



1. American Medical Association (AMA)

- a. [AMA puts its organizational muster behind health equity push](#) (June 2018) (<5 minute read)
 - i. The AMA adopted “health equity” as a goal for a U.S. health system beset by disparities in delivery and outcomes that affect racial and ethnic minorities, people with disabilities, and other patient populations that often lack political, social or economic power.
 - ii. “We believe all Americans should have access to affordable and meaningful health care... there are myriad reasons for health disparities and health inequity, including juvenile justice, bias, stereotyping, prejudice and clinical uncertainty, to the fact that chronic diseases like diabetes and hypertension disproportionately affect minority populations.”
- b. [Health equity commitment being embedded in DNA of AMA’s work](#) (January 2019) (5-minute read)
 - i. Defined health equity as “optimal health for all” and created a new policy called on the AMA to advocate for:
 1. Health care access.
 2. Research and data collection.
 3. Promoting equity in care.
 4. Increasing health workforce diversity.
 5. Influencing determinants of health.
 6. Voicing and modeling commitment to health equity.
 - ii. “...Also required... is an “intellectually honest” examination of the [AMA’s history on race](#) and an acknowledgement of past mistakes that may have exacerbated [health care disparities](#). Early AMA policies allowed medical societies to discriminate and bar African-Americans from membership. In 2008, Ronald M. Davis, MD, then the AMA’s immediate past president, told delegates... “Today, on behalf of the American Medical Association, I

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unequivocally apologize for our past behavior. We pledge to do everything in our power to right the wrongs that were done by our organization to African-American physicians and their families and their patients.”

- c. [AMA Center for Health Equity resources](#): Systemwide bias and institutionalized racism continue to contribute to inequities across the U.S. health care system. The AMA is fighting for greater health equity by identifying and eliminating inequities through advocacy, community leadership and education.



3. Additional health equity information from national organizations

- a) Robert Wood Johnson Foundation on [What is Health Equity?](#) (<5 minute read)
- b) American Public Health Association on [Creating the Healthiest Nation: Advancing Health Equity](#) (5-7 minute read)