

## SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH

The World Health Organization has conceptualized SDH as conditions in which we live, such as socioeconomic and political factors, and intermediary determinants, such as living conditions and healthcare systems. *Healthy People 2030* have categorized them into 5 domains: Economic stability, Education access and quality, health care access and quality, neighborhood and built environments, and social and community context. The different SDH can expose patients to vulnerabilities affecting health outcomes, ultimately increasing inequities and health disparities.



### FREE COMMUNICATIONS PROGRAM

**Differences in Patient-Reported Outcomes Across Social Determinants of Health for People With Ankle Sprain History** (*Hoch et al. 2024*) S-90. Patient characteristics related to SDH may be related to patient reported outcome scores in persons with a history of ankle sprains, and factors related to employment status and educational level appeared to influence patient reported outcome, and quality of life scores.

**Social Determinants of Health and Concussion Care Seeking in Secondary School Athletes: A Preliminary Analysis** (*Weber et al. 2024*) S-92. Preliminary data analysis suggests that athletes with access to healthcare and higher health literacy were more likely to seek care for a suspected concussion. Secondary school athletes may benefit from additional education on concussion disclosure and resources provided by the school's athletic trainer.

 *NATA Foundation Funded Research*

**Health Literacy Disparities and Required Concussion Education Among Adolescents in Rural and Urban Communities** (*Ross et al. 2024*) S-93. Most participants scored below the required reading level to understand the basic concussion information mandated by the state of Alabama. Rural Alabama communities had lower health literacy scores than their urban Alabama counterparts; therefore, individuals with lower health literacy may struggle to understand medical terminology and written instructions regarding patient care for concussion.

**Access to Athletic Training Services in U.S. Public High Schools Based on Socioeconomic Status and Race/Ethnicity Demographics** (*Willis et al. 2024*) S-94. Public high schools with more nonwhite students or in lower income communities have less access to athletic training services. ATs should continue to advocate for AT access in schools with high levels of diversity and those within counties of lower SES.

### RESOURCES

**Policy Map** is designed to give you real-time SDOH data by geographic area

**World Health Organization:** Conceptual Framework for Action on the Social Determinates of Health

**Infographics:** **ATEJ:** Social Cohesion *Winkelmann et al. 2022*

**Healthy People 2030:** SDOH Infographics

**A Review of Tools** to Screen for Social Determinants of Health in the United States: A Practice Brief

### from RECENT ARTICLES

**"Social Determinants of Health: Considerations for Athletic Health Care"** *Picha et al. 2022*. ATs are uniquely positioned to improve patient outcomes by addressing SDH that negatively impact patient care. This article provides an educational overview of SDH that may impact patient health outcomes and recommendations for ATs.

**"Athletic Trainers' Familiarity, Comfort, Knowledge, and Recognition of Social Determinants of Health"** *Picha et al. 2024*. ATs' consistent interactions and connections with their patients foster an ability to recognize SDH. However, ATs indicate moderate or low levels of familiarity and comfort with SDH. ATs should seek out educational opportunities to increase their comfort with recognition and methods to address SDH.

**"Applying the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Framework to Social Determinants of Health in the context of Sport-Related Concussion: A Clinical Commentary"** *Ingram, et al. 2024*. This article offers ATs a lens, using the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Framework, to identify modifiable factors at multiple levels that may enhance the implementation of management strategies for sport-related concussion.

**"Exploring the Use of a Social Determinants of Health Focused History Script to Facilitate Patient Conversations"** *Moll et al. 2023*. The use of a focused history script increased student screening for SDOH. Students demonstrated poor performance in screening for SDOH when the script was not used. This article recommends focused history script implementation during preparticipation examinations with the information later utilized when an injury evaluation occurs.

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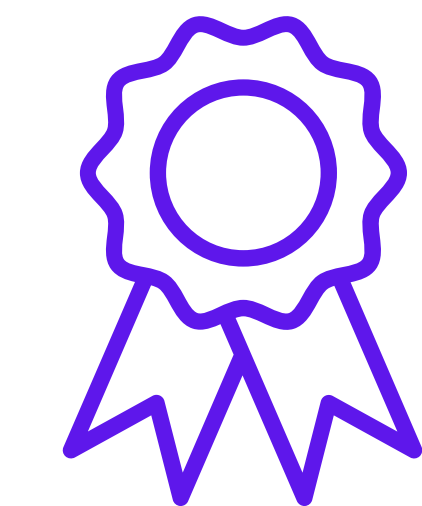
### NATA FOUNDATION FUNDED RESEARCH

**Brittany Ingram 2023 Doctoral Student Grant**  
"The Impact of Social Determinants of Health on Sport Related Concussion in Emerging Adults"

**Michelle Weber Rawlins, PhD, ATC 2022 New Investigator Grant**  
"The Influence of Social Determinants of Health on Concussion Care Seeking Behaviors in Historically Underrepresented Ethnic and Racial Groups"

**Kaitlynn Moll 2022 Masters Student Grant**  
"Implementation of a Focused History Script for the Social Determinants of Health to Facilitate Conversations with Secondary School Patients"

**Kelsey Picha, PhD, ATC 2019 New Investigator Grant**  
"Athletic Trainers' Perceptions and Observation of Social Determinants of Health"



References: 1. World Health Organization. A conceptual framework for action on the social determinants of health. Published online 2010:76.

