

# Should we treat **poverty** like any equivalent health condition?

**Of course.** You can help your patients who live in poverty.

**How?** Ask, assess, intervene & connect with patients about benefits available to Canadians.

See **Poverty: A Clinical Tool for Primary Care Providers (MB)**

## It will help you:

ASK

- Do you ever have difficulty making ends meet at the end of the month?

ASSESS

- Examine the evidence between poverty and poor physical and mental health
- Factor poverty into clinical decision-making like other risk factors

INTERVENE

- Inform your patients of specific benefit programs they may be eligible for such as Manitoba Prenatal Benefits
- Direct your patients to apply for federal financial supports such as Old Age Security, Canada Child Benefit, Disability benefits or First Nations programs
- Sign forms and write letters to support applications, if needed
- Encourage your patients to fill out and mail in their income tax forms to make them eligible for various benefits, including drug coverage

CONNECT

- Direct your patients to specific community programs and online resources provided by regional, provincial and federal non-profit organizations and governments
- Make the website and/or hard copies of **Get Your Benefits!** available. This booklet details resources and income supports.

## Who we are:

We are a coalition of healthcare providers, researchers, community agencies and non-profit organizations based in Manitoba which aim to treat poverty to improve the health and well-being of Manitoba families.

SUPPORTED BY:



A CHAPTER OF THE COLLEGE OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS OF CANADA  
UNE SECTION DU COLLÈGE DES MÉDECINS DE FAMILLE DU CANADA



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