

Committee: New York City Society of Health-system Pharmacists

**Topic: Pharmacist Involvement in Assessing Social Determinants of Health**

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Whereas, the United States Department of Health & Human Services Healthy People initiative created goals to address the social determinants of health (SDOH) in order to reduce health disparities and achieve health equity for the health and well-being of all humans.<sup>1</sup>

Whereas, The Joint Commission's updated their 2023 standards to address health care disparities for all organizations in the Joint Commission's ambulatory health care, behavioral health care and human services, critical access hospital, and hospital accreditation programs.<sup>2</sup>

Whereas, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services mandated in their 2023 Inpatient Prospective Payment System Final Rule that hospitals reporting to the Inpatient Quality Reporting (IQR) program submit two brand new measures: screening for social drivers of health and screening positive rates for social drivers of health to get all hospitals systematically collecting patient-level social risk factor data in order to create meaningful collaboration between healthcare providers and community-based organizations.<sup>3</sup>

Whereas, the American Society of Health-System Pharmacy maintains that pharmacists play a vital role in maintaining and promoting public health.<sup>4</sup>

Resolved That:

The New York State Council of Health-system Pharmacists supports the inclusion of pharmacists in identifying and addressing social determinants of health as part of their routine practice to deliver quality patient care

Date: November 16, 2022

By:

Sefa Kploanyi, PharmD, BCPS



Elizabeth Cobb, PharmD



## References:

1. US Department of Health and Human Services Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Healthy People 2030: Social Determinants of Health. 2022  
<https://health.gov/healthypeople/priority-areas/social-determinants-health>
2. New and revised requirements to reduce health care disparities (no date) The Joint Commission. Available at: <https://www.jointcommission.org/standards/prepublication-standards/new-and-revised-requirements-to-reduce-health-care-disparities/> (Accessed: November 16, 2022).
3. FY 2023 IPPS final rule. CMS. Available at: <https://www.cms.gov/medicare/acute-inpatient-pps/fy-2023-ipp-pps-final-rule-home-page#FinalRule> (Accessed: November 16, 2022).
4. Cameron G, Chandra RN, Ivey MF, et al. ASHP Statement on the Pharmacist's Role in Public Health. *Am J Health Syst Pharm.* 2022;79(5):388-399. doi:10.1093/ajhp/zxab338
5. Kiles TM, Peroulas D, Borja-Hart N. Defining the role of pharmacists in addressing the social determinants of health. *Res Social Adm Pharm.* 2022;18(9):3699-3703. doi:10.1016/j.sapharm.2022.01.005