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BOARD ON HEALTH CARE SERVICES

Accounting for
Social Risk Factors in
Medicare Payment: Data

Report 4

October 2016

Committee on Accounting for SES in Medicare Payment Programs

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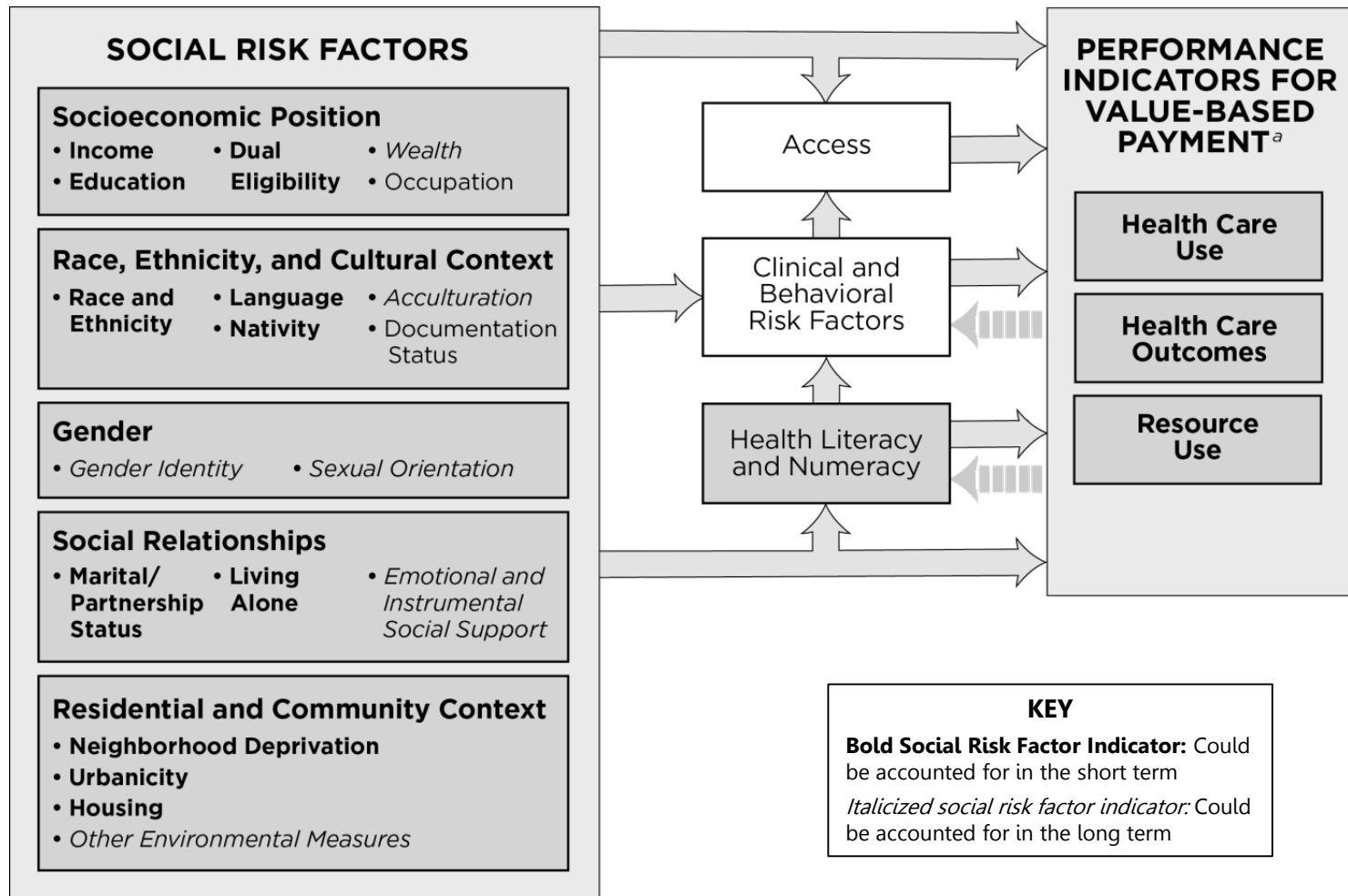
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Conceptual framework of social risk factors and performance indicators of VBPs



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Report 4: Statement of Task

For each of the SES factors or other social factors ... recommend existing or new sources of data on these factors and/or strategies for data collection, while also identifying challenges to obtaining appropriate data and strategies for overcoming these challenges.

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Potential Data Sources

1. New and Existing Sources of CMS Data
 2. Data Sources from Providers and Plans
 3. Alternative Government Sources
- Patients are the underlying source of most social risk factor data.
 - As new, better & easier methods of data collection emerge, an ideal system would be responsive to evolving data availability and could adapt to use new data sources.

New and Existing Sources of CMS Data

- Administrative records
 - e.g., enrollment records
- Beneficiary surveys
 - e.g., CAHPS, Medicare HOS, MCBS

Data Sources from Providers and Plans

- Electronic health records/data
- Administrative data that providers report/submit to CMS
 - e.g., claims data

Alternative Government Data Sources

- Social Security Administration data
- American Community Survey
- Other national health surveys
 - e.g., HRS, NHATS, NHANES, NHIS, NSFG

Data Collection

Characteristics to assess data sources:

- 1. Collection Burden**
- 2. Accuracy**
- 3. Clinical Utility**

The committee also considered whether an indicator is **relatively stable** (e.g., nativity) or **changes over time** (e.g., living alone).

Guiding Principles

1. First, use data CMS already has.
2. Second, use existing data collected by other government agencies (including elsewhere in HHS).
3. For relatively stable social risk factor indicators, collect data at the time of enrollment in Medicare.

(See Recommendation 1, p. 37)

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Guiding Principles

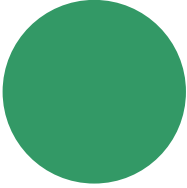
4. For social risk factor indicators that change over time *and* have clinical utility, collect through EHRs or other types of provider reporting
5. For social risk factor indicators that reflect a person's context or environment, consider existing data sources to develop area-level measures

(See Recommendation 1, p. 37)

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Categories of Available Data

- Data are available for use in the short and long term.
- Data with some limitations are available for use in the short term; research is needed for improved accuracy in the long term.
- Measures and data collection methods exist in the literature; research is needed to accurately collect data in the long term.
- Research is needed on the effect of the social risk factor indicator on performance indicators used in VBP and on methods to accurately collect data.

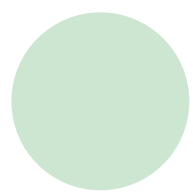


Data are available for use in the short and long term

- Dual eligibility
- Nativity
- Urbanicity/rurality

(See Recommendation 2, p. 38)

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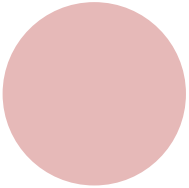


Data with limitations are available for the short term; research is needed for improved accuracy in the long term

- Race and ethnicity
- Language
- Marital/partnership status
- Income
- Education
- Neighborhood deprivation
- Housing

(See Recommendation 3, p.40, and Recommendation 5, p.47)

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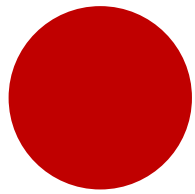


Measures and data collection methods exist in the literature; research is needed to accurately collect data in the long term

- Wealth
- Living Alone
- Social Support

(See Recommendation 4, p. 45)

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Research is needed on the effect of the social risk factor on performance indicators used in VBP and on measurement

- Acculturation
- Sexual orientation/Gender identity
- Environmental measures of residential and community context

(See Recommendation 6, p.47)

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Summary of Data Availability for Social Risk Factor Indicators

SOCIAL RISK FACTOR		DATA AVAILABILITY			
		1	2	3	4
SEP					
	Income		□		
	Education		□		
	Dual Eligibility	■			
	Wealth			□	
Race, Ethnicity, and Cultural Context					
	Race and Ethnicity		□		
	Language		□		
	Nativity	■			
	Acculturation				■
Gender					
	Gender identity				■
	Sexual orientation				■
Social Relationships					
	Marital/partnership status		□		
	Living alone			□	
	Social Support			□	
Residential and Community context					
	Neighborhood deprivation		□		
	Urbanicity/Rurality	■			
	Housing		□		
	Other environmental measures				■

1. Available for use now

2. Available for use now for some outcomes, but research needed for improved, future use

3. Not sufficiently available now; research needed for improved, future use

4. Research needed to better understand relationship with health care outcomes and on how to best collect data

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Recommendation 7

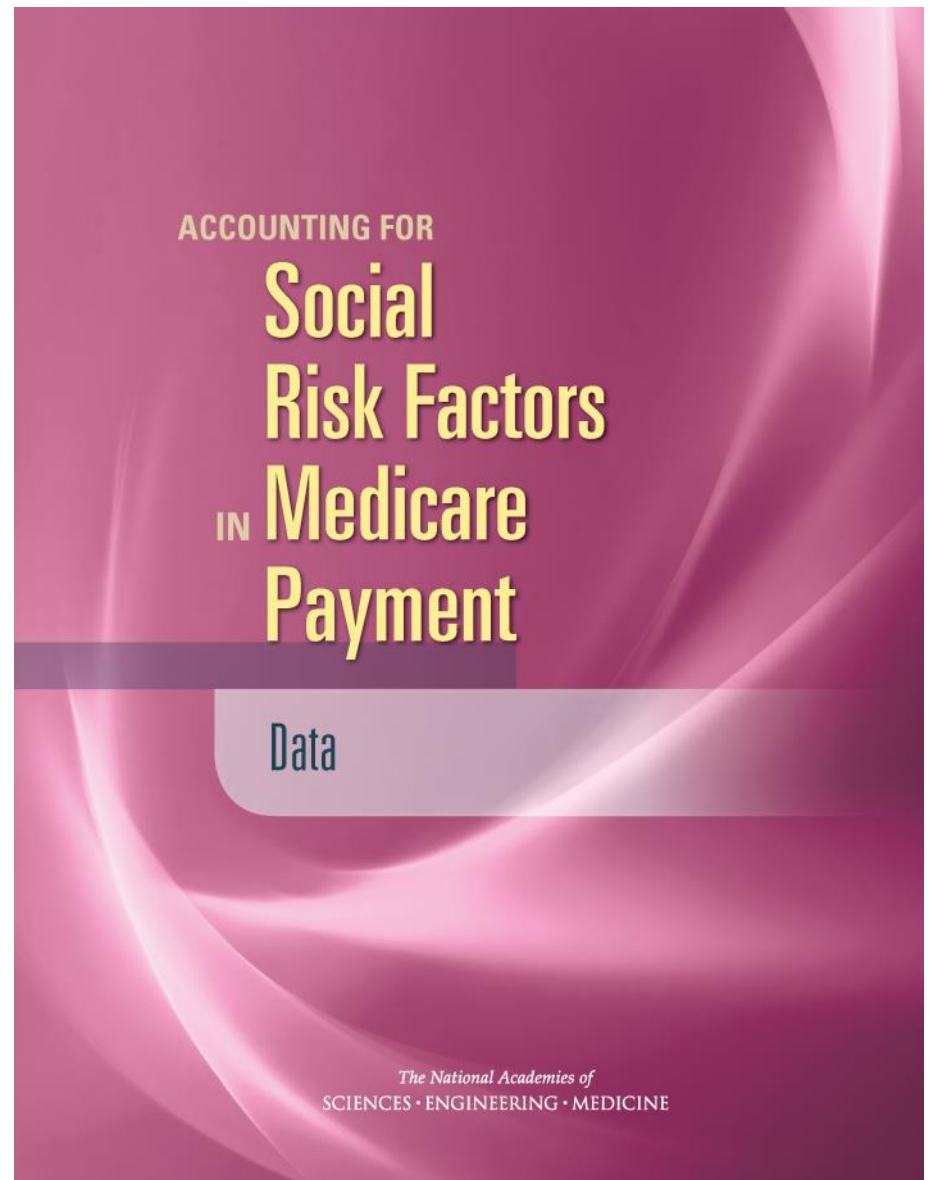
The committee recommends that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services collect information about relevant, relatively stable social risk factors, such as race and ethnicity, language, and education, at the time of enrollment.

Visit

[nationalacademies.org/
MedicareSocialRiskFactors](https://nationalacademies.org/MedicareSocialRiskFactors)
to download the full report

For more information,
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Thank you!



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