The American Heart Association’s focus on health equity is woven into our core mission and commitment to advance health equity for all. The Association recognizes that hospitals are listening to their patients to understand and help support them in living their best health. Utilizing social needs assessments are a tool that may be implemented to capture information not otherwise detected through conventional medical assessments or procedures. These data can help inform a provider on the best treatment and resources to support a patient in their healing as well as long-term care.

There are a variety of well-tested social needs assessment tools available for hospitals that contain questions spanning multiple domains including, but not limited to housing, transportation, nutrition, education, finance, and mental and social support. Assessing patient needs in the community is just the first step in a site’s health equity efforts, but the impact is greatest when help and resources are provided for those patients with unmet needs. This is a list of widely used tools and resources by many Get With The Guidelines® (GWTG) hospitals and other national stakeholders looking to understand the impact of and provide solutions addressing the social determinants of health impacting their communities.

Visit The GWTG Health Equity Resource page to learn more.

These websites are provided for informational purposes only, and do not constitute an endorsement or support of any kind by the American Heart Association. The AHA makes no representation or warranty regarding these websites, nor is this list intended to be exclusive of all the options available.