



**CONSORTIUM FOR CITIZENS
WITH DISABILITIES**

**SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH AND THE SUPPLEMENTAL POVERTY MEASURE:
IMPLICATIONS FOR DISABILITY PREVENTION**

A briefing was held at the Urban Institute on “Poverty by the Numbers”. Presenters at the briefing were representatives of impoverished people who are elderly and young, a journalist, a statistician associated with developing poverty measures and an income benefit specialists.

Summary

Poverty has increased from 30 million in 2000 to 49 million in 2010 and there are 51 million people between 100% and 150% of poverty. A new supplemental measure of poverty (SPM) acknowledges that poor children would receive fewer benefits related to their health and well being. The new poverty measure reduces severe poverty of children in families from the official number of 10% to 5% and children living in families under the poverty level from 22.5% to 18.1%. However the new measure indicates, the elderly account for 16% of the impoverished and the old measure and 8%.

Disability Prevention Issues

There are several social determinants of health associated with safety net programs that can diminish health and contribute to disability that depend on poverty statistics. Poverty affects children’s health that result in poorer educational outcomes, less positive social and emotional development and more problem behavior. The Organization of Economic Cooperative Development (OECD) indicates real world hardships and well being of comparative standards of thirty countries on mortality, morbidity and well being measures. The U.S. is near the bottom on most of these measures. Effective antipoverty programs that address social determinants of health may prevent diminished health of vulnerable populations that may lead to disability. .

Activity

Issues rose at the event concerning adverse real world effects on impoverished people with respect to diminished health that contributes to disability,

Principle

Poverty measures should assure that basic human needs of Americans are met which provides a floor under which no person persons health should be compromised