

Addressing social determinants of learning (SDOL) in physician assistant education—Are we doing enough?

Authors:
 Cara Felter, PhD, DPT, MPH
 Shani Fleming, PhD, MSHS, MPH, PA-C
 Gerald Kayingo, PhD, MBA, PA-C, DFAAPA

Background and Approach

Existing Framework

Results, Conclusions, Future Directions

Social determinants of learning: contextual conditions that impact students' ability to optimally participate in their education.

Academic remediation does not address SDOL

Phase 1: 2024 AAPA conference

- Define SDOL
- Present data
- Identify gaps

Phase 2: 2025 AAPA conference

- Create an intervention with an evaluation component

Neighborhood and Built Environment

Structural barriers to school, internet access at home, environmental safety, school infrastructure and accessibility, clinical site availability/proximity

Healthcare Access and Quality

Insurance, geographic access to services, continuity of care (consistent providers, follow-up opportunities), medical record access

Social and Community Context

Value of education, other family/supporting roles and responsibilities, cultural considerations including mistrust/lack of trust to ask for help, background check barriers

Social Determinants of Learning Framework

Economic Stability

Money for food, school supplies, clothes, and transportation; housing stability

Education Access and Quality

Transportation, school performance, attendance, wrap-around services, supplies, internet access, library resources, classroom space and equipment

Relation to competencies (ARC-PA, NCCPA Blueprint), PAEA New Graduate Competencies

Emerging Concept
Room for improvement

References:

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