

## Development of the Community Health Improvement Navigator Database of Interventions



## CONTENTS

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Background .....	1
Methods.....	2
Results .....	5
Discussion .....	6
Limitations .....	7
Conclusion .....	7
References.....	8

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# Development of the Community Health Improvement Navigator Database of Interventions

Brita Roy, MD<sup>1</sup>  
 Joel Stanojevich, MPH<sup>2</sup>  
 Paul Stange, MPH<sup>3</sup>  
 Nafisa Jiwani, MPH<sup>3</sup>  
 Raymond King, PhD<sup>4</sup>  
 Denise Koo, MD<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, Connecticut

<sup>2</sup>Center for Global Health, CDC, Atlanta, Georgia

<sup>3</sup>Office of Associate Director for Policy, CDC, Atlanta, Georgia

<sup>4</sup>National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, CDC, Atlanta, Georgia

**Corresponding author:** Brita Roy, MD, Department of Internal Medicine, Yale University School of Medicine. Telephone: 203-785-5564; E-mail: brita.roy@yale.edu.

## Summary

*With the passage of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, the requirements for hospitals to achieve tax-exempt status include performing a triennial community health needs assessment and developing a plan to address identified needs. To address community health needs, multisector collaborative efforts to improve both health care and non-health care determinants of health outcomes have been the most effective and sustainable. In 2015, CDC released the Community Health Improvement Navigator to facilitate the development of these efforts. This report describes the development of the database of interventions included in the Community Health Improvement Navigator. The database of interventions allows the user to easily search for multisector, collaborative, evidence-based interventions to address the underlying causes of the greatest morbidity and mortality in the United States: tobacco use and exposure, physical inactivity, unhealthy diet, high cholesterol, high blood pressure, diabetes, and obesity.*

## Background

Population-level health outcomes in the United States, including life expectancy and infant mortality rates, lag behind those of other countries in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, despite spending the greatest percentage of its gross domestic product on health care (1–5). To attenuate this gap, health care payment models are shifting away from rewarding volume of service and toward rewarding value based on health outcomes (6,7). However, focusing on clinical improvements alone is unlikely to substantially improve population health outcomes (8). During the 20th century, most causes of and contributing factors to morbidity and mortality within the United States shifted from infectious to chronic (9). The underlying causes of these chronic illnesses are associated with complex social, behavioral, and environmental factors (10).

Various models describe the determinants of health outcomes, each emphasizing the relative contribution of health care and other factors (e.g., health behaviors and socioeconomic factors) to health outcomes and the interdependence of these factors (10–15). These models indicate that health care accounts for 10%–20% of health outcomes, whereas socioeconomic factors account for up to 40% (11). This underscores the importance of collaboration between health systems and non-health care sectors to prevent disease and improve community health

outcomes (16–21). Non-health care partners might include public health, businesses, the local government, community members, and community-based organizations. These sectors can work together with health systems to create sustained changes that address the root causes of disease, including socioeconomic factors, the physical environment, health behaviors, and clinical care (22). Simultaneous interventions in multiple areas, both within and outside the health care system, have the greatest sustained improvements in community and population health ([http://www.cdc.gov/chinav/docs/chinav\\_infographic.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/chinav/docs/chinav_infographic.pdf)). For example, in Maine, collaboration among health systems, the public health field, and multiple community organizations resulted in a multicomponent strategy to improve and maintain control of cardiovascular risk factors for hypertension, hyperlipidemia, and tobacco use over a 40-year period (23).

Policies in the United States are beginning to reinforce these findings. To be eligible for tax-exempt status, also known as 501(c)(3) status, hospitals must meet requirements established by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Before passage of Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) in March 2010, many hospitals met the IRS requirements for tax-exempt status through increasing access to medical care to those without insurance or by making clinical care for indigent patients more efficient (24).

Although beneficial, these efforts did not address the root causes of disease. For example, although a tax-exempt hospital might have provided free diabetes medications and medical care for diabetic patients without insurance, if the hospital did not also address the underlying causes of type 2 diabetes (e.g., access to healthy foods and safe locations for physical activity), diabetes-related outcomes among these patients might not have improved substantially or might have worsened.

There are new requirements for nonprofit hospitals to maintain their tax-exempt status. With the passage of ACA regulations, tax-exempt hospitals are provided incentives to create and sustain multisector collaborations to address underlying causes of disease. Every 3 years, tax-exempt hospitals must conduct a community health needs assessment and develop an implementation plan to address identified needs. These needs assessments are required to solicit input from government public health officials (25). In addition, the ACA regulation allows for joint implementation strategies and input from other community members, including health care consumers and advocates, community-based organizations, academic experts, school districts, health care providers, and neighboring hospitals. The regulation requires a description of the community health needs assessment process, communities served by the organization, and how the activities promote the health of the communities served by the organization. Such collaborative interventions have the added benefit of better preparing hospitals for imminent value-based payment models (26), and, most importantly, for improving the overall health of their communities.

To ensure short- and long-term success, IRS allows hospital administrators and their partners to seek multisector, collaborative, evidence-based interventions to address the priority health needs identified in their communities (18,27). For example, to reduce rates of childhood obesity in a community, a hospital and its community partners might benefit from finding ways to coach families about healthy eating, increase access to healthy foods, and create safe places to walk and play. Accordingly, in addition to increasing time available for clinicians to counsel families on the importance of healthy food choices and preparation, partnerships might include collaboration with school superintendents and local grocers or farmers markets to increase children's access to fresh fruits and vegetables in school meals and through school gardens. Another partnership could involve the US Department of Transportation creating safe places to walk by building sidewalks and enlisting crossing guards to increase the feasibility and safety of walking school-bus programs, programs in which adults walk students to school along a specific route (28–30). Together, changes such as these are likely to have a

substantial, long-lasting impact in the community and reduce future health care costs (10,18,27).

No easily accessible, comprehensive inventory exists that is designed for hospitals to identify effective evidence-based multisector strategies to improve community health. This report describes an online tool intended to support this type of collaboration: the CDC Community Health Improvement Navigator (CHI Navigator). The CHI Navigator provides resources that describe the necessity of collaborative approaches to improve community health, offers tools reviewed by experts to establish and maintain effective collaborations, and assists users in finding effective interventions to improve community health and well-being. This report focuses on the development of a critical component of the CHI Navigator: the database of evidence-based interventions (available at <http://www.cdc.gov/CHInav>). The conceptual framework and methods used in the development of the database of interventions are described in detail. Hospital administrators can use the CHI Navigator's database of interventions to select and implement evidence-based interventions that have been effective in similar communities with similar collaborators to develop plans to address problems identified in the triennial community health needs assessment, in alignment with the IRS requirements for tax-exempt status.

## Methods

In 2015, CDC released the CHI Navigator, a freely available website that supports hospitals, public health, and other community stakeholders in their work to improve the health of their communities. The CHI Navigator includes an easily understandable visual representation of the reasons for working collaboratively with non-health care sectors to improve health ([http://www.cdc.gov/chinav/docs/chi\\_nav\\_infographic.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/chinav/docs/chi_nav_infographic.pdf)), describes hospital-specific examples of successful collaborative interventions, and provides resources and tools to support the process of long-term collaboration and community health improvement. The CHI Navigator guides the user through steps of community action adapted from the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute County Health Rankings and Roadmaps site (11): 1) assess needs and resources, 2) focus on what is important, 3) choose effective policies and programs, 4) act on what is important, and 5) evaluate actions.

As part of step 3, CDC developed the CHI Navigator database of interventions so that the user can identify evidence-based interventions to address the risk factors for the causes of the most substantial morbidity and mortality in the United States: tobacco use and exposure, physical



inactivity, unhealthy diet, high cholesterol, high blood pressure, diabetes, and obesity (26). The goal is to assist hospitals and their associated health care organizations and community partners in identifying relevant interventions that they can adapt to have the greatest collective impact on improving their community's health and well-being. Accordingly, the CHI Navigator database of interventions guides hospitals and their affiliated health systems and community partners in identifying multisector collaborative interventions in the four action areas: 1) socioeconomic factors, 2) the physical environment, 3) health behaviors, and 4) clinical care.

## Development of the Database of Interventions

In 2014, CDC convened a team to create the CHI Navigator database of interventions; members included two physicians, four public health researchers and program developers, and later in the process, web designers. This CDC team began by scanning available online resources to identify evidence-based interventions to improve community health (Selection of Source Databases) and established partnerships with organizations that had created sources that would be included in the CHI Navigator database of interventions. Then the team identified multisector collaborative interventions addressing at least one of the causes of greatest morbidity and mortality in the United States, listed previously (Identification of Interventions). Finally, the interventions were organized into categories to help users search for adaptable interventions (Creation of Sorting Filters).

## Selection of Source Databases

The CDC team developed a comprehensive, queryable database of evidence-based interventions that address the following modifiable causes of the greatest morbidity and mortality in the United States: smoking, hypertension, hyperlipidemia, obesity, poor diet, and inactivity (31). Existing databases of interventions were identified that met the following inclusion criteria at the time of development (August 2014): the database had to be free; be accessible online; be navigable using easily accessible, predefined filters or table of contents; be fully developed and complete; provide evidence ratings with clearly defined methods; provide source information and references to the original studies; clearly define outcomes assessed that are related to the conditions of interest; include interventions requiring cross-sector collaboration between two or more sectors (e.g., health care and public health); and include interventions not already covered in other databases in the CHI Navigator (iteratively performed, with *The Guide*

to *Community Preventive Services [The Community Guide]* as the first database included).

## Identification of Interventions

Selected databases provided two distinct types of entries: 1) summary recommendations based on systematic review or synthesis of current evidence from multiple studies and other evidence-based sources (i.e., reviews) or 2) scientific evaluation of the efficacy of an intervention in a single study (i.e., individual studies). Reviews were defined as reports that provided a summary of a body of evidence that an intervention strategy (or general category of intervention) generally achieved the intended outcomes, whereas individual studies were defined as reports describing a particular intervention that achieved desired outcomes in one or more settings. Individual studies often demonstrated specific examples in greater detail than were outlined in reviews of intervention strategies, or they described approaches that did not yet have the evidence base to warrant a review.

Reviews were drawn from *The Community Guide*; the American Heart Association (AHA) *Guide for Improving Cardiovascular Health at the Community Level, 2013 Update*; and the University of Wisconsin County Health Rankings and Roadmaps (CHRR) website, What Works for Health (funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation). Reviews included from source databases met all of the following criteria (Table 1):

1. Review includes systematic reviews or synthesis of strategies tested in more than one study and demonstrating strong or sufficient evidence to suggest a given strategy is beneficial and will likely achieve its intended outcomes.
2. Review is related to one or more modifiable risk factors or social or economic risk factors of interest for the database as described previously.
3. Review describes interdisciplinary, systems-based, or community-based approaches that enhance effectiveness of usual or existing clinical activities.

Duplicate reviews from different source databases were reconciled by using the source that was most recently updated.

Individual studies were identified in the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality Health Care Innovations Exchange (AHRQ), the Healthy Communities Institute (HCI) database of promising practices, and the New York Academy of Medicine (NYAM) and Trust for America's Health *A Compendium of Proven Community-Based Prevention Programs*. Interventions included from databases of individual studies met all of the following criteria (Table 1):

**TABLE 1. Characteristics of source databases included in the Community Health Improvement Navigator database of interventions**

Source database	Item type	Subject terms used to identify reviews or interventions	Level of evidence used for selection	No. of items included
<i>The Guide to Community Preventive Services (The Community Guide)</i> <a href="http://www.thecommunityguide.org">http://www.thecommunityguide.org</a>	General reviews	Cardiovascular disease; diabetes; nutrition; obesity; physical activity; social environment; tobacco	<b>Recommended:</b> Strong or sufficient evidence to suggest intervention has a beneficial effect in achieving the intended outcomes	17
University of Wisconsin County Health Rankings and Roadmaps: What Works for Health, funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation <a href="http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/roadmaps/what-works-for-health">http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/roadmaps/what-works-for-health</a>	General reviews	Tobacco use; diet and exercise (including high blood pressure, high cholesterol, obesity, and diabetes); education; employment; housing and transit	<b>Scientifically supported:</b> Most likely to make a difference; tested in many robust studies with consistently positive results  <b>Some evidence:</b> Likely to work, but additional research is needed to confirm effects; has been tested more than once and had overall positive results	81
American Heart Association <i>Guide for Improving Cardiovascular Health at the Community Level, 2013 Update</i> <a href="http://circ.ahajournals.org/content/127/16/1730">http://circ.ahajournals.org/content/127/16/1730</a>	General reviews	Media and education; community organization and partnering; environmental change; policy change	Systematic reviews, evidence summaries, and population goals	1
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality Health Care Innovations Exchange <a href="https://www.innovations.ahrq.gov">https://www.innovations.ahrq.gov</a>	Example interventions	Cardiovascular care (including high blood pressure, high cholesterol, and physical inactivity); diet and nutrition (including obesity); endocrinologic and metabolic care (including diabetes); substance abuse (including tobacco use and exposure)	<b>Strong:</b> Randomized trial <b>Moderate:</b> Quasiexperimental design	52
Healthy Communities Institute database of promising practices <a href="http://cdc.thehcn.net/index.php?module=promisepRACTICE&amp;controller=index&amp;action=index">http://cdc.thehcn.net/index.php?module=promisepRACTICE&amp;controller=index&amp;action=index</a>	Example interventions	Type 2 diabetes; exercise, nutrition, and weight; heart disease and stroke; other chronic diseases; substance abuse (including tobacco use and exposure); wellness and lifestyle	<b>Evidence-based practice:</b> Peer-reviewed, quantitative evidence of significant positive impact on prespecified outcomes	62
New York Academy of Medicine and Trust for America's Health <i>A Compendium of Proven Community-Based Prevention Programs</i> <a href="http://healthyamericans.org/assets/files/Compendium_Report_1016_1131.pdf">http://healthyamericans.org/assets/files/Compendium_Report_1016_1131.pdf</a>	Example interventions	Reducing the risk of cardiovascular disease, stroke and diabetes (including high blood pressure, high cholesterol, physical inactivity and unhealthy diet); reducing tobacco use	<b>Rigorous evaluation:</b> With a minimum standard set of information (e.g., the intervention population, setting, the cost of the intervention, and the duration of the intervention); preference for examples effective in communities with disproportionate levels of disease	36

1. Intervention meets minimal evidence rating of at least one study or evaluation of the intervention using an experimental or quasiexperimental design.
2. Intervention is related to one or more modifiable risk factors of interest for the database.
3. Intervention describes interdisciplinary, systems-based, or community-based approaches that enhance clinical activities.
4. Intervention is not considered direct, usual clinical care.

Duplicates among individual studies gathered from different source databases were reconciled by using the source with the most detailed online content about the study.

Because one criterion was to include reviews and individual studies of interventions that were evidence based, only items from *The Community Guide* with a rating of recommended were included, and only those from CHRR with that were either

scientifically supported or had some evidence of effectiveness were included. For sources of individual studies, only those that were evaluated using at least a quasiexperimental design were included. This restricted items to those rated as strong or moderate for AHRQ or evidence based for HCI. All items included in NYAM and AHA met the minimal evidence threshold criteria (Table 1).

## Creation of Sorting Filters

The CDC team then tagged all reviews and interventions that met inclusion criteria with descriptors so that they could be sorted into useful categories. The goal of the CHI Navigator database of interventions is to encourage users to create multisector coalitions and identify interventions on the basis of needs and existing assets of their community to

improve community health. As such, CDC used a participatory process that engaged stakeholders likely to use this resource to develop a categorization scheme to allow the user to easily sort the included reviews and individual studies by these criteria.

The CDC team developed a preliminary list of sorting filters that was developed on the basis of existing filters used in the source databases (Table 1). Specific filters were used to identify human and organizational assets within different community sectors (e.g., residents and community health workers, local businesses and nonprofits, and clinicians and health care workers) to encourage creation of multisector coalitions and heighten recognition of the role non-health care partners can play. This preliminary list was then circulated among various stakeholders and potential users, and the list was revised based on their feedback. (A list of persons who provided feedback is available at <http://stacks.cdc.gov/view/cdc/37770>; in addition, a database of Community Health Needs Assessment collaboration resource contacts is available at <http://stacks.cdc.gov/view/cdc/37771>.) All reviews and individual studies were tagged with all applicable filters. All individual studies also were linked to related reviews that they exemplified. For example, an individual study called Activity Bursts in the Classroom was tagged with the following filters: physical inactivity, obesity, children/adolescents, physical activity, school, and local institutions. The team also tagged this individual study to the review summarizing the evidence on physically active classrooms.

A validation team of two CDC public health program developers not included in the initial designation process reviewed all assignments. The entire group then discussed and clarified all discrepancies found by the validation team until consensus for inclusion and exclusion of each filter designation was reached for each review and individual study.

## Results

### Source Databases

A total of 13 potential source databases were considered for inclusion in the CHI Navigator database of interventions. Using the criteria described, six database sources were selected (Table 1). Three of these sources provided synthesized reviews (TCG, CHRR, and AHA), and three sources provided detailed information on specific individual studies (AHRQ, HCI, and NYAM).

### Interventions

From all six sources, 99 unique reviews and 150 individual studies met all inclusion criteria. The most reviews were from

CHRR (N = 81). A total of 52 individual studies were obtained from AHRQ, 62 from HCI, and 36 from NYAM.

A total of 72 reviews and individual studies addressed risk factors such as tobacco use and exposure, 113 physical inactivity, 110 unhealthy diet, 17 high cholesterol, 57 high blood pressure, 60 diabetes, and 86 obesity (Table 2). Interventions could have been associated with multiple risk factor filters because risk factors are not mutually exclusive.

## Sorting Filters

A list of 64 filters was created to help the user search for interventions that address the risk factors of interest within similar communities using comparable multisector collaborations. The final set of filters was organized into the following categories: 1) risk factors, 2) populations, 3) outcomes or indicators, 4) intervention setting or location, 5) intervention types, 6) assets: persons or organizations, and 6) assets: physical or virtual space (Box). The online CHI Navigator includes a glossary that defines the four action areas, the filter categories, and each of the filters. These filters help the user identify adaptable interventions relevant to the needs of their community.

In the database of interventions, users can select the highest priority risk factors for their community. They are then able to select as many filters within each category as applicable. The search results include reviews and individual studies that relate to any of the selected filters within a category, and, if filters also were selected from another category, results include reviews and studies that relate to at least one of the filters identified in each additional category. Users can match both strategy and individual intervention with the needs, preferences, and resources of their community.

## Hypothetical Example

Following is a hypothetical example of how the CHI Navigator database of interventions might be used (Table 3). A hospital partners with the local health department to perform a community health needs assessment. They determine that the prevalence of hypertension and obesity in their community is higher than the national average and that blacks have 50% higher prevalence of hypertension than other races/ethnicities. The health department informs the hospital that local churches are interested in addressing hypertension in the community and have begun community blood pressure screenings sponsored by a local insurer. The hospital also is aware that some local employers are interested improving employees' health behaviors and decreasing their health care costs.

The hospital organizes a meeting with leaders from the health department, faith-based organizations, community members,

**TABLE 2. Number of reviews and individual studies included in each risk factor category for the Community Health Improvement Navigator database of interventions**

Source	Tobacco use and exposure	Physical inactivity	Unhealthy diet	High cholesterol	High blood pressure	Diabetes	Obesity
TCG	10	6	6	3	9	10	6
RWJF CHRR	27	39	39	1	18	12	27
AHA	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
AHRQ	4	20	21	4	16	21	21
HCI	10	39	40	4	8	13	26
NYAM TFAH	21	9	4	5	5	4	6

**Abbreviations:** AHA = American Heart Association Guide for Improving Cardiovascular Health at the Community Level, 2013 Update; AHRQ = Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality Health Care Innovations Exchange; HCI = Healthy Communities Institute database of promising practices; NYAM TFAH = New York Academy of Medicine and Trust for America's Health Compendium of Proven Community-Based Prevention Programs; RWJF CHRR = University of Wisconsin County Health Rankings & Roadmaps, funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation; TCG = The Guide to Community Preventive Services (The Community Guide).

**BOX. Filters available in the Community Health Improvement Navigator database of interventions**

<b>Risk factor</b>	<b>Intervention setting or location</b>	<b>Assets: persons or organizations</b>
Tobacco use and exposure	Business/worksite	Residents/community health workers
High cholesterol	School	Hospitals/clinicians/health care workers
High blood pressure	Child care facility	Payers/insurers
Diabetes	Faith-based setting	Health department/public health officials
Obesity	Community	Policymakers/local council members
<b>Population</b>	Pharmacy	Local businesses/nonprofit organizations
Racial/ethnic minorities	Clinic	Voluntary associations
Low-income populations	Hospital	Researchers/evaluators
Children/adolescents	Telehealth	<b>Assets: physical or virtual space</b>
Families	<b>Intervention type</b>	Local institutions
Adults	Access to care	Parks/community common space
Older adults	Counseling	Website/community listserv
Men	Education	Local media: radio/television/print
Women	Program	Transportation
Urban	Point-of-decision prompt	Housing development/urban planning
Rural	Financial incentive/offset costs	
<b>Outcome or indicator</b>	Healthy food/beverage provision	
Tobacco use and exposure	Campaigns	
Physical activity	Media/marketing	
Healthy food/beverage intake	Changing physical environment	
Cholesterol/lipid level	Policy	
Blood pressure		
Hemoglobin a1c/glycemic control		
Body mass index/weight		
Health care costs		
Mortality		
Treatment adherence		

local businesses, and insurance organizations. Together, they decide to address hypertension in their community. They go to the online database of interventions and select high blood pressure as the risk factor, racial/ethnic minorities as the population, and faith-based setting as the intervention setting. The human and organizational assets are the health department and public health officials; hospitals, clinicians, and health care workers; local businesses and nonprofit organizations; payers and insurers; and residents and community health workers. Results include reviews and individual studies that address hypertension in similar populations designed or implemented by any of the human or organizational assets selected. Users from the hospital match both strategy and individual interventions with the needs, preferences, and resources of their community.

## Discussion

The CHI Navigator was developed to assist hospitals in meeting new IRS regulations and to facilitate identification of evidence-informed multisector collaborative interventions to improve the health and well-being of communities. The tool includes a database of interventions that includes results from six different resources, and the content is aggregated into one website that is searchable using filters that highlight multisector collaboration and community assets. Although initially focused on seven health risk factors related to the most common causes of morbidity and mortality in the United States, the methods and design are adaptable and can be expanded to incorporate other important community health issues (e.g.,



**TABLE 3. Recommended steps for use of the Community Health Improvement Navigator by health care systems and community collaborators, with a hypothetical example**

Recommended step	Example
Step 1: Establish a cross-sector coalition with the goal of improving community health.	Included members are an academic hospital, two local businesses, a local health department, a private insurer, two faith-based organizations, and a community action team.
Step 2: Identify greatest health need.	Hypertension
Step 3: Identify disparities in the community.	Blacks have a higher prevalence of uncontrolled hypertension than other races/ethnicities in this community.
Step 4: Select filters in the database.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High blood pressure</li> <li>• Racial/ethnic minorities</li> <li>• Faith-based setting</li> <li>• Residents and community health workers; health department and public health officials; hospitals, clinicians, and health care workers; local businesses and nonprofit organizations; and payers and insurers</li> </ul>
Step 5: Choose a general strategy and the most applicable intervention.	Three reviews are returned with four example interventions. The coalition discusses these and adapts an intervention that best suits their community with a plan to monitor and evaluate outcomes on hypertension.

mental health, sexually transmitted infections, and teen pregnancy). In addition, the conceptual model underscores the four modifiable action areas that affect a broad range of preventable health outcomes (e.g., socioeconomic factors, physical environment, health behaviors, and clinical care) (12).

The database of interventions includes evidence-based interventions within these action areas that align with ongoing national health promotion initiatives, required reporting mechanisms, and the new IRS requirements for tax exempt status for hospitals. The database of interventions includes interventions shown to reduce blood pressure, lipid levels, blood glucose levels, and smoking rates, which are preventive measures supported by the Million Hearts initiative, *Healthy People 2020* national health objectives, and the National Prevention Strategy (32–34). Many of the outcomes also are measures included in publicly reported databases, such as the Physician Quality Reporting System, making the CHI Navigator framework and included interventions salient for health systems. This tool might help tax-exempt hospitals and their associated health care systems to meet the new IRS requirements and fulfill their public mission to improve community health.

## Limitations

The findings in this report are subject to at least three limitations, all of which are related to the limitations of the available published studies used to create the database. First, the interventions that were included in previously constructed sources were aggregated, and the information provided by these sources was assumed reliable. Included reviews and interventions were linked to source documentation and peer-reviewed manuscripts, and partnerships were developed

with source database developers to ensure hyperlinks and information remain as up to date as possible. Second, although many interventions examine expansion of clinical care services and programs to improve health behaviors, few report information on cost or data on policy interventions, perhaps because they have not been studied or results have not been published. Therefore, information about the expected return on investment of each intervention could not be provided. Finally, few socioeconomic interventions reported health impact data, and few data were available on the impact of interventions working simultaneously within multiple domains. Therefore, findings had to be extrapolated from other studies examining the general impact of socioeconomic factors on health (e.g., the impact of achieving a high school education on obesity rate) to estimate the expected health impact of socioeconomic interventions included in the CHI Navigator database.

## Conclusion

Although the limitations of the studies included in the CHI Navigator database of interventions reflect the limitations of the available evidence, they highlight the need for more research and evaluation of collaborative interventions addressing multiple determinants of health. The database of interventions is embedded within a larger tool that describes the benefits of a collaborative approach to community health improvement and a process to achieve this goal. The interventions included in the CHI Navigator database of interventions involve collaboration, addressing community health by focusing simultaneously on multiple determinants of health (i.e., the action areas) via cross-sector partnerships. Collaborative approaches can substantially improve the health

and well-being of the population while reducing disparities in health outcomes (18). The database might encourage the creation of more cross-sector community coalitions, which could improve community health and encourage future research to evaluate the effectiveness of resulting programs. Prospective, shared data are needed to monitor improvement and impact.

CDC plans to expand the current CHI Navigator database of interventions to include additional source databases and other health indicators. Together with the other CHI Navigator components, the database of interventions has the potential to encourage and inspire communities to take action that will improve the health of their communities.

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