Improving Health Outcomes through Social Determinants of Health and Predictive Analytics

Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) fuel deeper understanding of health risks and the ability to proactively impact health outcomes for veterans, military and other at-risk populations served by the government.

Government healthcare is on the brink of a significant transformation largely driven by the continuing shift to value-based care, the availability of vast amounts of socioeconomic data, and advanced analytics that can be used to determine health risks.

**Connection between socioeconomic data and health:**
Predicting future health risks has never been easy. Medical and pharmacy claims data has traditionally been the main source of information for healthcare organizations, but that data doesn’t give a complete picture of the patient.

Social determinants are the conditions in which people are born, live, work and age. These conditions impact their likelihood to develop health conditions as well as their ability to effectively manage those conditions.

Studies show that medical determinants are only accountable for 20% of healthcare outcomes, whereas social determinants of health account for as much as 50%.¹

**Where does socioeconomic data come from?**
One of the most comprehensive, reliable and untapped resources of information is public records data.

Clinically-validated information on SDOH — factors such as proximity to relatives, education, bankruptcy and criminal convictions — can be extracted from these vast records, and through advanced analytics, provide important information that could affect future outcomes for those individuals considered at-risk.

Learn more: [http://solutions.lexisnexis.com/sociodeterminants](http://solutions.lexisnexis.com/sociodeterminants)

¹ County Health Rankings, [www.countyhealthrankings.org](http://www.countyhealthrankings.org)
Benefits of using social determinants of health:

- **Focus on prevention by identifying risk factors** in patients who will become intense healthcare users, prompting healthcare providers to intervene before a serious health issue can arise or worsen.
- **Improve health outcomes** by providing a more holistic picture of patients to drive treatment decisions.
- **Increase engagement** by frequently interacting with patients and encouraging them to choose a healthy lifestyle and take a more active role in managing their health.
- **Reduce hospital readmissions** by anticipating the challenges a patient may face in recovery and putting measures in place to prevent relapses.
- **Decrease treatment costs** by proactively handling health issues before they become a serious health crisis.
- **Help government healthcare agencies meet quality standards** no matter at what point in a patient’s care a provider is involved (regular medical exams, acute care or long-term care), or what the provider’s role is (physician, nurse, social worker, community health coach and more).

SDOH data have been identified as a significant driver of hospital readmissions within 30 days, driven by negative outcomes after release from both a clinical and financial perspective.²

How government agencies and their provider network can quickly find, read and interpret SDOH data for patients:

Trying to understand a patient’s social, environmental and economic situation and how the combination impacts health outcomes means leveraging a lot of data. LexisNexis Socioeconomic Health Scores make that process easy for healthcare providers caring for our nation’s veterans, military and their families.

These scores can be viewed by healthcare providers to improve patient risk stratification efforts — enabling them to quickly identify patients for proactive engagement and care intervention. LexisNexis Socioeconomic Health Scores — validated against actual claims data — are better indicators of future health outcomes than traditional age–gender demographic risk predictions.

LexisNexis Risk Solutions leverages hundreds of our unique, statistically-validated Socioeconomic Health Attributes for providers to gain quick access to risk prediction scores without having to build their own models.

When socioeconomic data is combined with patient electronic health records, providers will have a more holistic view of their patients, enabling them to make better-informed decisions. Government agencies will see an increase in patient engagement, enhanced quality of care and improved outcomes for the at-risk populations they serve.

For more information:

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² Bridget C. Booske et al, “Different Perspectives for Assigning Weights to Determinants of Health,” February 2010. LexisNexis and the Knowledge Burst logo are registered trademarks of RELX Inc. Other products and services may be trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective companies. Copyright © 2018 LexisNexis. NXR12351-00-0418-EN-US

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