

RESEARCH TO ACTION:

Linking Exposome, Brain Health and Health Equity Policy

June 29, 2022

RCCN Workshop: Aging, Race and Health Disparities

Amy Kind, MD, PhD

University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health



FUNDING DISCLOSURES

NIH/National Institute on Aging

NIH/National Institute on Minority Health
and Health Disparities

US Department of Veterans Affairs



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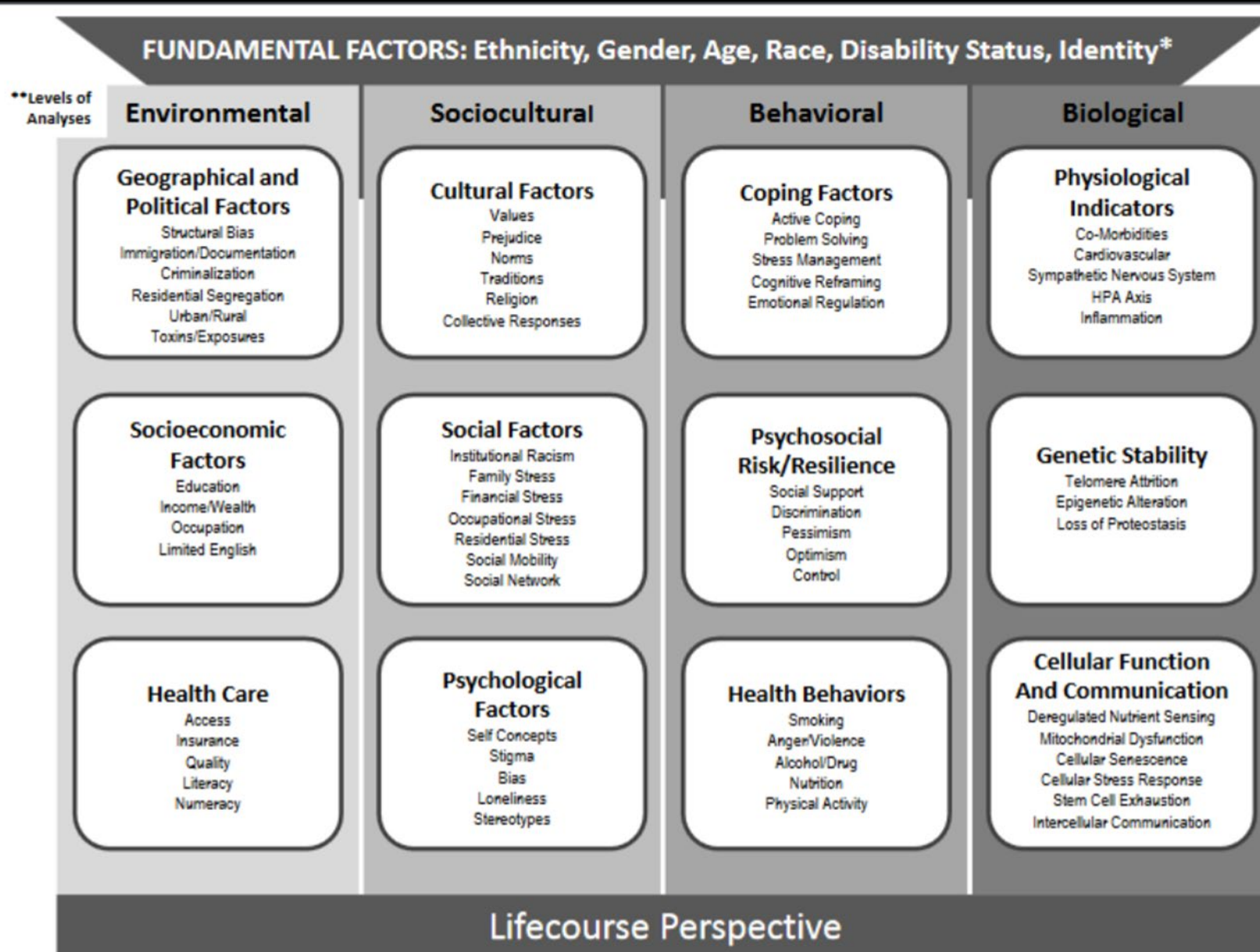
HEALTH IS NOT DISTRIBUTED EQUALLY



Solutions Needed



NIA MECHANISTIC HEALTH DISPARITIES FRAMEWORK



**Hill, Perez-Stable, Anderson and Bernard, *Ethnicity and Disease*, 2015



MECHANISTIC APPROACH

EXPOSOME – The measure of all the exposures of an individual in a lifetime and how those exposures relate to health*

*The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
<https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/exposome/default.html#:~:text=The%20exposome%20can%20be%20defined,from%20environmental%20and%20occupational%20sources..> Accessed 4/20/2021

ENVIRONMENTAL

SOCIOCULTURAL

BEHAVIORAL

BIOLOGICAL

LIFE COURSE



HEALTH IS NOT DISTRIBUTED EQUALLY



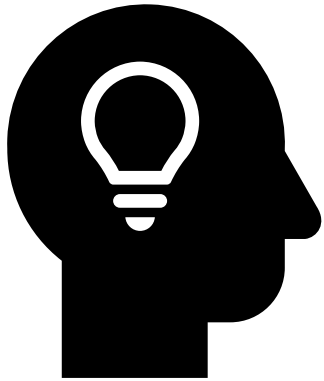


POWER OF POLICY

“Policies are fundamentally linked to health promotion and disease prevention. They create opportunities for broad and sustainable improvements in population health....

~Eyler and Bownson, *“The Power of Policy to Improve Health”*, Institute of Medicine 2012

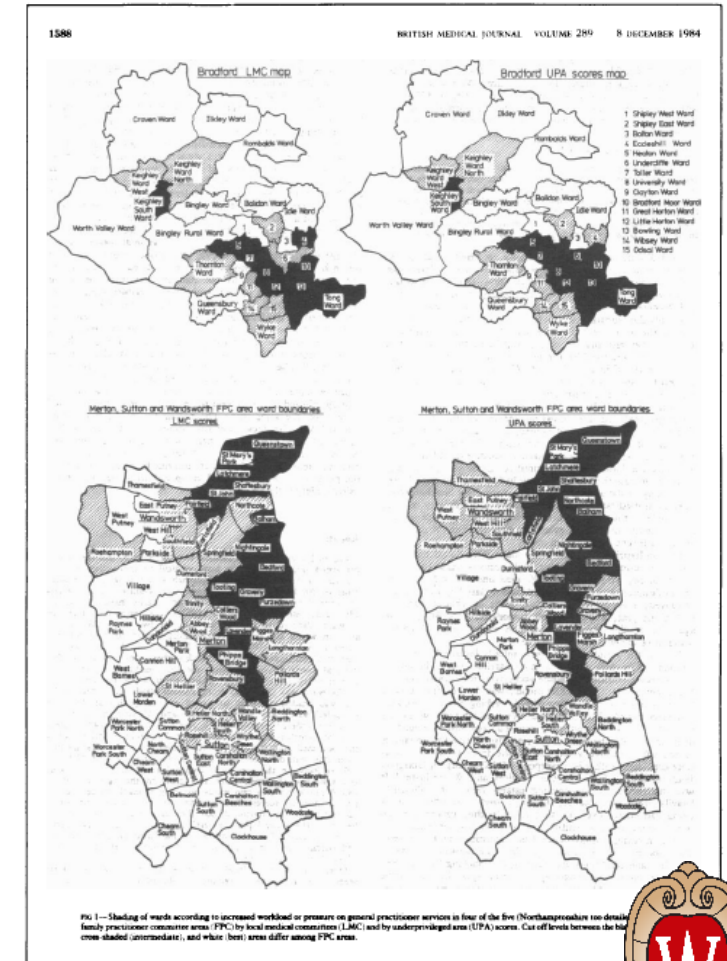
POLICY ACTIONABLE METRICS ARE...



1. Inclusive of all targeted persons in a political unit (generalizable)
2. Regularly updated (timely)
3. Rigorously tested (valid)
4. Accessible to all (open)
5. Constructed to meet the needs of a range of possible users (understandable)

METRICS OF NEIGHBORHOOD DISADVANTAGE

- **Quantifiable**
 - Social determinants of health in a discrete population-sensitive area (typically 500-1500 persons)
- **Robust**
 - Harmonizable
 - Privacy-compliant
- **Actionable**
 - Outreach
 - Resource targeting



The Jarman Index



MECHANISTIC APPROACH

EXPOSOME – The measure of all the exposures of an individual in a lifetime and how those exposures relate to health*

*The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
<https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/exposome/default.html#:~:text=The%20exposome%20can%20be%20defined,from%20environmental%20and%20occupational%20sources..> Accessed 4/20/2021

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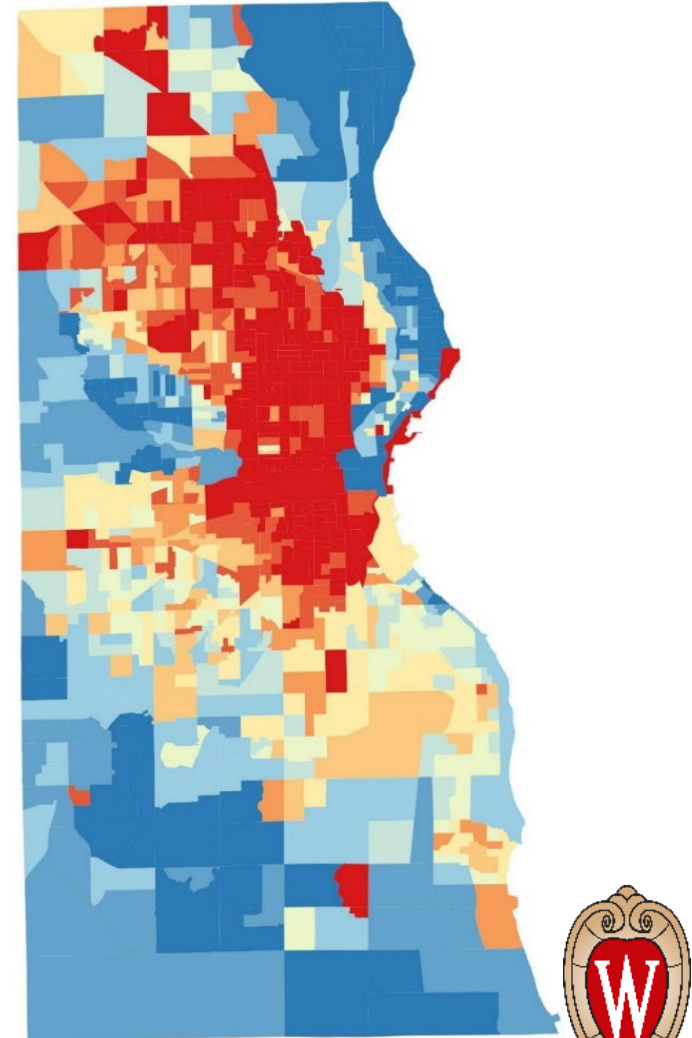
BIOLOGICAL

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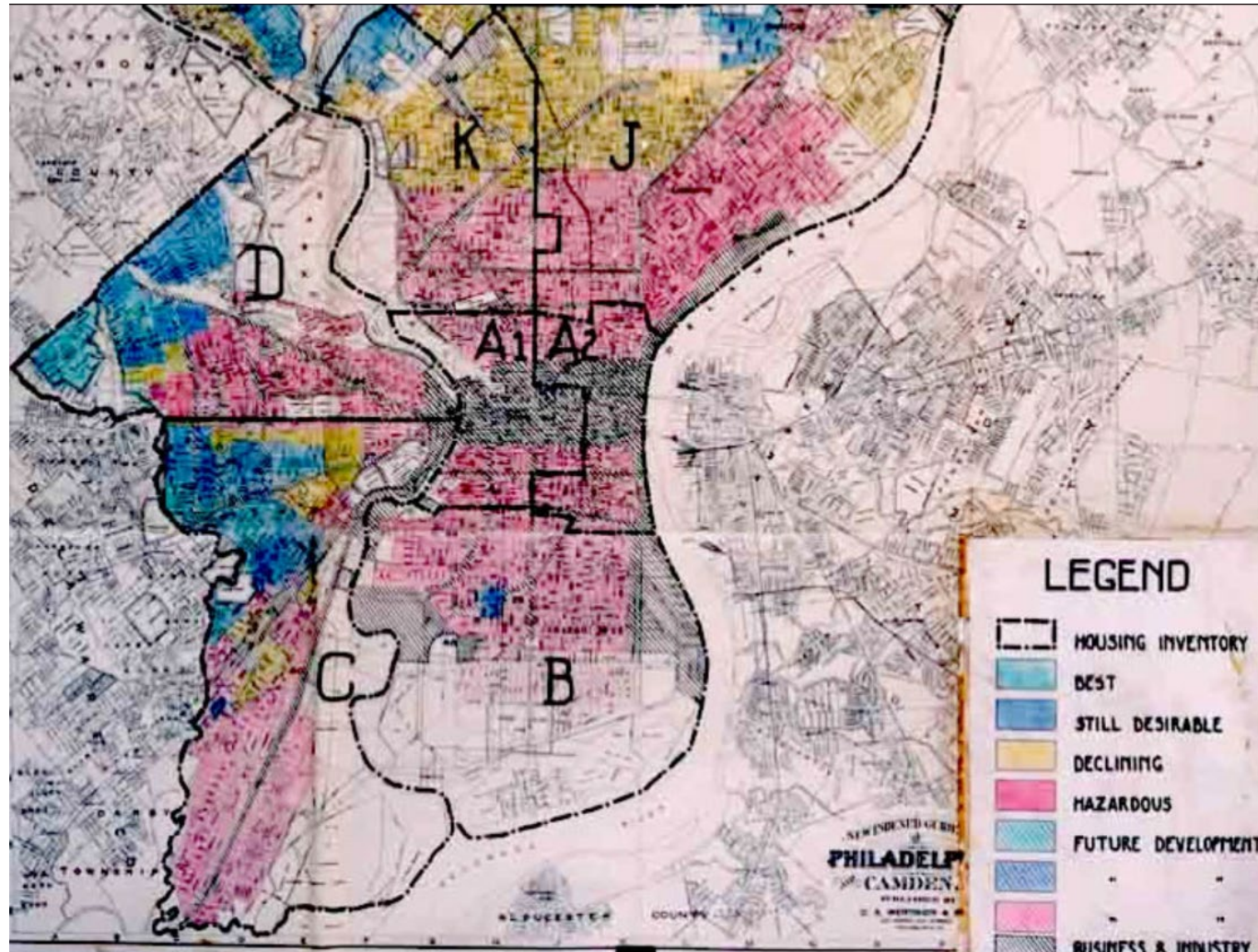
AREA DEPRIVATION INDEX (ADI)

- Originally created by Health Resources and Services Administration in 1990s and employed at the county level
- **Education, employment, housing-quality and poverty**
- UW team updated
 - Data sources
 - Refined down to census block-group level (i.e. “neighborhood” ~ 1,500 persons)
- ADI measures available for full US including DC and PR



Milwaukee County

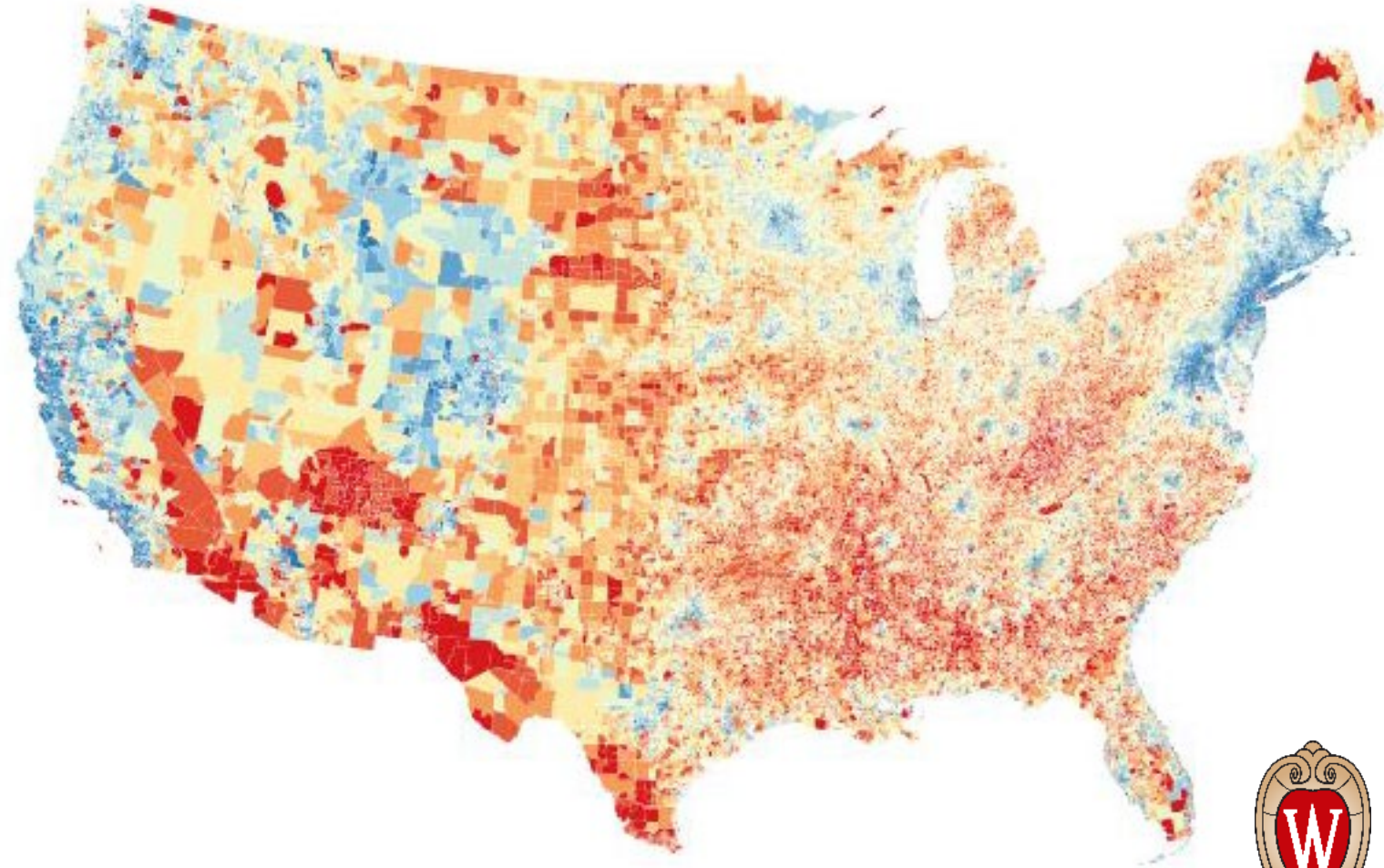
STRUCTURAL INEQUITIES



*The HOLC maps are part of the records of the FHLBB (RG195) at the [National Archives II Archived](#) 2016-10-11 at the [Wayback Machine](#).

CHARACTERISTICS OF HIGHLY DISADVANTAGED NEIGHBORHOODS IN US

- More often in urban core and rural areas



TOP THREE CONSIDERATIONS FOR USING MULTIDOMAIN INDICES OF DISADVANTAGE (LIKE THE ADI)



1. Individual-level SES and contextual-level SES are not equal
2. Associations are typically non-linear
3. Application and interpretation must be informed by health disparities theory





Original Investigation | Surgery

Analysis of Delayed Surgical Treatment and Oncologic Outcomes in Clinical Stage I Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer

Brendan T. Heiden, MD; Daniel B. Eaton Jr, MPH; Kathryn E. Engelhardt, MD, MS; Su-Hsin Chang, PhD, SM; Yan Yan, MD, PhD; Mayank R. Patel, MD; Daniel Kreisel, MD, PhD; Ruben G. Nava, MD; Bryan F. Meyers, MD, MPH; Benjamin D. Kozower, MD, MPH; Varun Puri, MD, MSCI

Rachel Marsh¹ a

Area Deprivation Index Predicts Readmission Risk at an Urban Teaching Hospital

and, Roe Gutman, Kristina Monteiro, William R. Buckingham,

DOI: 10.1377/hlthaff.2017.1509
HEALTH AFFAIRS 37,
NO. 7 (2018): -
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American Journal of
Transplantation

AST | AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
TRANSPLANTATION

ASTS
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF TRANSPLANT SURGEONS

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Neighborhood socioeconomic deprivation is associated with worse patient and graft survival following pediatric liver transplantation

Sharad I. Wadhvani, Andrew F. Beck, John Bucuvalas, Laura Gottlieb, Uma Kotagal, Jennifer C. Lai

January 2020 | <https://doi.org/10.1111/ajt.15786> | Citations: 4

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SPECIAL ISSUE: HEA

Neighborhood

Annals

LATEST ISSUES

PREV ARTICLE | THIS ISS

ORIGINAL RESEARCH

Safety-Net Hospitals, Under Maryland's All-

Stephen F. Jencks, MD, MPH; Alyson Schu
MSPH; Amy J.H. Kind, MD, PhD

Article, Author, and Disclosure Inform

JAMA Cardiology | Original Investigation

Association of Socioeconomic Disadvantage With Long-term Mortality After Myocardial Infarction: The Mass General Brigham YOUNG-MI Registry

Adam N. Berman, MD; David W. Biery, AB; Curtis Ginder, MD; Avinainder Singh, MBBS, MMSc; Jonggyu Baik, PhD; Rishi K. Wadhwa, MD, MPP, MPhil; Wanda Y. Wu, BA; Sanjay Divakaran, MD; Ersilia M. DeFilippis, MD; Jon Hainer, BS; Christopher P. Cannon, MD; Jorge Plutzky, MD; Donna M. Polk, MD, MPH; Khurram Nasir, MD, MPH; Marcelo F. Di Carli, MD; Arlene S. Ash, PhD; Deepak L. Bhatt, MD, MPH; Ron Blankstein, MD

Original Investigation | Infectious Diseases

Racial Disparities in Incidence and Outcomes Among Patients With COVID-19

L. Silvia Muñoz-Price, MD, PhD; Ann B. Nattinger, MD, MPH; Frida Rivera, MD, PhD; Ryan Hanson, MS; Cameron G. Gmehlin, BA; Adriana Perez, MS; Siddhartha Singh, MD, MS, MBA; Blake W. Buchan, PhD; Nathan A. Ledebor, PhD; Lilianna E. Pezzin, PhD, JD



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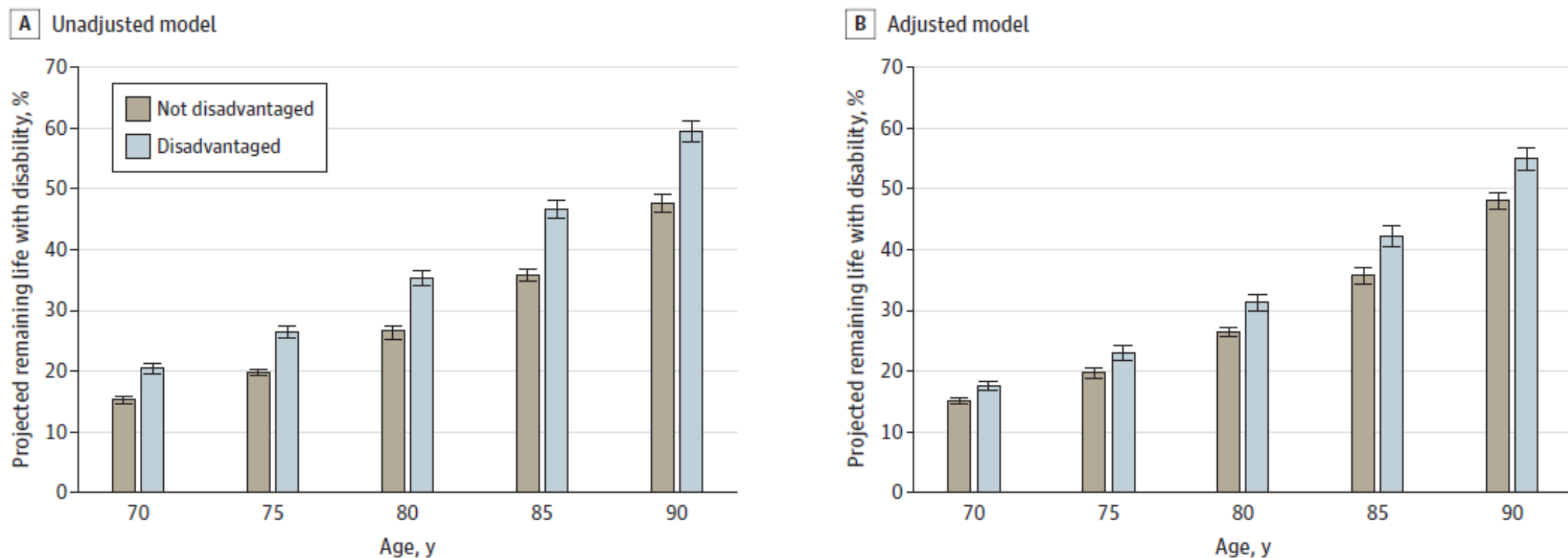
Brain connectivity and socioeconomic status at birth and externalizing symptoms at age 2 years

Bruce Ramphal^a, Diana J. Whalen^b, Jeanette K. Kenley^c, Qiongru Yu^b, Christopher D. Smyser^{c,d,e}, Cynthia E. Rogers^{b,e}, Chad M. Sylvester^b

Association Between Neighborhood Disadvantage and Functional Well-being in Community-Living Older Persons

Thomas M. Gill, MD; Emma X. Zang, PhD; Terrence E. Murphy, PhD; Linda Leo-Summers, MPH; Evelyne A. Gahbauer, MD, MPH; Natalia Festa, MD, MBA; Jason R. Falvey, DPT, PhD; Ling Han, MD, PhD

Figure 2. Percentage of Projected Remaining Life With Disability According to Age and Neighborhood Disadvantage



Clinical Investigation | [Full Access](#)

Neighborhood-Level Social Disadvantage and Risk of Delirium Following Major Surgery

Franchesca Arias PhD [✉](#), Fan Chen MS, MPH, Tamara G. Fong MD, PhD, Haley Shiff BA, Margarita Alegria PhD, Edward R. Marcantonio MD, SM, Yun Gou MA, Richard N. Jones ScD ... [See all authors](#) ▾

First published: 31 August 2020 | <https://doi.org/10.1111/jgs.16782>

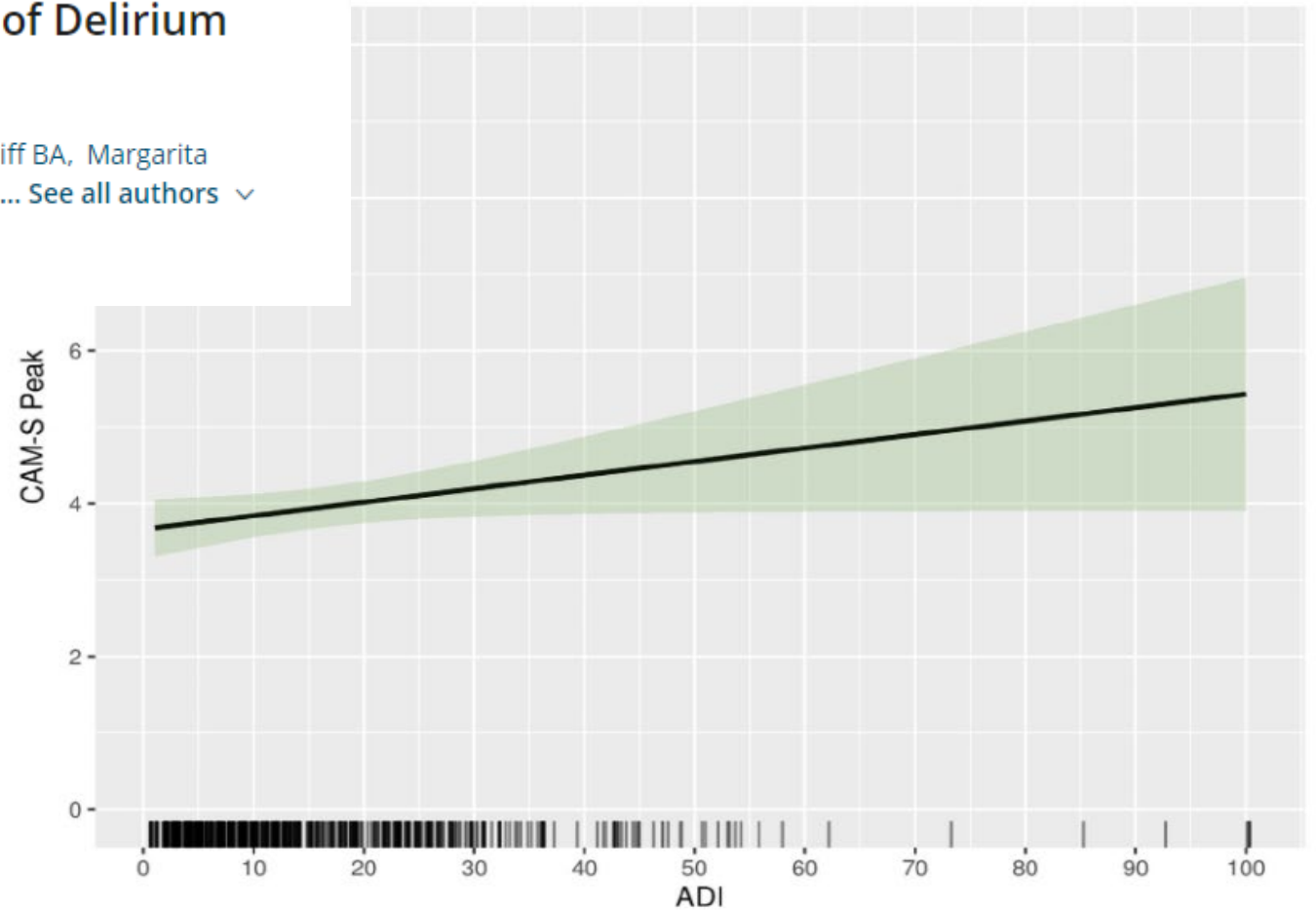
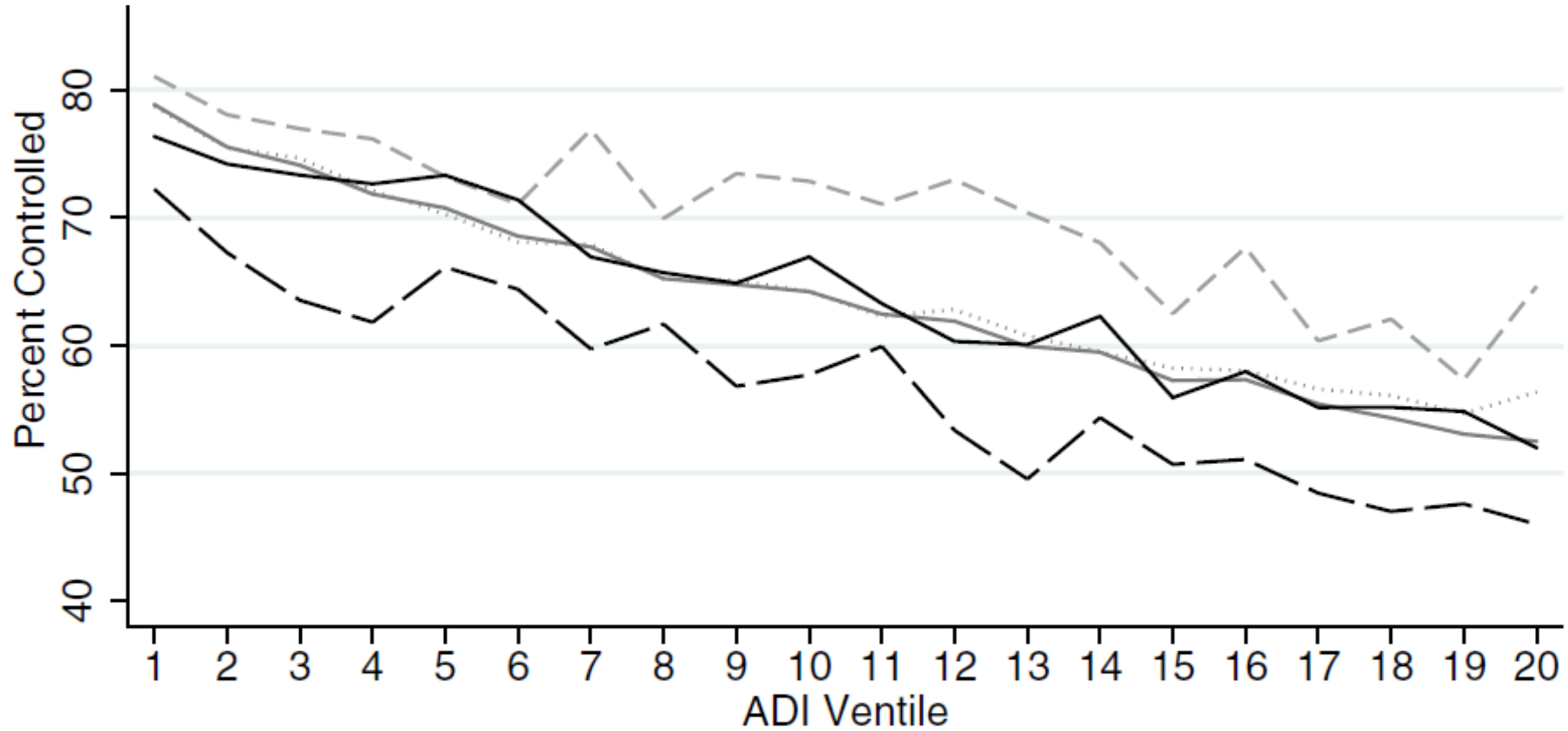
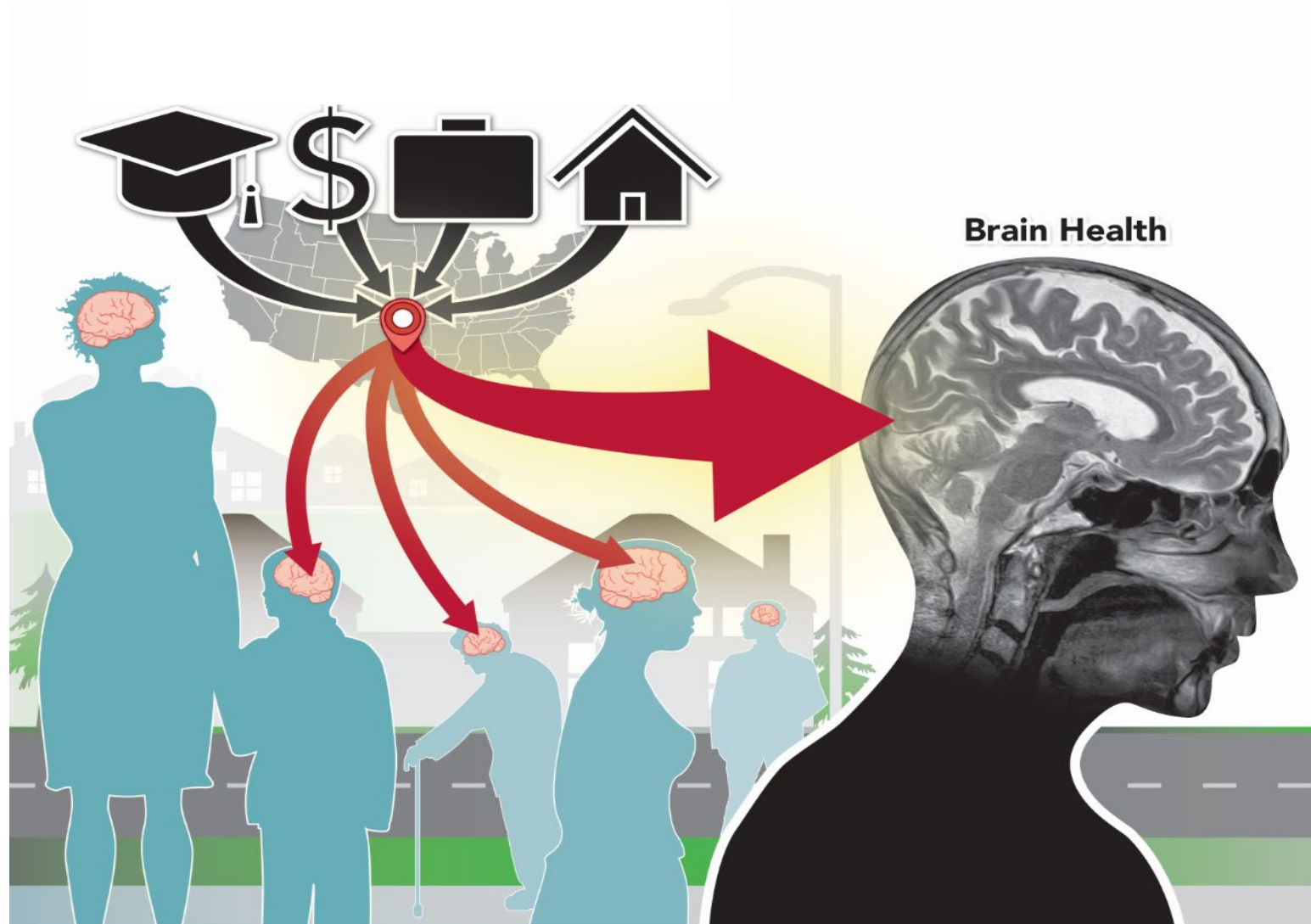


Figure 1. Association between Area Deprivation Index (ADI) and the highest single Confusion Assessment Method Severity score rating during hospitalization (CAM-S Peak) in the Successful Aging After Elective Surgery cohort (N = 560). Analyses were completed using linear regression lines, and 95% confidence intervals were calculated using a standard formula (mean \pm 1.96 * standard error).

Neighborhood Disadvantage and Cholesterol Control in Medicare Advantage



NEIGHBORHOOD DISADVANTAGE AND BRAIN HEALTH



Associations between Amygdala-Prefrontal Functional Connectivity and Age Depend on Neighborhood Socioeconomic Status

Bruce Ramphal¹, Mariah DeSerisy², David Pagliaccio¹, Elizabeth Raffanello¹, Virginia Rauh³, Gregory Tau¹, Jonathan Posner¹, Rachel Marsh¹ and Amy E. Margolis¹

¹New York State Psychiatric Institute and Department of Psychiatry, Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, New York, NY 10032, USA, ²Department of Psychology, Fordham University, Bronx, NY 10458, USA and ³Department of Population and Family Health, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University, New York, NY 10032, USA



Address correspondence to Bruce Ramphal, 1051 Riverside Drive, Box 74/Room 2403, New York, NY 10032, USA. Email: bruce.ramphal@nyspi.columbia.edu.

- Cross-sectional MRI study of 127 participants aged 5–25 years NYC area
- Reduced basolateral amygdala- prefrontal cortex functional connectivity at earlier ages in participants from more disadvantaged neighborhoods by ADI, independent of individual-level SES
- Reduced connectivity in more disadvantaged youth was associated with less anxiety



ARCHIVAL REPORT | [ARTICLES IN PRESS](#)

A Social Gradient of Cortical Thickness in Adolescence: Relations With Neighborhood Socioeconomic Disadvantage, Family Socioeconomic Status, and Depressive Symptoms

[Jonas G. Miller](#)   • [Vanessa Lopez](#) • [Jessica L. Buthmann](#) • [Jordan Garcia](#) • [Ian H. Gotlib](#)

[Open Access](#) • Published: March 16, 2022 • DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bpsgos.2022.03.005>

- Cross-sectional MRI study of 120 adolescents, 13-18yo
- Residence in a highly disadvantaged neighborhood linked to thinner cortex in left hemisphere, linked to more severe depression symptoms. Family SES not associated.

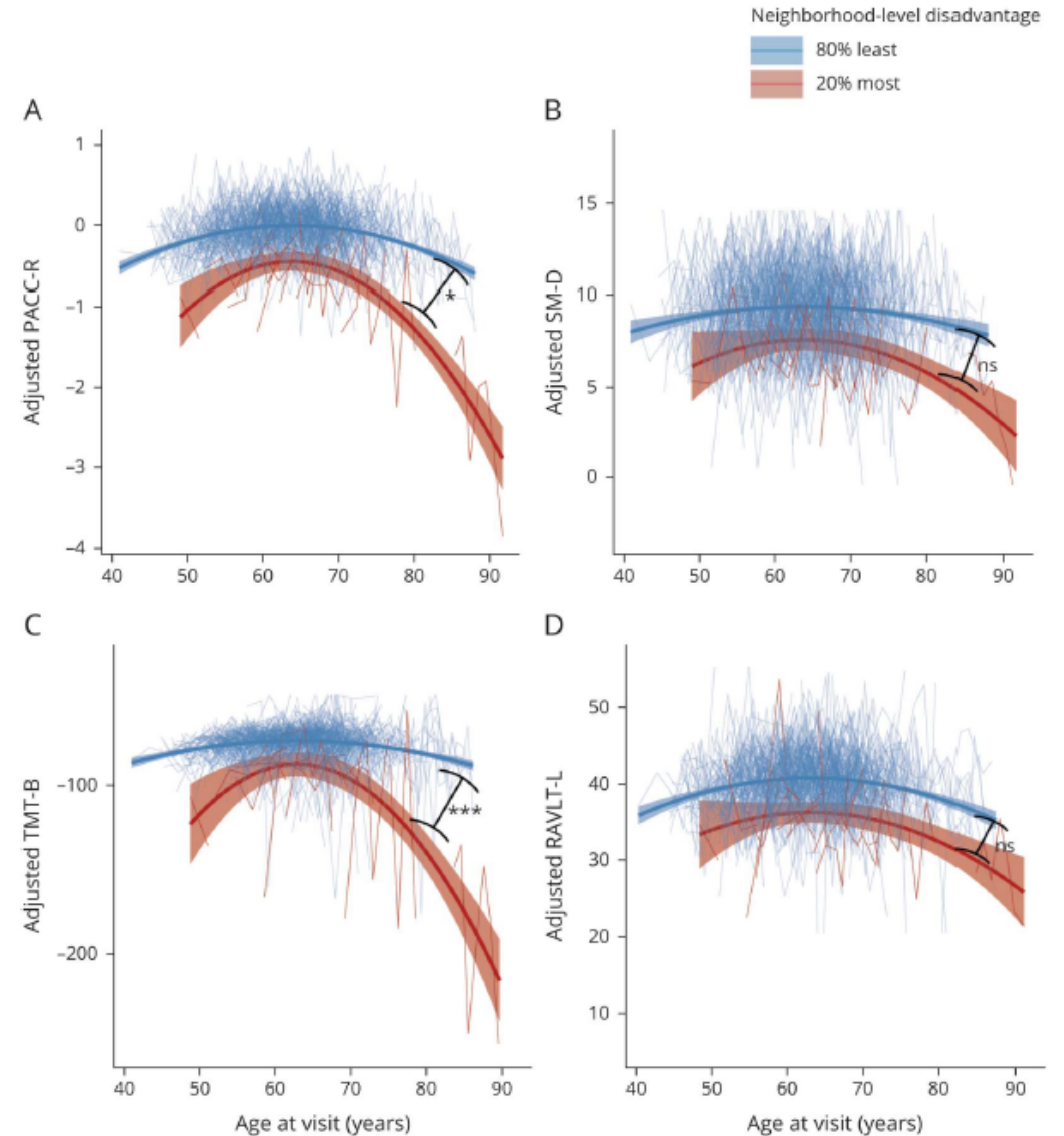
April 14, 2021 ARTICLE

Association of Neighborhood Context, Cognitive Decline, and Cortical Change in an Unimpaired Cohort

Jack F.V. Hunt, Nicholas M. Vogt, Erin M. Jonaitis, William R. Buckingham, Rebecca L. Kosciak, Megan Zuelsdorff, Lindsay R. Clark, Carey E. Gleason, Menggang Yu, Ozioma Okonkwo, Sterling C. Johnson, Sanjay Asthana, Barbara B. Bendlin, Amy J.H. Kind

First published April 14, 2021, DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1212/WNL.00000000000011918>

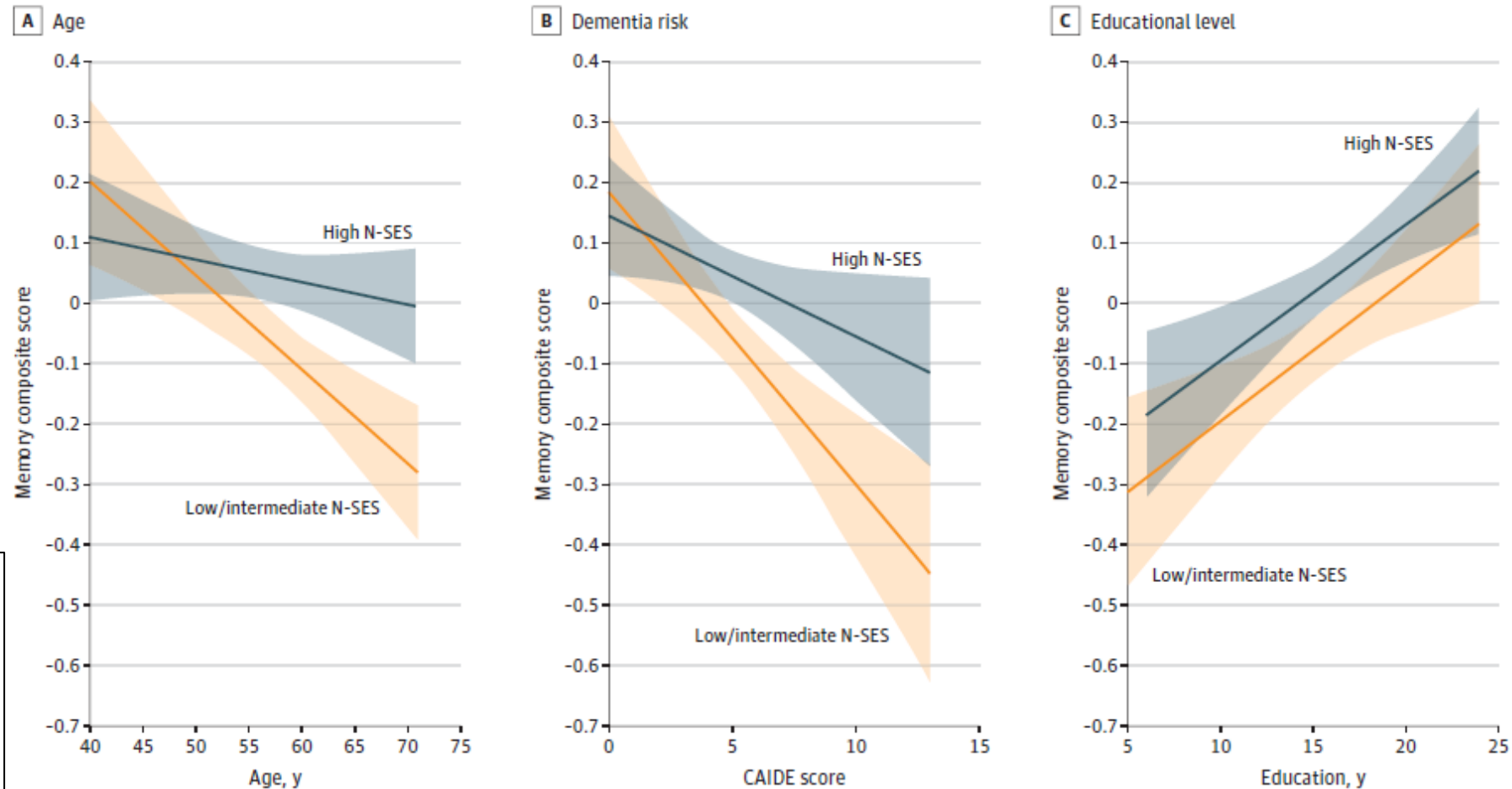
In this 10 year longitudinal study of cognitively unimpaired adults, living in the most highly disadvantaged neighborhoods was associated with accelerated degeneration (cortical thinning) in AD affected regions and more cognitive decline



Plots depict performance on Preclinical Alzheimer's Cognitive Composite-Revised (PACC-R) composite (A) and component subtests (B-D) on the age on the x-axis. Higher scores equate to better performance on cognitive test (Trail-Making Test, part B [TMT-B] scores are multiplied by -1 for consistency). Cognitive test scores are adjusted for sex, years of education, practice effects, and individual-level intercepts and slopes. Small lines (plot) depict individual trajectories; large lines depict estimated quadratic slopes for participants with the 80% least neighborhood-level disadvantage (blue lines, n = 582) and 20% most disadvantage (red lines, n = 19). Participants from the most highly disadvantaged neighborhoods exhibited significant decline in PACC-R and TMT-B than participants from less disadvantaged neighborhoods, but showed no difference in decline of Story Memory Delay (SM-D) or Rey Auditory Verbal Learning Test, total trials 1-5 (RAVLT-L). Unadjusted p values for age² × neighborhood disadvantage interaction terms are displayed on plots for each cognitive test: ns p > 0.05, *p < 0.05, ***p < 0.001.



Figure 3. Association Between Memory Composite Score and Increasing Age, Dementia Risk Score, and Years of Education by Neighborhood-Level Socioeconomic Status (N-SES)



Pase et al, "Association of Neighborhood-Level Socioeconomic Measures with Cognition and Dementia Risk in Australian Adults", JAMA Open 2022

A, Means were adjusted for sex, years of education, race and residential location. B, Original dementia risk score from the Cardiovascular Risk Factors, Aging, and Incidence of Dementia (CAIDE) tool. Means were adjusted for race and residential location. C, Means were adjusted for age, sex, race, and residential location. The Cogstate Brief Battery memory composite score was based on composite z scores from the one card

learning and one back tests. Higher scores indicate a higher number of correct responses. Neighborhood-level socioeconomic status was measured using the Index of Relative Socio-economic Advantage and Disadvantage, with deciles 1 to 7 indicating low to intermediate N-SES (n = 913) and deciles 8 to 10 indicating high N-SES (n = 1268). Shaded areas indicate 95% CIs.



Original Investigation | Public Health

Association of Neighborhood-Level Disadvantage With Alzheimer Disease Neuropathology

W. Ryan Powell, PhD; William R. Buckingham, PhD; Jamie L. Larson, PhD; Leigha Vilen, BS; Menggang Yu, PhD; M. Shahriar Salamat, MD, PhD; Barbara B. Bendlin, PhD; Robert A. Rissman, PhD; Amy J. H. Kind, MD, PhD

Abstract

IMPORTANCE Social determinants of health, such as income, education, housing quality, and employment, are associated with disparities in Alzheimer disease and health generally, yet these determinants are rarely incorporated within neuropathology research.

OBJECTIVE To establish the feasibility of linking neuropathology data to social determinants of health exposures using neighborhood disadvantage metrics (the validated Area Deprivation Index)

Key Points

Question Can neighborhood disadvantage, a social determinant of health, be incorporated into existing brain bank data to evaluate the risk of biological outcomes, such as Alzheimer disease neuropathology?

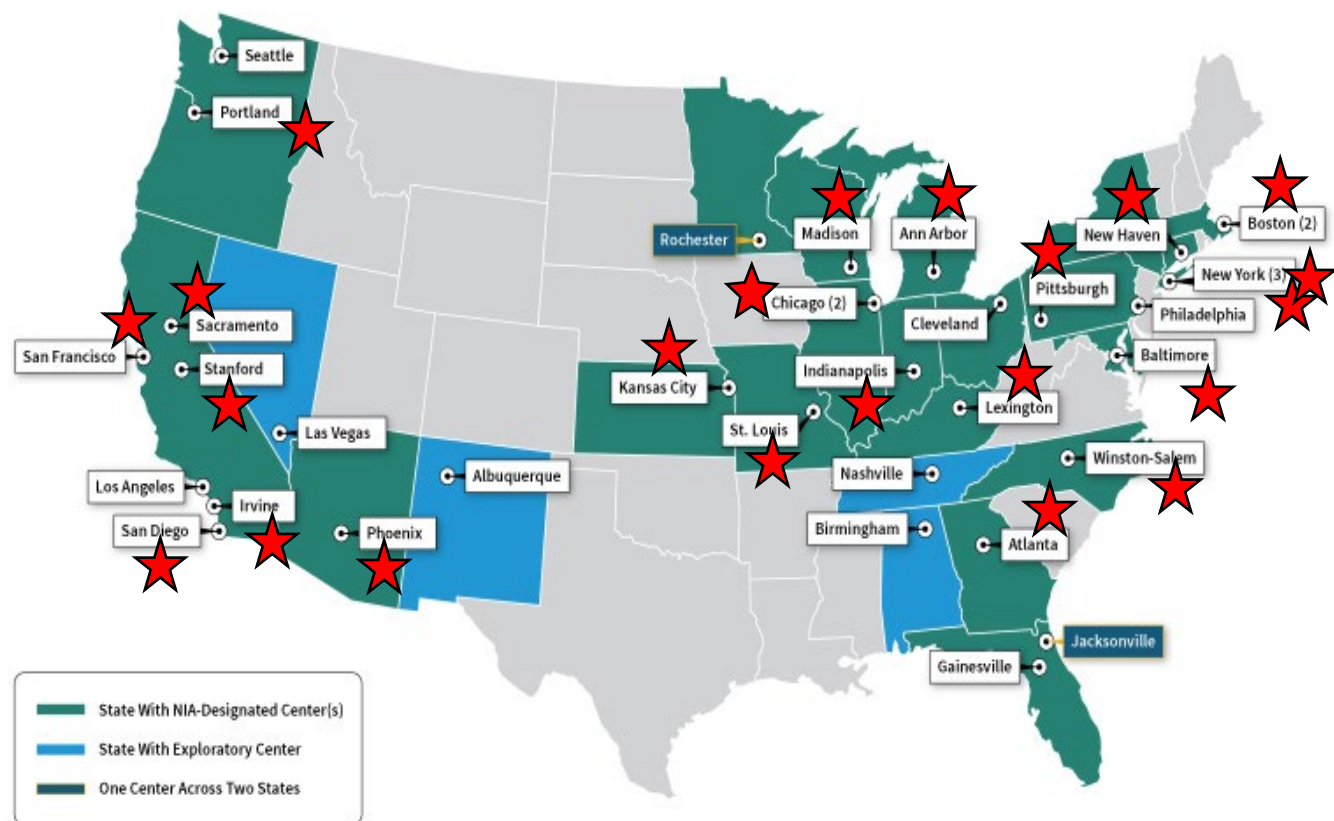
Living in the most disadvantaged neighborhood decile was associated increased odds of AD neuropathology



THE NEIGHBORHOODS STUDY

(R01AG070883; PI KIND, MPI BENDLIN)

- Novel collaborative multi-site initiative to examine the impact of life-course exposome on brain health
- Over 9,000 ADRC brain bank decedents
- 7,875 ADRC clinical core participants
- 22 Alzheimer's Disease Research Centers



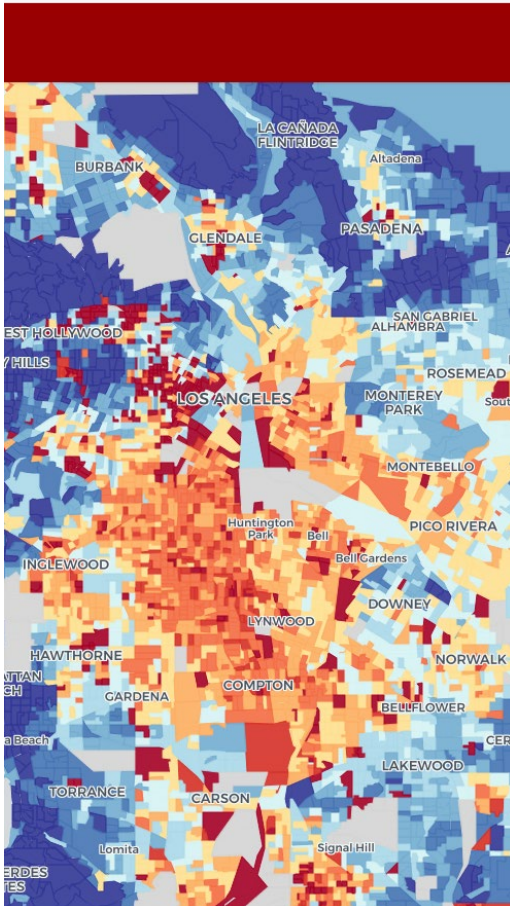
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THE NEIGHBORHOOD ATLAS

www.neighborhoodatlas.medicine.wisc.edu

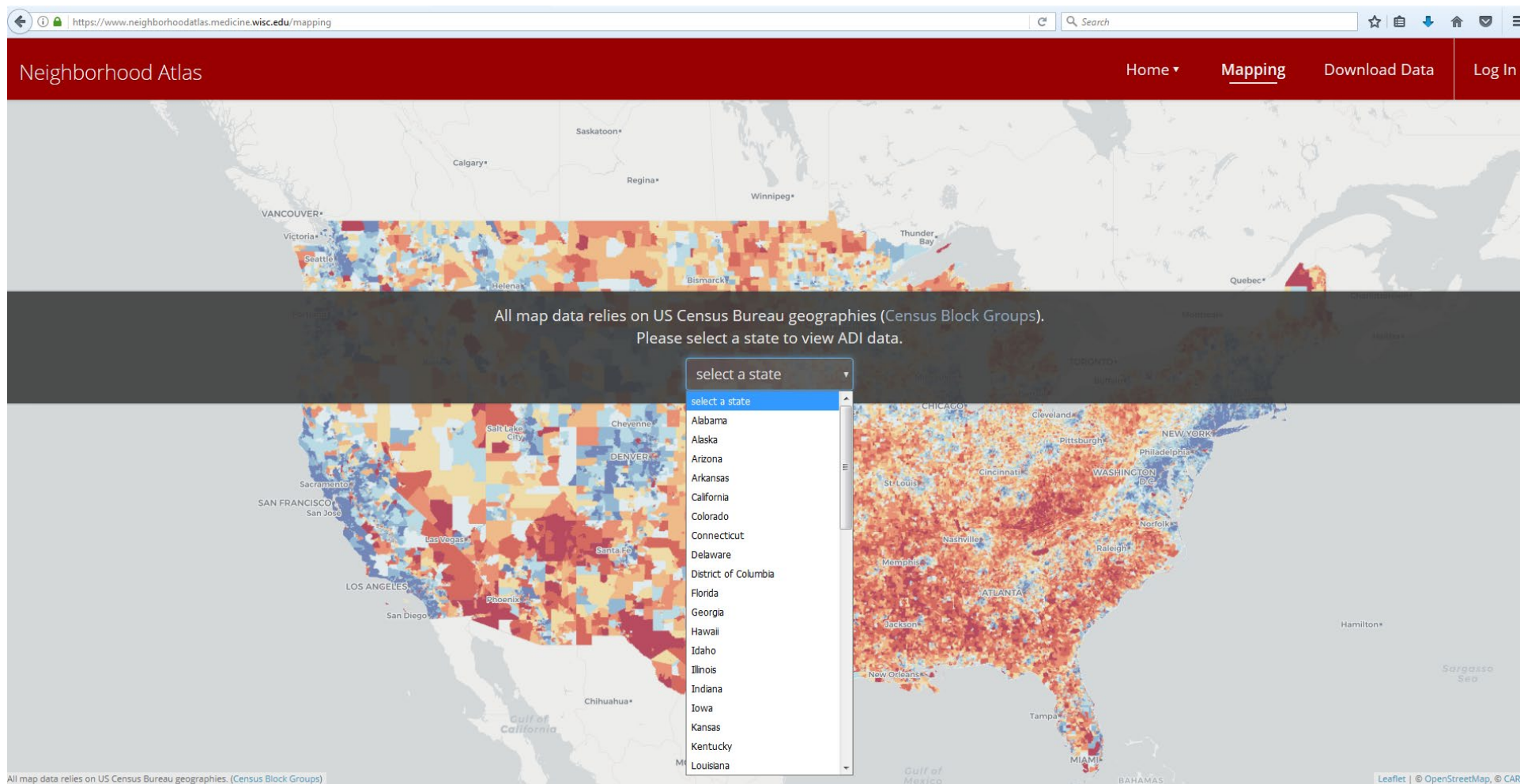


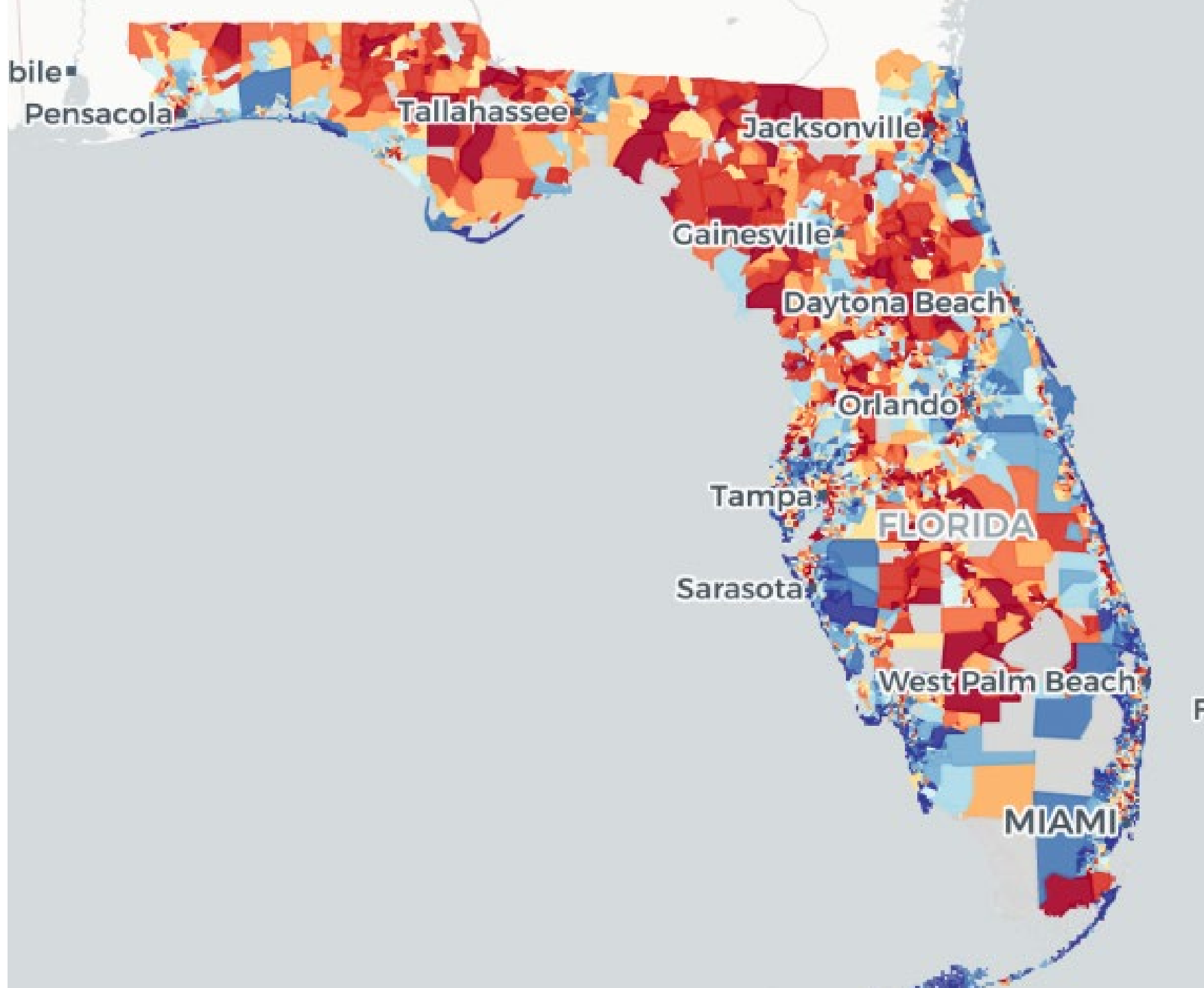
- Data democratization and open science tool for the ADI
- Customized mapping; Free, open to all
- Nearing one-half of a million views
- Data downloaded tens of thousands of times by research, governmental, community, and industry groups.



THE NEIGHBORHOOD ATLAS

www.neighborhoodatlas.medicine.wisc.edu





NEIGHBORHOOD ATLAS: CATALYZING DISPARITIES RESEARCH

NIH Promotion of the Atlas

- Catalyzing dissemination
- Embedding Atlas metrics (ADI) in multiple NIH core research resources

Other Examples

- Professional Medical Societies
- Industry



The screenshot shows a webpage from the National Institute on Aging (NIA). At the top, the NIA logo is followed by the text "National Institute on Aging". Below this is a navigation bar with three tabs: "HEALTH INFORMATION", "RESEARCH & FUNDING", and "ABOUT NIA". Underneath the navigation bar is a breadcrumb trail: "Home / Research & Funding / Blog / The Neighborhood Atlas—Free social determinants of health data for all!". The main heading of the page is "The Neighborhood Atlas—Free social determinants of health data for all!" in blue text, with the date "November 20, 2019" below it. To the left of the text is a circular portrait of Robin BARR, an older man with white hair and glasses. To the right of the portrait is his name and title: "Robin BARR, Director, DEA, Division of Extramural Activities (DEA)". Below the portrait and text are two blue buttons: "Research" and "Scientific Resources". At the bottom of the page, there is a paragraph of text: "At NIA, we know that achieving and maintaining good health is about more than biology. The neighborhoods where we live, work, play, worship and grow older play significant roles¹: Income levels, education, housing quality, and employment, or lack thereof, are all factors."

NEIGHBORHOOD ATLAS: INFORMING STRATEGIES TO MITIGATE DISPARITIES

Ethical Allocation of COVID Therapies

- Example: Pennsylvania

COVID Vaccine Resource Targeting

- Example: Alaska

Efficiently Aligning Health System Resources to Needs

- Example: US Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)
 - 2022 ACO Realizing Equity, Access, and Community Health (REACH) Model



Ethical Allocation Framework for Emerging Treatments of COVID-19

Introduction

The foundational goal of this document is to develop a broad, fair, and equitable framework for how to allocate scarce, emerging COVID-19 treatments. This document addresses remdesivir (RDV) in particular, but the ethical goals of this allocation framework should inform allocation of other scarce treatments as they become available, including monoclonal antibodies, convalescent plasma, and other emerging treatments. Information in this document (such as the clinical criteria for eligibility and dosage) that apply specifically to RDV are subject to change as more data emerges on its use and effectiveness.

<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Guidance/Ethical-Allocation-Framework.aspx>

Health Equity Benchmark Adjustment

ACO REACH includes a benchmark adjustment that increases benchmarks for ACOs serving higher proportions of underserved beneficiaries

CMS will stratify all beneficiaries aligned to ACO REACH using a composite measure of underservice that incorporates a combination of¹:

Area Deprivation Index

Area-level measure of local socioeconomic factors correlated with medical disparities and underservice

Percentile Score from 1-100

Dual Medicaid Status

Beneficiary-level measure of economic challenges affecting individuals' ability to access high quality care

25 Point Adjustment for Full or Partial Dual Eligibility



91st – 100th Percentile
(Top Decile)

+\$30 PBPM Adjustment

51st – 90th Percentile
(Middle 4 Deciles)

No Adjustment

1st – 50th Percentile
(Bottom 5 Deciles)

-\$6 PBPM Adjustment

1. CMS may explore other variables to include in this assessment and will notify applicants prior to the start of PY2023 if any other variables are included.



POWER OF POLICY

TIPS FOR RESEARCHERS

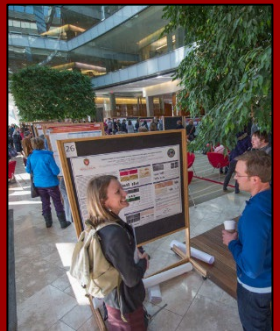
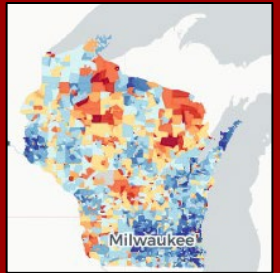
- Whenever possible design and conduct science that moves beyond description to align towards real-world solutions. Design to inform interventions and policy from the start
- Metrics of neighborhood disadvantage often reflect structural inequities in any country, including the US
- The Neighborhood Atlas is a freely available data democratization tool that provides customizable geographic images of block-group level ADI for anywhere within the US. The Atlas is available to everyone (including you!)





Center for Health Disparities Research

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
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** Deputy Director

* Executive Committee Member