



Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) Simulation: A New Opportunity for Health Care Professionals



As part of the Ohio Department of Medicaid's (ODM) Medicaid Equity Simulation Project, Wright State University's (WSU) Boonshoft School of Medicine (BSOM), College of Engineering & Computer Science (CECS), and Center for Teaching & Learning (CTL) have developed a training simulation for health care professionals in an effort to reduce stigma associated with Social Determinants of Health.

The simulation utilizes a modified and digital version of the Life Course game, an interactive training tool for health professionals designed to help players understand the social determinants of health. In the simulation, participants take on the role of a health care provider and receive either a refugee patient named Mohammad or a young pregnant woman dependent on opioids named Ebony. Throughout the simulation, participants are exposed to the disadvantages that have directly impacted the health and well-being of both patients and what contributed to their current circumstances. The simulation includes a virtual reality immersion when the patient presents for care at a community health center.

While learning of each patient's challenges, participants begin to understand the individual perspectives and experiences of these marginalized members and are able to overcome implicit bias, leading to better patient care and a heightened education for providers.

The simulation can be accessed and completed remotely via tablet or smartphone, and is available for download via the App Store® (Apple iOS 11 or higher) and Google Play® (Android 4.1 or later). To access the simulation, simply go to vpi.wright.edu or have your phone camera read the following QR code:



In addition, WSU will be offering in-person training events where tablets will be provided. The on-site training has been approved for one hour of CE-CME training through the Ohio Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) for the following disciplines: Physicians, Nurses, Social Workers, Mental Health Counselors, Psychologists, Pharmacists and Chemical Dependency Professionals. In order to receive your one hour of CE-CME, you must attend one of the in-person trainings.

If you are interested in scheduling an in-person training event, please contact Paul Hershberger, the Director of Research and Director of Behavioral Health at WSU at paul.hershberger@wright.edu.

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