



Educational Resource Foundation  
for the NAP Strategic Interprofessional Initiative

## **Introduction: Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) and Leading Health Indicators (LHIs)**

Improving health outcomes requires looking beyond clinical interventions to address the broader conditions that shape health. **Social Determinants of Health (SDOH)**<sup>1</sup>, including factors like education, income, housing, and social connections, profoundly impact health outcomes, quality of life, and health equity. Together, these factors form the foundation upon which health is built.

Recognizing these broad objectives and influences, **Leading Health Indicators (LHIs)** provide national benchmarks for addressing these critical areas. Drawn from **Healthy People 2030 (HP2030)**, LHIs provide a framework for monitoring national progress and identifying critical areas for interprofessional action. According to HP2030, “LHIs are a small subset of high-priority Healthy People 2030 objectives selected to drive action toward improving health and well-being. As a set, LHIs cover the life span and include objectives across topic areas.” While Healthy People 2030 does not focus on interprofessional action, NAP does and so that becomes our unique footprint. Source: [Leading Health Indicators - Healthy People 2030 | odphp.health.gov](https://odphp.health.gov/2030)

The National Academies of Practice (NAP) recognizes that integrating SDOH and LHIs into interprofessional strategies is vital to advancing health equity and achieving lasting change. Through the Strategic Interprofessional Initiative’s four core areas (*Health Communication/Health Literacy, Overall Health and Wellbeing, Evidence-based Screening and Prevention, and Healthcare Access and Quality*), NAP is committed to upstream solutions that meet people where they are and dismantle barriers to optimal health.

This resource provides a foundation for understanding the intersection of SDOH and LHIs with NAP’s mission, offering a roadmap for collective action that promotes equity, improves outcomes, and transforms systems of care through interprofessional collaboration.

In sum, NAP’s Strategic Interprofessional Initiative is focused on *partnering across professions to address social determinants, meet leading health priorities, and build a healthier, more equitable future.*

### **Intersection of SDOH and LHIs with the NAP Interprofessional Strategic Initiative Focus Areas**

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<sup>1</sup> The term “Social Drivers of Health” is increasingly used in place of “Social Determinants of Health” to emphasize agency and action rather than fixed outcomes. This aligns with emerging public health and healthcare usage and reinforces the interprofessional role in addressing these drivers to improve health outcomes.

Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) and Leading Health Indicators (LHIs) provide an essential context for advancing the four core focus areas of the National Academies of Practice (NAP) Interprofessional Strategic Initiative: Health Communication/Health Literacy, Overall Health and Wellbeing, Evidence-Based Screening and Prevention, and Healthcare Access and Quality.

- **Health Communication/Health Literacy:** Effective communication is critical to addressing SDOH and improving LHIs. Interprofessional efforts must ensure that communication strategies are culturally and linguistically appropriate and accessible to individuals with communication disabilities. By addressing barriers related to education, health literacy, digital access, and communication needs, healthcare teams can empower individuals to make informed decisions and promote equitable health outcomes.
- **Overall Health and Wellbeing:** SDOH such as economic stability, social support, and community environment directly influence an individual's physical, emotional, and mental wellbeing. LHIs offer measurable targets to enhance population wellbeing through interprofessional interventions that recognize and address these broader determinants.
- **Evidence-Based Screening and Prevention:** Addressing upstream factors captured by SDOH is essential to effective prevention strategies. By focusing on risk reduction and health promotion aligned with LHIs, interprofessional teams can design interventions that proactively prevent disease and injury, particularly within underserved and at-risk populations.
- **Healthcare Access and Quality:** Equitable access to healthcare, education, and community resources is fundamental to addressing SDOH and improving LHI outcomes. Interprofessional collaboration strengthens efforts to dismantle systemic barriers and expand access to services that support health across the lifespan.

Incorporating SDOH and LHIs into each of these focus areas ensures that NAP's interprofessional efforts are grounded in equity, responsiveness, and measurable impact on population health.

## Linking Core Areas to HP2030

The Healthy People 2030 website is a comprehensive resource offering a wide range of health-related information. To streamline content relevant to NAP, the following table highlights NAP's Core Focus Areas alongside corresponding Social Determinants of Health and Leading Health Indicators, as well as a direct link to the Healthy People 2030 site. This crosswalk of information demonstrates how NAP's Core Focus Areas can be addressed through initiatives outlined in Healthy People 2030.

**NAP Core Areas Linked to SDOH and LHIs**

Core Focus Area	Relevant SDOH Domains	Key LHIs	HP2030 Navigation Link
<b>Health Communication/ Health Literacy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Education Access and Quality</li> <li>- Social and Community Context</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Percentage of adults with sufficient health literacy</li> <li>- Patient-provider communication quality</li> </ul>	<a href="#">HP2030: Health Literacy</a>
<b>Overall Health and Wellbeing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Economic Stability</li> <li>- Neighborhood and Built Environment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rates of chronic disease prevention and management</li> <li>- Self-reported general health status</li> </ul>	<a href="#">HP2030: Health and Wellbeing</a>
<b>Evidence-Based Screening and Prevention</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Healthcare Access and Quality</li> <li>- Social and Community Context</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rates of cancer screenings (e.g., breast, cervical, and colorectal)</li> <li>- Immunization coverage levels</li> </ul>	<a href="#">HP2030: Preventive Care</a>
<b>Healthcare Access and Quality</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Healthcare Access and Quality</li> <li>- Economic Stability</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rates of insured individuals</li> <li>- Availability of preventive services (e.g., flu vaccines, well-child visits)</li> <li>- Care access disparities</li> </ul>	<a href="#">HP2030: Access to Care</a>

\***SDOH** - social determinants of health; \***LHI** - leading health indicators; \***HP2030** - Healthy People 2030

# Tips for Navigating HP2030

## **Introduction:**

Healthy People 2030 (HP2030) provides a national framework of evidence-based objectives to improve health and well-being across the U.S. population. To get started, visit the [Healthy People 2030 Framework](#) to learn more about its vision, mission, and overarching goals.

This resource guide links HP2030 objectives to the four core focus areas of the work of the NAP Strategic Interprofessional Committee:

## ★ **Health Communication/Health Literacy**

**Related HP2030 Topic Area:** [Health Literacy](#)

Health Communication & Health Information Technology Workgroup

### **Key Objectives:**

**1a. HC/HIT-01:** Increase the proportion of adults whose health care provider checked their understanding

[Link](#)

**1b. HC/HIT-02:** Decrease the proportion of adults who report poor communication with their health care provider

[Link](#)

**1c. HC/HIT-03:** Increase the proportion of adults whose health care providers involved them in decisions as much as they wanted

[Link](#)

**1d. HC/HIT-D10:** Increase the proportion of people who say their online medical record is easy to understand

[Link](#)

**1e. HC/HIT-D11:** Increase the proportion of adults with limited English proficiency who say their providers explain things clearly

[Link](#)

**1f. HC/HIT-R01:** Increase the health literacy of the population

[Link](#)

### **Additional Resources:**

- [History of Health Literacy Definitions](#)
- [Organizational Health Literacy – National Action Plan](#)

## ★ **Overall Health and Wellbeing**

**Related HP2030 Topic Area:** [Health and Wellbeing](#)

### **Key Measures:**

- **OHM-01:** Overall Well-Being  
[Fact Sheet](#)  
[Link](#)
- **OHM-04:** Healthy Life Expectancy at Birth (in good or better health)  
[Link](#)
- **OHM-05:** Life Expectancy at Birth  
[Link](#)
- **OHM-08:** Self-Rated Health Status (in good or better health)  
[Link](#)

**Learn More:**

- [HP2030 Objectives & Measures Overview](#)

## ★ Evidence-Based Screening and Prevention

Related HP2030 Topic Area: [Preventive Care](#)

**Resources:**

- [Preventive Care Objectives](#)
- [Evidence-Based Resources](#)

## ★ Healthcare Access and Quality

Related HP2030 Topic Area: [Access to Care](#)

**Resources:**

- [Access and Quality Objectives](#)
- [Evidence-Based Resources](#)
- [Healthy People in Action](#)

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