

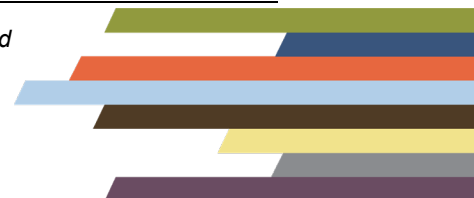


Important Concepts in Understanding Why Health Equity Matters in Prevention

Behavioral Health Equity is the right to access quality health care for all populations regardless of the individual's race, ethnicity, gender, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, or geographical location (SAMHSA, 2020). In prevention, this means improving access to services for those community members most affected by substance use problems. This document provides definitions for the most common terms used in discussing why health equity matters in prevention. For more in-depth learning, read the reference list provided.

Terms and Definition

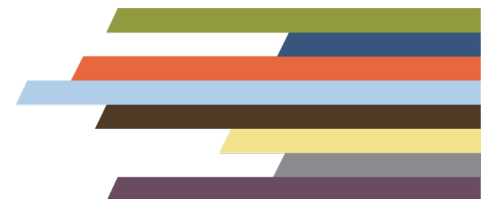
CLAS Standards	Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) Standards is a way to improve the quality of services provided to all individuals, which will ultimately help reduce health disparities and achieve health equity (Office of Minority Health, 2020). There are 15 standards.
Culture	Integrated patterns of human behavior that include the language, thoughts, communications, actions, customs, beliefs, values, and institutions of racial, ethnic, religious, or social groups (Griswold, 2008).
Health Equity	“Health equity is the principle underlying a commitment to reduce—and, ultimately, eliminate—disparities in health and in its determinants, including social determinants” (Braveman, 2014).
Health Disparity	“Although the term <i>disparities</i> is often interpreted to mean racial or ethnic disparities, many dimensions of disparity exist in the United States, particularly in health. If a health outcome is seen to a greater or lesser extent between populations, there is disparity. Race or ethnicity, sex, sexual identity, age, disability, socioeconomic status, and geographic location all contribute to an individual's ability to achieve good health” (Office of Disease Prevention, <i>Disparities</i> 2020).



Health Inequity	“Systematic differences in the opportunities groups have to achieve optimal health, leading to unfair and avoidable differences in health outcomes” (Sciences, Baciú, Geller, & Negussie, 2017). Systematic differences include unequal access to quality education, healthcare, housing, transportation, food and other resources. The health inequity is the focal issue(s) that need to be addressed as means of reducing health disparities and improving health equity.
Hybrid Prevention Program	Innovative program design that embeds adaptations to enhance program fit while also maximizing fidelity of implementation and program effectiveness (Castro, Barrera, & Martinez, 2004).
Program Adaptation	“The modification of program content to accommodate the needs of a specific consumer group” (Castro, Barrera, & Martinez, 2004).
Social Determinants of Health	Conditions in the environments in which people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality-of-life outcomes and risks (Office of Disease Prevention, <i>Social Determinants of Health</i> 2020).

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