Promoting Health Equity:

Choosing Appropriate Indicators

This survey presents 53 indicators that are in use in Canada and internationally as possible health equity indicators for BC. The indicators are divided into four categories: Cross-cutting Equity Dimensions, Health Status, Health System Performance, and Non-Medical Determinants of Health. Please note that these indicators have been identified as relevant within urban settings, and may not reflect rural and remote health issues. Please rate the indicators according to how important they would be in your Health Authority. To narrow this list down, you are asked to complete the survey by rating each of the indicators on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is unimportant and 5 is very important. An option of N/A is provided if an indicator would not be applicable to your region, or you do not feel you can rate a particular indicator. The following questions may help you determine the importance of each proposed indicator: Does this indicator address an important health issue? Is it an issue that is amenable to change through the health system?    Please keep in mind the criteria for good indicators: that they be feasible (actionable), understandable and relevant.  A technical review of the proposed indicators will be carried out, to ensure that they meet the criteria of being valid, reliable and comparable.

**We would like to know a little about our respondents. Please indicate the organization where you work.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Fraser Health Authority |
|  | Interior Health Authority |
|  | Northern Health Authority |
|  | Vancouver Island Health Authority |
|  | Vancouver Coastal Health Authority |
|  | Provincial Health Services Authority |
|  | Ministry of Health |
|  | Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |

**In which department or setting do you work?**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Acute Care/Hospital Setting |
|  | Patient Quality & Safety |
|  | Performance Measurement/Decision Support |
|  | Population Health/Public Health |
|  | Primary Care/Community Care |
|  | Provincial Agency/Service |
|  | Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |

**Individual health indicators can be analyzed by a number of cross-cutting equity dimensions. How important are each of the following cross-cutting equity dimensions to your region and/or work?**

Rate the cross-cutting equity dimensions from 1 (Not at all important) to 5 (Very important).

**Equity Dimensions**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 1 - Not at all important | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 - Very important | Not Applicable |
| Income Quintile |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Persons below the low-income cut off (LICO) vs. Persons above LICO |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Aboriginal vs. Non-Aboriginal |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Immigrant vs. Non-Immigrant |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Living Alone vs. Living with Others |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Homelessness |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Gender |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Age |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban vs. Rural |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Please list any other cross-cutting equity dimensions that should be considered, and rate their importance from 1 to 5, as above.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Cross-Cutting Equity Dimension | Importance |
|  |  | |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | 1 - Not at all important | |  | 2 | |  | 3 | |  | 4 | |  | 5 - Very important | |
|  |  | |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | 1 - Not at all important | |  | 2 | |  | 3 | |  | 4 | |  | 5 - Very important | |
|  |  | |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | 1 - Not at all important | |  | 2 | |  | 3 | |  | 4 | |  | 5 - Very important | |
|  |  | |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | 1 - Not at all important | |  | 2 | |  | 3 | |  | 4 | |  | 5 - Very important | |
|  |  | |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | 1 - Not at all important | |  | 2 | |  | 3 | |  | 4 | |  | 5 - Very important | |

**Please rate the following health status indicators in terms of their importance to measuring health equity in your region and/or work.**

Rate the indicators from 1 (Not at all important) to 5 (Very important).

**Health Status**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 1 - Not at all important | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 - Very important | Not Applicable |
| Life expectancy (at birth and at 65) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Infant mortality rate (IMR) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Low birth weight |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Disability rates - Proportion of population with limiting long-term illness (aged 12 and over) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Overweight and obesity |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Heart disease |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Rate of death within 30 days of hospital admission for AMI |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cancer - Total for all cancers |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Colon/rectum cancer |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Lung cancer |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Female breast cancer |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Prostate cancer |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Diabetes |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Asthma |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ambulatory care sensitive conditions (ACSC) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Tuberculosis |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| HIV infection |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Clinically notified chlamydia |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Unintentional injury |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Suicides |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Hospitalization composite indicator for mental health disorders |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Perceived health |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Perceived mental health |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Please rate the following health system performance indicators in terms of their importance to measuring health equity in your region and/or work.**

Rate the indicators from 1 (Not at all important) to 5 (Very important).

**Health System Performance**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 1 - Not at all important | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 - Very important | Not Applicable |
| Hospital re-admission rate |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Use of specialists (indicator of use/access for insured services) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pressure ulcer rate among elderly patients |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Minimally invasive cholecystectomy rate |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Perforated appendix rate |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Visits with a dental professional last 12 months (indicator of use/access for uninsured services) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Preventive health services (indicator of access to preventive services): Mammography (50- 69) and Pap screening (18-69) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Child immunization rates |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Please rate the following non-medical determinants of health indicators in terms of their importance to measuring health equity in your region and/or work.**

Rate the indicators from 1 (Not at all important) to 5 (Very important).

**Non-Medical Determinants of Health**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 1 - Not at all important | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 - Very important | Not Applicable |
| Smoking status |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dietary practices - consumption of fruits and vegetables (healthy food choices) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Leisure time physical activity |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Alcohol use |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Breastfeeding practices |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Teen pregnancy |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Early Childhood Development (Early Development Index) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Water quality: Number of boil water advisory days |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Exposure to secondhand smoke at home and in vehicles and public places |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sense of community belonging |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Workplace Stress |  |  |  |  |  |  |