

THE NETWORK: TOWARDS UNITY
FOR HEALTH & FACULTAD DE MEDICINA,
UNAM, PRESENT



THE NETWORK
TOWARDS UNITY FOR HEALTH



Facultad de Medicina



TUFH2020 MEXICO

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

"PRIMARY HEALTH CARE: A PATH
TOWARDS SOCIAL JUSTICE"

SYSTEMS AND COMMUNITY BASED
RESPONSES TO COVID-19

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TUFH 2020 Abstracts

Title	The COVID-19 Social Care Guidance Tool: a Timely Collaboration to Recognize and Address the Disproportionate Effects of the Virus
Type	Oral Presentation <i>Intersectoral Collaborations and the Social Determinants of Health</i>
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Abstract N°	TUFH375
Content	<p>Background: Individual and community responses to the COVID-19 pandemic vary depending on social resources. Primary care providers (PCPs) are in a unique position to identify patients whose social determinants of health put them at increased risk of experiencing adverse health outcomes related to the pandemic. Primary care providers are also a crucial point of contact between patients and health and social resources, however they may not always feel equipped to refer to these resources. Methods: Between April and May of 2020, members of the University of Toronto Department of Family and Community Medicine (DFCM)'s Global Health and Social Accountability Program, the Upstream Lab, and the Centre for Effective Practice (CEP) collaborated to create the COVID-19 Social Care Guidance Tool. The project included physicians, social workers, nurses, researchers, communications experts and others to create a practical tool for PCPs. Results: A 2-page resource was created and released to PCPs among the three organizations' networks. Page one included suggested screening questions to help PCPs identify patients who could use specific social resources. Page two included a list of region-specific social resources in the areas of finance, legal supports, mental health and safety supports. Online databases with further supports were also created. Conclusion: Solutions for complex issues, such as a pandemic, require swift and timely collaboration between leaders. The tool serves as one example of such a collaboration. It is also a low-cost, high-impact resource to address the social determinants of health.</p>