The Protocol for Responding to and Assessing Patients’ Assets, Risks, and Experiences (PRAPARE) is a national effort to help health centers and other providers collect and apply the data they need to better understand their patients’ social determinants of health, transform care to meet the needs of their patients, and ultimately improve health and reduce costs. PRAPARE is both a standardized patient risk assessment tool as well as a process and collection of resources to identify and act on the social determinants of health.

The PRAPARE Implementation and Action Toolkit is designed to provide interested users with the resources, best practices, and lessons learned to guide implementation, data collection, and responses to social determinant needs.

This is a modulized toolkit. The Toolkit’s chapters focus on the major chronological steps that are needed to implement a new data collection initiative on socioeconomic needs and circumstances. New users are advised to go through the entire Toolkit. Other users may wish to focus on certain chapters to build or enhance capacity in certain areas.

Much of this Toolkit is based on the recent experiences of seven health centers and four health center networks in Hawaii, Iowa, New York, and Oregon that were the first to implement PRAPARE. We welcome your feedback on how to make this Toolkit more helpful and useful based on your own experiences to inform future versions. Send feedback to mjester@nachc.org.

PRAPARE was made possible with funding from the Kresge Foundation, the Blue Shield of California Foundation, and the Kaiser Permanente National Community Benefit Fund. We would like to extend a special thanks to these organizations: Alliance of Chicago Community Health Services, Health Center Network of New York, HRHCare, Iowa Primary Care Association, La Clinic Del Valle, OCHIN, Open Door Family Medical Center, Peoples Community Health Clinic, Siouxland Community Health Center, Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center, and Waikiki Community Health Center. We would also like to thank Roger Chaufournier, Julie Edgcomb, and Cheryl Modica for reviewing this Toolkit.
Click on the chapters below to view resources and best practices on that implementation step. Building off of the roots of the PRAPARE name, chapters are organized based on whether they help users "PREPARE" for social determinants data collection, "ASSESS" social determinants of health, or "RESPOND" to social determinants of health data. There will be webinars on each chapter to highlight examples from the field.

Preparing to Gather Data on the Social Determinants of Health

Chapter 1: Understand the PRAPARE Project

Chapter 2: Engage Key Stakeholders and Answer Commonly Asked Questions

Chapter 3: Strategize the Implementation Process

Assessing Social Determinants of Health Data

Chapter 4: Technical Implementation with Electronic Health Record PRAPARE Templates

*Free EHR Templates available for Epic, eClinicalWorks, GE Centricity, and NextGen*

Chapter 5: Develop Workflow Models

Chapter 6: Develop a Data Strategy

Chapter 7: Understand and Evaluate Data on Social Determinants of Health

Responding to Social Determinants of Health Data

Chapter 8: Build Capacity to Respond to Social Determinants of Health Data

Chapter 9: Respond to Social Determinants of Health Data with Interventions

Chapter 10: Track Enabling Services

Appendix of Resources