



Join Us for Important Conversations About Racism and Health Equity
Special Town Hall to Discuss Connections Between Racism and Health Outcomes

June 18, 2020

Dear colleagues,

Through the work of AAFP commissions and the Congress of Delegates, the AAFP has long been striving to establish health equity and eliminate the effects racism has on medicine. While we alone cannot solve this issue facing our country, family physicians have a key role to play in moving the conversation forward and fighting on behalf of our patients and communities for equal health care for everyone.

That starts with us having an open dialogue with one another, educating ourselves on the impact racism has on health and well-being, and learning approaches to help our patients. With this in mind, I invite you to join us next week for two important opportunities:

- **Special Town Hall on June 22:** On Monday, June 22, at 7 p.m. CDT, we will host a Virtual Town Hall discussion, *The Public Health Crisis of Racism*. During this event, we will:
 - Highlight the connection between racism and health outcomes
 - Learn practical skills we can apply in a clinical setting to identify and address racial trauma
 - Discuss our role in advancing racial and health equity in our communities

We will be joined by two leaders from the Minnesota Academy of Family Physicians, an AAFP Health Equity Fellow and the director of the AAFP's Center for Diversity and Health Equity. It is sure to be an evening full of important insights as we work together to help our communities move forward. Visit [our website](#) for details, including information about receiving CME credit.

- **COVID-19 webinar on June 24:** During this webinar, you will hear from Nina Ahmad, MD, a former AAFP Vaccine Science Fellow and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Epidemic Intelligence Service officer, and Danielle Jones, director of the AAFP's Center for Diversity and Health Equity. They will discuss implicit bias and the impact it has had on health care delivery during the pandemic. They will also share resources for reducing/eliminating implicit bias in the practice setting. Visit the [COVID-19 CME page](#) for more details.

Since we are still in the midst of a pandemic, I also want to take this opportunity to remind you about two important COVID-19 resources:

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- **COVID-19 site:** Don't forget to visit [the AAFP's COVID-19 microsite](#) regularly to find updates and new resources, tools and advocacy information.
- **COVID-19 Town Hall replay:** At last night's Virtual Town Hall, our guest was Lindsey Leininger, PhD, a clinical professor at Tuck School of Business and contributing "Nerdy Girl" for the Dear Pandemic Facebook page. With so much misinformation circulating about COVID-19, she discussed how to critically evaluate what is valid and reliable scientific information in the age of COVID-19 and beyond and ways to implement communication methods to educate and have discussions with patients and communities. It was a fun and insightful session, so if you missed it, check out the replay on our [COVID-19 communications page](#). As a reminder, the Virtual Town Hall is available for one [live](#) or [enduring](#) CME credit, so be sure to evaluate the session and claim your credit.

Once again, I encourage you to participate in our two powerful live-streaming events next week. As family physicians, we are the cornerstones of our communities and play an important role in helping our communities grow, learn and heal from the effects of racism. These sessions will serve as important learning opportunities to help us on this journey.

Thank you for all you are doing for your patients and communities!

Gary L. LeRoy, MD, FAAFP
President
American Academy of Family Physicians