

Why Low-income Populations with Cancer and Other Chronic Diseases Should Be Prioritized for Covid-19 Vaccination*

Healthcare Services

Neighborhood socioeconomic status is linked to access to health care services, with people residing in low SES neighborhoods being less likely to have access to health care services. This further increases the risk of adverse health outcomes related to COVID-19, such as higher hospitalizations and mortality.

Co-morbidities

Low SES populations are disproportionately affected by underlying medical conditions, such as cancers, hypertension, diabetes, chronic kidney disease, cardiovascular diseases, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and cirrhosis. All of these conditions are associated with increased death from COVID-19.

Low SES Communities and Covid-19

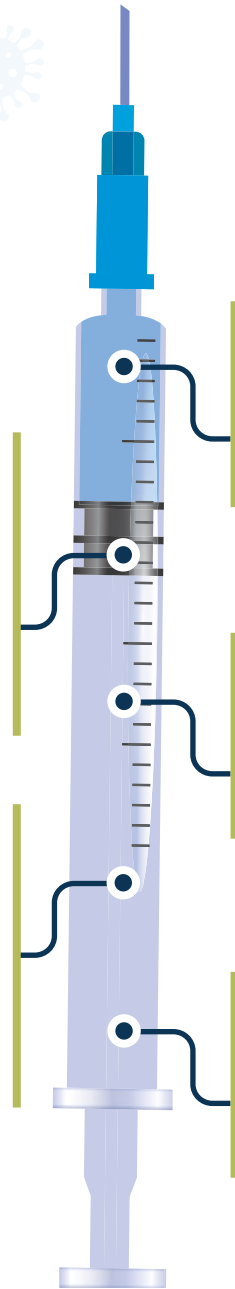
Communities with the greatest number of persons living in poverty experience higher rates of COVID-19 hospitalization and death, this pandemic.

Covid-19 Testing

Populations with low SES characteristics have experienced bias in COVID-19 testing, which may mask a higher burden of COVID-19 disease.

Economics

Millions of people have lost their jobs and potentially their health coverage in the economic effects of coronavirus pandemic. Low SES populations have suffered greater financial impact from this pandemic.



It is imperative that individuals with low SES characteristics be prioritized to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

*From SelfMadeHealth Network's Joint Statement "Ensuring Low-Income Populations with Cancer and Other Chronic Diseases are Prioritized for COVID-19 Vaccinations." Available at <https://selfmadehealth.org/download-view/joint-statement-selfmade-health-network-leadership-council-march-2021/>

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