

ACHIEVING HEALTH EQUITY: A ROADMAP TO ELIMINATING DISPARITIES

Health disparities are avoidable and unfair differences in the health of people, and they cost us all. *Achieving Health Equity: A Roadmap To Eliminating Disparities*, a report conducted by Economist Impact and sponsored by ViiV Healthcare, explores the opportunities that could be created if we could eliminate health disparities in the UK and US over the next 20 years.

The HIV epidemic is one of many healthcare issues impacted by, and connected to, unfair differences in healthcare. A person's ability to successfully navigate HIV often depends on their age, race, ethnic group, sexual and gender identities.

Using connections between the COVID-19 pandemic, HIV + STIs and mental health as a window to view the reality of health inequities, the report goes beyond describing health disparities and creates a roadmap for action.

The report:



Provides the clear case for why action is needed



Identifies stakeholders who can combat disparities



Brings forth the actions that can be taken to address disparities

Visit viiVhealthcare.com to download a copy of the *Achieving Health Equity: A Roadmap To Eliminating Disparities*

GETTING THERE: IDENTIFYING THE GROUPS THAT CAN MAKE CHANGE HAPPEN

There are seven core groups of stakeholders who have the potential to directly influence health disparities and must work together co-operatively and collaboratively to achieve the common goal of ending health disparities.



Community Level

Validators

Trustworthy individuals and community orgs that lend support to the medical community. They bridge trust, bias, and stigma gaps between clinics and communities Example?

Healthcare Workers

People working within a health system (e.g., Doctors, Nurses) who interact with individuals/communities

Community Networks

Community advocacy and peer groups that fill gaps where the system is unable to reach



System Level

Industry

Private sector companies that directly contribute to health (e.g., pharmaceutical industry, med-tech companies)

Funders

Public and private sector groups that allocate funding to particular services and areas

Non-health institutions

Government and other orgs responsible for housing, jobs, and education that contribute to the health of a population

Health institutions

Orgs within a health system (e.g., clinics, hospitals, health boards)



THE ROAD AHEAD: RECOMMENDED ACTIONS FOR KEY GROUPS



Inaction can be as powerful as action. To eliminate health disparities, key groups at a community and system level must work together to take action:



1

Restructure health systems to incentivise prevention for both physical and mental health

2

Reimagine investment beyond the upfront cost towards longer term investments and measurements of success

3

Make practical changes that improve collaboration, like improved data sharing and better communication between health providers that can improve health equity

4

Improve knowledge of how to best reach certain populations by incorporating best practices from outside the health sector