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.

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.