



# Putting Safety First Fact Sheet

**Health Equity at Stony Brook Medicine:** Stony Brook Medicine is committed to advancing health equity with a goal of creating a culture of health equity and belongingness. We believe prioritizing equity is not only the right thing to do but impacts safety, quality, patient and employee experience. As a key priority for our organization, Stony Brook Medicine is committed to reducing health care disparities.

## Did you know?

- The individuals designated to lead health equity activities for SBUH are Dr. Judith Brown Clarke, Vice President for Equity and Inclusion/Chief Diversity Officer and Nicole Rossol, Chief Patient Experience Officer. Together they co-chair the SBM Health Equity Executive Steering Committee.
- SBM follows the American Hospital Association Health Equity Roadmap to drive improvement in health care outcomes, health equity, diversity and inclusion
- Currently SBM has Health Equity subcommittee efforts around Data-Driven Care Delivery, Community Partnerships, Training and the Culture of Learning, and Diversity/Inclusion in Leadership and Governance to drive Health Equity improvement across our Health System.
- In order to identify health care disparities, SBM maintains a Health Equity Scorecard that stratifies the following quality and safety data by key patient sociodemographic characteristics: Length of Stay, Mortality, Readmissions, Pressure Ulcers, and Patient Experience HCAHPS data
- Health Equity is a **National Patient Safety Goal (NPSG) NPSG.16.01.01: Improving health care equity for the organization's patients is a quality and safety priority.**

## Where can I find resources?

*For Staff: Health Equity on ThePulse > Quick Links*

<https://inside.stonybrookmedicine.edu/HealthEquity/resources>

- SBU Office of Equity and Access (OEA) resources, ReportIt
- Communication Assistive Devices
- Geriatric Patient Care
- Language Services
- Point To Communication Boards (Spanish/English)
- Community Resources & Events

*Public-facing Website:*

<https://www.stonybrookmedicine.edu/HealthEquity>

## What is our 2024 Health Equity written action plan required by The Joint Commission to address an identified health care disparity?

**SBUH:** Reduce healthcare disparities and promote health equity for diabetic inpatients at Stony Brook University Hospital

## How can we ensure we are meeting the needs of patients whose preferred language is not English?

- Patient Factor Form updated to indicate language of preference in patient's chart
- Blue Interpreter wrist band on patient
- Blue dual handset telephone in patient room and within reach of patient
- "Interpreter Needed" door sign outside of patient room
- Patient educated about free interpreter services available
- Use interpreting services for clinical encounters: needs to be documented (if hospital interpreter – name, if CyraCom - Interpreter ID#)
- [When applicable] Patient declination of medical interpretive services documented in patient chart: reason why, and if used family member to interpret, document name of member
- Educational/discharge materials are available in language that meets 5% threshold (Spanish)
- Spanish consent utilized for Spanish speaking patients

## If the Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) screen is positive for:

**Concerns for Safety: NOTIFY PROVIDER;** refer to relevant policies: PC0003, PC0162, PC0174, RI0032

**Safety, Food, Housing, Transportation, Utilities:** Social Work consult (automatically triggered by positive screen)/Community Resources list provided at discharge for all patients

**Food Insecurity:** Screened for Food Farmacy and community resources

**Cognitive or Communication Disability:** Create Plan of Care - access available resources from Patient Advocacy/Health Equity site

**Health Literacy:** Verbal, recorded instructions with family member present (digital recorders available from Patient Advocacy)/Video education @ [SBUH.Healthclips.com](https://www.stonybrookmedicine.edu/HealthEquity)

## Have you heard about the SBUH Food Farmacy?

- Patients who meet food insecurity criteria
- Eligible patients receive nutrition education, two-week supply of supplemental food consistent with specific diet, educational materials and community resource information
- Collaborative sourcing of inventory, including hospital food drives, Stony Brook Heights Rooftop Farm, and community partnership with Island Harvest
- Recent expansion to serve select Outpatient areas: SB Family Practice Center locations, SB HOME (free primary care clinic), Stony Brook Diabetes Education Center