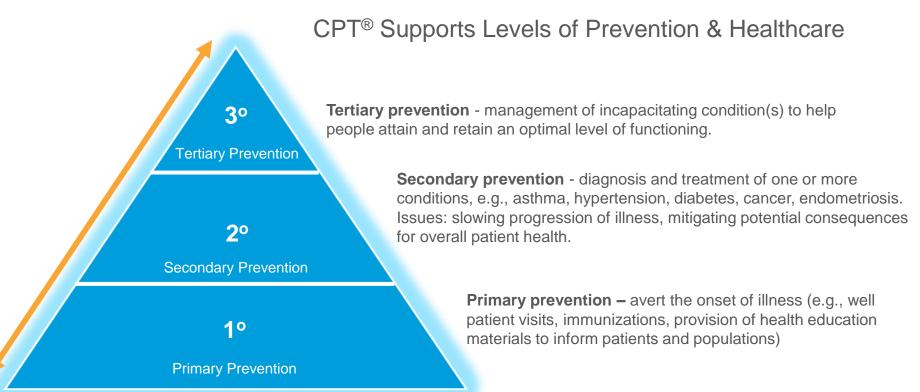
2021: Recognition

Table 1: Levels of Medical Decision Making (MDM) ► Elements of Medical Decision Making Amount and/or Complexity of Data to Be 202-99499 Level of MDM Reviewed and Analyzed (Based on 2 out Number and Complexity *Each unique test, order, or document Risk of Complications and/or contributes to the combination of Morbidity or Mortality of Patient at the Encounter 2 or combination of 3 in Category 1 below. Moderate Moderate Moderate risk of morbidity from 1 or more chronic (Must meet the requirements of at least 1 out of 3 additional diagnostic testing or illnesses with treatment Category 1: Tests, documents, or independent Examples only: Prescription drug management Any combination of 3 from the following: ■ Decision regarding minor surgery with Review of prior external note(s) from each unique identified patient or procedure risk 2 or more stable, chronic illnesses; . Review of the result(s) of each unique test*; Decision regarding elective major . Ordering of each unique test*; surgery without identified patient or 1 undiagnosed new · Assessment requiring an independent historian(s) problem with uncertain Diagnosis or treatment significantly Category 2: Independent interpretation of tests limited by social determinants of health Independent interpretation of a test performed by 1 acute illness with another physician/other qualified health care professional (not separately reported); systemic symptoms; 1 acute, complicated Category 3: Discussion of management or test Discussion of management or test interpretation with external physician/other qualified health care

2023: Expansion

Visit Service Category	2021	2023
Office or Other Outpatient	X	X
Inpatient		X
Observation Care		X
Consultations		X
Emergency Department		X
Nursing Facility		Χ
Home / Residence		X

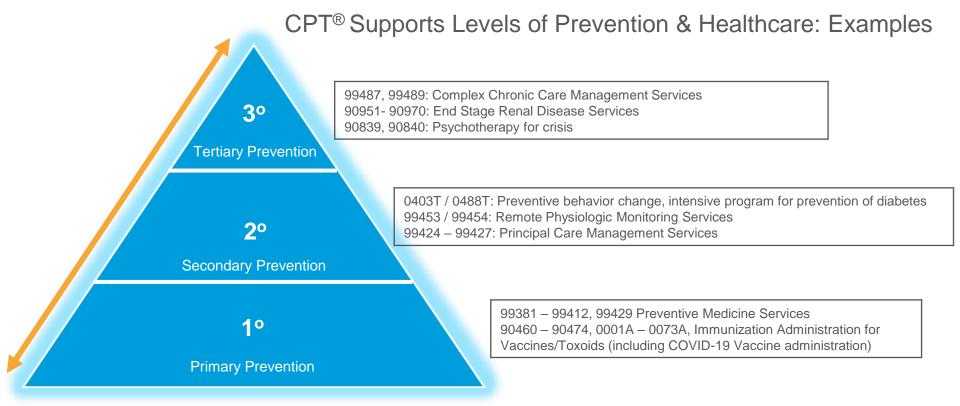
CPT's Role in SDOH: Beyond MDM



Prevention levels originate from: Leavell, Hugh Rodman, and E. Gurney Clark. "Textbook of preventive medicine." Textbook of Preventive Medicine. (1953).



CPT's Role in SDOH: Beyond MDM



Prevention levels originate from: Leavell, Hugh Rodman, and E. Gurney Clark. "Textbook of preventive medicine." Textbook of Preventive Medicine. (1953).



Questions?



The Gravity Project:
New Data Standardization in
Social Determinants of Health (SDOH)
Data Interoperability

- → Consensus-driven SDOH Data Standards
- **→** Technology Workstream
- **→** Pilots Workstream
- **→** Success Factors
- **→** Terminology Workstream
- **→** How to Engage



CPT's Role in SDOH



Stay informed with AMA resources

The AMA Center for Health Equity was created to embed health equity across the organization so that health equity becomes part of the practice, process, action, innovation and organizational performance and outcomes.

ama-assn.org/deliveringcare/health-equity

The In Full Health Learning & Action Community to Advance Equitable Health Innovation initiative seeks to advance equitable opportunities in health innovation investment, solution development

and purchasing.

InFullHealth.org

The AMA Ed Hub™ is a unified education portal that provides a personalized experience for physicians and their care teams to keep current, increase their professional satisfaction, claim continuing education credits and continuously improve the care they provide. Find modules on CPT, E/M guidelines, Equity, Public Health and more!

amaedhub.com

Designed to address the needs of developers and creators of health technology and services, the CPT®

Developer Program offers access to AMA-published content from Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) during the crucial stages of development.

developer.ama-assn.org

The Future of Health Report was prepared by the AMA and Manatt Health and builds off of the AMA's Return on Health research to explore and define the disconnect between the transformative potential of digital health and the reality of its impact today, offer a blueprint to optimize digitally enabled care, and share stakeholder opportunities to leverage digital care through case examples from various organizations.

https://www.ama-assn.org/practicemanagement/digital/ama-future-healthreport

The Physician Innovation Network connects physicians and entrepreneurs to partner on new digital health care solutions.

innovationmatch.ama-assn.org



Next Steps



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Physicians' powerful ally in patient care