

NINDS Social Determinants of Health Framework for Addressing Health Inequities

Determinants of Inequities in Neurological Disease, Health, & Well-being:
The NINDS Social Determinants of Health Framework

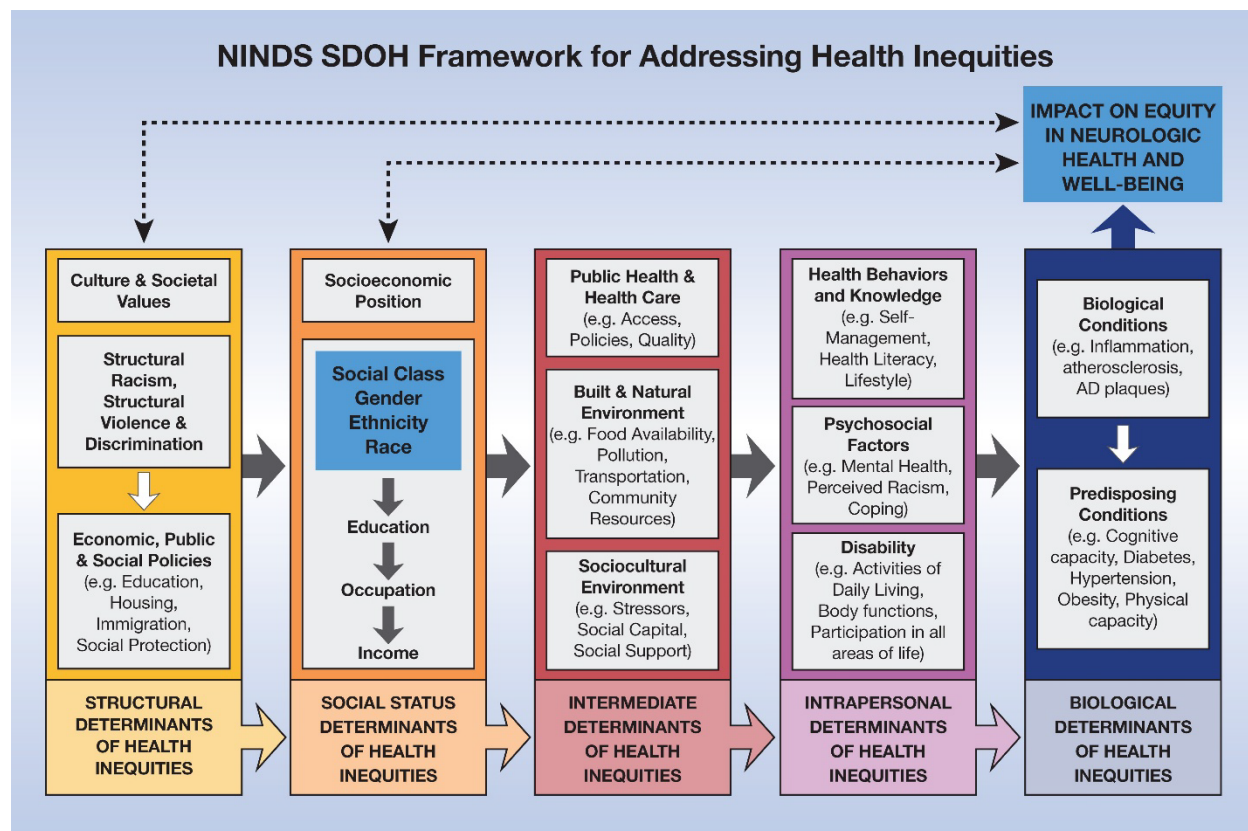


Figure: The NINDS Social Determinants of Health Framework

The goal of the NINDS SDOH Framework is to contextualize the biological and intrapersonal determinants of neurological disease, health, and well-being in relation to upstream factors (i.e. intermediate, social status, and structural factors) that have been understudied as points of intervention in neurologic and stroke research. The relationships among the determinants and pathways linking them to one another are more complex than what the linear model suggests. Yet, the categories of determinants are presented linearly to illustrate the primary ways these factors relate to one another. Each of these topics within the framework reflects potential places to intervene, and the model highlights how factors to the left of that topic shape and have implications for ones to their right. The framework helps to enhance underlying theory, improve study design, and refine implementation design by highlighting the different levels and scale of causation by refining efforts to contextualize the interpretation of research findings.

- **Structural Determinants of Health Inequities:** The root social, cultural, and political factors that underlie racial, ethnic, and social class patterns in society, health, and well-being.

- **Social Status Determinants of Health Inequities:** The demographic and socioeconomic factors that have acquired social meaning because they are proxies for the Structural Determinants of Health Inequities in ways that have implications for intermediate, intrapersonal, and biological determinants of health.
- **Intermediate Determinants of Health Inequities:** Social, natural, built, economic, health, and political environmental factors that influence exposures, vulnerability, and the consequences of individual and population neurologic health, illness, and well-being.
- **Intrapersonal Determinants of Health Inequities:** Health behaviors (e.g., physical activity, smoking, diet, body mass index), health knowledge, psychosocial factors (e.g., perceived racism), and disability that are influenced by intermediate determinants and in turn influence biological determinants.
- **Biological Determinants:** The direct and indirect bodily systems and processes that embody the accumulation of experience over the lifecourse, resulting in health conditions (e.g., hypertension, diabetes, obesity) that predispose individuals and populations to neurologic disease, illness, and ill-being.

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Derek M. Griffith, Amytis Towfighi, Spero M. Manson, Erica L. Littlejohn, Lesli E. Skolarus

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