

APPENDIX B: List of Selected Resources on Health Disparities

General/Historical:

Amick, B. et al. (1995). *Society and Health*. Oxford University Press: New York.

Bartley, M., Carpenter, L., Dunnell, K. and Fitzpatrick R. (1996). Measuring Inequalities in Health. *Social Health and Illness*. 18: 455-475.

Evans, R.G., Barer, M.L., and Marmot, L., Eds. (1994). *Why Are Some People Healthy and Others Are Not?: Determinants of Health of Populations*. Aldine de Gruyer: New York.

Feit, M.D. and Holosko, M.J. (1997). *Health and Poverty*. Haworth Press.

Fiscella, K., Franks, P., et al. (2000). Inequality in Quality: Addressing Socioeconomic, Racial, and Ethnic Disparities in Health Care. *Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA)*. (283): 2579-2584.

Harding, S. (1993). *The Racial Economy of Health*. Indiana University Press.

Kawachi, I., Kennedy, B.P. and Wilkinson, R.G. (1999). *The Society and Health Population Health Reader: Income Inequality and Health*. Volume I. The New Press: New York.

Keating, D. P. and Hetzman, C., Eds. (1999). *Developmental Health and the Wealth of Nations: Social, Biological, and Educational Dynamics*. The Guilford Press: New York.

Leavitt, J. (1999). *The Healthiest City*. University of Wisconsin Press.

Levins, R. (1999). Toward An Ecosocial View of Health. *International Journal of Health Services*. 29(2): 261.

The Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF)

- KFF released several documents at an October 1999 forum entitled *Race, Ethnicity and Medical Care: Improving Access in a Diverse Society*. The documents are available at www.kff.org/content/1999/19991014a and include a chart book, a report, a review, a survey, and a press release.
- UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and the Kaiser Family Foundation report, entitled *Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Access to Health Insurance and Health Care*, is the first of its kind to include information on health insurance coverage and access for subgroup populations of Latinos and Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders. The article is available online at www.healthpolicy.ucla.edu/publications/RacialandEthnicDisparitiesReport.pdf.

Health Resource and Services Administration (HRSA)

- HRSA's document, *Eliminating Health Disparities in the United States*, outlines the agency's strategy to end health disparities among U.S. population groups and describes agency activities toward meeting that goal. The report can be downloaded from the Web site at www.hrsa.dhhs.gov/OMH/disparities/default.htm.

The National Center for Education in Maternal and Child Health (NCEMCH)

- NCEMCH has produced a *Knowledge Path* on the topic of racial and ethnic disparities in health. It contains links to useful Web sites, publications, databases, newsletters and books geared toward the public health community. The document can be found at www.ncemch.org/RefDes/kprace.html.

Office of Minority Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

- *Closing the Gap* newsletter can be ordered at www.omhrc.gov/OMH/WhatsNew/2pgwhatsnew/Closing.htm or by calling the Resource Center at 1-800-444-6472.
- *Eliminating Health Disparities*, a Web cast available at www.raceandhealth.hhs.gov/sidebars/sbhhs1.htm depicts the plenary session coordinated by the Office of Minority Health as part of the *Healthy 2010* launch at the *Partnerships for Health in the New Millennium Conference* that took place in Washington, DC, in January 2000. Panelists discussed ways to improve the health of racial and ethnic minority populations through the development of effective health policies and programs to eliminate health disparities.

The University of North Carolina (UNC) at Chapel Hill, School of Public Health

- For more information about the UNC School of Public Health's "Minority Health Project," its *Summer Public Health Research Institute and Videoconference on Minority Health*, and links to other national organizations of interest for researchers and students, visit www.minority.unc.edu.

Cultural/Language Competency:

American Public Health Association, Maternal and Child Health Community Leadership Institute

- The Institute released a new catalog focusing on the maternal health cultures of three main regions of the world from which immigrants to the U.S. frequently come — Latin America, Asia, and Africa. The publication includes information on the relevant predictors of maternal health, health status and risks of recent immigrant women associated with biological, cultural and lifestyle susceptibility, and effect on the utilization of

maternal health services in the U.S for each of the cultures. The catalog is available on the American Public Health Association's Web site at: www.apha.org/ppp/red.

Bureau of Primary Health Care (BPHC)

- *Cultural Competency: A Journey* offers examples of programs that were successful in working effectively with people of different cultures. Copies of this document are available through the Bureau of Primary Health Care Clearinghouse at (800) 400-2742 or at www.bphc.hrsa.gov/culturalcompetence

Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

- HHS issued written policy guidance to assist health and social services providers in ensuring that persons with limited English skills can effectively access critical health and social services. This guidance will enhance the ability to reach the nation's goal of eliminating racial and ethnic disparities in health, and assist in increasing opportunities for persons with limited English proficiency to improve their socioeconomic status. To view the full press release, which details the written guidance, go to www.hhs.gov/news/press/2000pres/20000830.html.
- HHS, Office of Minority Health (OMH) released national standards for culturally and linguistically appropriate services (CLAS) to respond to the need to ensure that all people entering the health care system receive equitable and effective treatment in a culturally and linguistically appropriate manner. The 14 standards are organized by themes: culturally competent care, language access services, and organizational supports for cultural competence. The standards are available on the OMH Web site at www.omhrc.gov/CLAS/finalcultural1a.htm.

Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

- HRSA also released a new tool for states, *Optional Purchasing Specifications: Cultural Competence in the Delivery of Services Through Medicaid Managed Care*, which provides options for language on key contracting issues as states prepare their purchasing agreements with managed care organizations. The guidelines can be found at www.gwu.edu/~chsrp. Then click on "sample purchasing specifications."

National Center for Cultural Competence (NCC)

- NCC's Web site at gucdc.georgetown.edu/nccc/cultural.html includes information on current conferences and workshops, full-text versions of publications, and an extensive list of additional resources.
- *Getting Started: Planning, Implementing and Evaluating Culturally Competent Service Delivery Systems in Primary Health Care Settings* features a brief checklist of activities for programs and organizations to begin strategic development of policies, structures, procedures and practices that support cultural and linguistic competence. For more information, visit gucdc.georgetown.edu/nccc/ncc9.html.

National Center for Education in Maternal and Child Health (NCEMCH)

- The bibliography, *Culturally Competent Services: Bibliography of Materials from the NCEMCH Library*, contains materials that focus on assessing current services for cultural sensitivity, developing culturally competent services, and providing services in a multicultural health care context. To download a copy of the bibliography, go to www.ncemch.org/databases/PDFs/Bib%20PDFs/CultCom.pdf.

Data:

Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO)

- A core function of public health agencies is to promote a statewide assessment of current health status and access barriers to help prioritize interventions and set baselines upon which to measure progress. ASTHO's Resource Compendium, *Public Health Data Sources and Assessment Tools: Measuring Progress Towards 100% Access and 0 Health Disparities*, highlights a number of tools and data sources, which may be helpful in these efforts. The document can be accessed at www.astho.org/access/documents/PublicHealthDataSources.htm.

Commonwealth Fund. (1999). *U.S. Minority Health: A Chartbook*. New York.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

- CDC's report, entitled *State-Specific Prevalence of Selected Health Behaviors, by Race and Ethnicity*, documents racial and ethnic disparities in several areas, including health status, access to health care and preventive services, and behavioral risk factors. To download a copy of the report, go to www.cdc.gov/mmwr/mmwr_ss.html.

Health Resources Services and Administration

- The Community Health Status Indicators Project provides a profile of each county's overall health status using a broad spectrum of health indicators. Counties can compare their health indicators to Healthy People 2010 targets, 1997 U.S. rates, and peer counties – counties which share characteristics of population size, density, age distribution, and poverty. Mortality data age-adjusted to the new year 2000 standard also are provided. Available at www.communityhealth.hrsa.gov.

National Center for Health Statistics

- NCHS provides state health statistics by sex, age, race/ethnicity, and year. Tables are available at: www.cdc.gov/nchs/dataawh/statab/tables.htm.

The Urban Institute (UI)

- UI's report, entitled *Racial and Ethnic Disparities: Key Findings from the National Survey of America's Families*, concludes that racial or ethnic background is a better determinant of health and insurance coverage than income level. For more information, visit newfederalism.urban.org/html/series_b/b5/b5.html.

Maternal and Child Health and Women's Health:

Allan, A. (1999). Children, Asthma and Health Consequences of Class. *The Washington Post Magazine*.

Luz, C., et al. (1998). Environmental Health Sciences Education—A Tool for Achieving Environmental Equity and Protecting Children. *Environmental Health Perspectives*: 106(3).

Ronsaville, D.S. and Hakin, R.B. (2000). Well Child Care in the United States: Racial Differences in Compliance with Guidelines. *American Journal of Public Health*. 90(9):1436-1443.

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)

- The study, *Racial and Ethnic Differences in Children's Access to Care* is an analysis of data from AHRQ's Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS) and is published in the November 2000 issue of the *American Journal of Public Health*. For more information, go to www.ahrq.gov/news/press/pr2000/weinickpr.htm.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

- *Women and Heart Disease: An Atlas of Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Mortality* features more than 200 national and state maps as well as the first county-level maps showing differences in the U.S. women's heart disease death rates for the years 1991-1995. The Atlas is available at www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/cvd/womensatlas.

Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB)

- *Racial and Income Disparities in Pediatric Oral Health* was published by MCHB in 1998. To order a free copy or for more information, call the National Maternal and Child Health Clearinghouse at (703) 356-1964, e-mail: nmchc@circsol.com, or visit www.nmchc.org/html/cf/fullrec.cfm?ID=3959.

The National Black Child Development Institute (NBCDI), the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), and the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)

- These agencies have jointly developed a *Resource Kit for Reducing the Risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) in African American Communities*. The kit contains culturally-appropriate materials such as fact sheets, brochures, magnets and a leader's guide. To receive the kit, call the "Back to Sleep" toll-free number at (800) 505-CRIB. The resource kit may also be obtained on the NICHD Web site at www.nichd.nih.gov/sids/sid-subkey.cfm.

Medical Care:

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)

- AHRQ published a fact sheet entitled *Addressing Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health Care*. The fact sheet, which is available at www.ahrq.gov/research/disparit.htm, examines reasons for health disparities beyond issues of income and insurance.
- AHRQ's program brief, *Improving Health Care for Ethnic and Racial Minority Populations*, which is available at www.ahrq.gov/research/minorhlth.htm, summarizes the agency's activities to improve health and health care for minority populations.

Center for Studying Health System Change (CSHSC)

- CSHSC's Issue Brief, entitled *Race, Ethnicity and Preventive Services: No Gains for Hispanics*, shows that between 1997 and 1999 there was an increase in the percentage of White and African American persons receiving preventive care, such as mammography screening among women and physicians counseling cigarette smokers to quit, but there was no such increase in preventive measures for Hispanics. For more information, visit www.hschange.org.

Kaiser Family Foundation.

- Articles, entitled *The Key Facts: Race, Ethnicity & Medical Care, A Synthesis of the Literature: Racial and Ethnic Differences in Access to Medical Care*, and *Perceptions of How Race & Ethnic Background Affect Medical Care: Highlights from Focus Groups*, can be downloaded at www.kff.org/content/1999/19991014a.