

Living your healthiest life means more than just regularly seeing a doctor. Many factors play a part in the state of your health. Eighty percent of an individual's health is determined by factors beyond the care they receive in a clinic or healthcare setting.

Every hospital in the nation will introduce Social Drivers of Health (SDOH) screenings because of new federal and state requirements. We will ask questions about your health and social needs to help provide you with the best care possible. When you need support, we can connect you to helpful resources.

We ask because we care. Scan this QR code to view a video about why we ask questions.



What are Social Drivers of Health?

Social Drivers of Health (SDOH) are the conditions in the environments where people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship and age that affect a wide range of health and quality-of-life outcomes and risks.

By recognizing that social factors drive our health, we reframe conversations about health. We show that social factors don't force health to be destined. Instead, they are something that people and communities can overcome or change. UK HealthCare will work with organizations in the community to address our patients' needs.

Social Drivers of Health (SDOH) can include the following:

Housing insecurity: Do you have a steady place to live?

Housing Insecurity can look different for everyone: homelessness, inability to pay bills and rent, evictions, or living with friends or family to share housing costs.

Food insecurity: Do you have enough food for yourself and your family?

Food insecurity is a lack of consistent access to enough food for every person in a household to live an active, healthy life.

Transportation: Do you have difficulty getting to appointments?

Being unable to regularly move from place to place in a safe and timely manner because one lacks the material, economic or social resources necessary for transportation can impact daily living and health care.

Personal safety: Do you feel safe at home?

Relationships with family, friends, coworkers and community members can have a major impact on health and wellbeing. Personal social factors may also influence mental health and personal safety, including race, gender, religion, family and peer networks.

Utilities insecurity: Do you have difficulty paying bills?

Many people have trouble covering their electric, water and gas bills, which could force them to make tough decisions on where to spend their money. This could impact overall health and well-being.