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## Honors Capstone: Healthcare Disparities in Pharmacy Curriculum

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# - HONORS CAPSTONE -

## HEALTHCARE DISPARITIES & PHARMACY CURRICULUM

MOLLY RYAN, DR. KAREN KIER

### Abstract

To work towards addressing the prevalence of disparities within the U.S., this is a proposal to enhance the Raabe College of Pharmacy curriculum to educate on the experiences and history of patients of minority backgrounds.

### Goals

- To deepen pre-existing areas of the curriculum which already references disparities and expand coursework to provide further insight.
- To create more socially aware, effective, and compassionate student pharmacists and future practitioners.
- Progress the Raabe College of Pharmacy to be a more inclusive and open-minded leader in the education and preparation of healthcare professionals.

### Background & Sources to Guide Focus

1. **Fulbright Research Grant in Public Health/Pharmacy (2020, Molly Ryan)** – conclusion: center the history and social structure surrounding affected populations when addressing health disparities
2. **Enlightened Solutions** – consults: Cleveland-based firm which researches and advocates for the lived experiences of minority workers
3. **Christopher Caldwell, BA, MA, MED** – direction: guidance for effective and sensitive presentation of materials

### Topics

\*Includes potentially sensitive material

Awareness of health-system abuses in U.S.

- Experimentation: the Tuskegee Study, Henrietta Lacks, gynecology & experimentation on enslaved women
- Sterilization of Native American women
- Transphobia & denial of treatment
- Current, general bias and mistreatment

Black women's health

- Poor diagnostic outcomes
- Prescribing in pain management
- Breast cancer survival rates
- Maternal & neonatal outcomes

Social determinants of health (SDOH)

- Distribution of wealth
  - Access to transportation & employment
- Legislation and social initiatives
- Redlining
  - Mass incarceration
  - Wars on Crime and Drugs

### Methods of Incorporation

Additional slide on select "Topics" (from above) into current lectures • Elective course • Standardize addition of "Relevant SDOH" slide to clinical lectures & student presentations • Required reading: *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* • History of Health Abuses "breakout" • SDOH and Social Initiatives "breakout" • SDOH outreach training