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Prevention and Health Promotion

SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH DISPARITIES FOR COVID-19 MITIGATION MEASURES AMONG ADULTS WITH CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE IN UNITED STATES

Poster Contributions
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Background: Individuals with cardiovascular disease (CVD) are high-risk phenotypes for COVID-19 infection and are advised to adhere to safe practices including use of personal protection and social distancing measures. In this study, we assess whether social determinants of health (SDOH) adversely impact the practice of these mitigation measures in a representative adult population with CVD in United States.

Methods: A sample of US adults representing 18 regional areas were pooled in the COVID-19 Household Impact Survey data. CVD status was defined by self-reported history of heart disease, heart attack or stroke diagnosis. We developed a cumulative index of SDOH risk using education, insurance, total household income in 2019, food insecurity, population density and neighborhood quality (figure).

Results: Of 25,269 survey participants, 2,036 (7%) had CVD representing 8.69 million adults. Overall, worsening SDOH risk profile (4th vs 1st quartile) was associated with significantly lower likelihood to adhere to preventive strategies including personal protection (74% vs 89%), social distancing (41% vs 54%), and affording work flexibility (11% vs 38%). These differences remained significant accounting for demographics and comorbidity burden.

Conclusion: Among high risk populations at risk of COVID-19 such as those with CVD, efforts must be made to ensure that socially disadvantaged groups have greater access to optimal mitigation measures.

