Examples of key health disparities

**Life expectancy.** African Americans have the lowest life expectancy of any other racial and ethnic group.⁷ Causes include higher death rates from heart disease, cancer, diabetes and birth-related conditions.⁴

**Heart disease and stroke.** The first and third top killers of African Americans², who have the highest death rate from heart disease and stroke compared with other racial and ethnic groups.³

**Cancer.** The second top killer of African Americans. They have the largest incidence and death rates from colorectal cancer compared with all other racial and ethnic groups.² Black women are 40 percent more likely to die from breast cancer—even though they are 10 percent less likely to be diagnosed with it.¹

**Diabetes and hypertension.** These are also top health concerns for many African Americans. They are twice as likely to be diagnosed with diabetes and 40 percent more likely to have high blood pressure.¹

**Influenza vaccine.** Among children, more African Americans are vaccinated than Whites. However, among adults (18 years and older), they are less likely to be vaccinated.³

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Recent achievements

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act (ACA), the racial gap in health care coverage is closing as the uninsured rate for African Americans declines.*

Some important vaccination rates for African Americans have substantially increased.*

The work ahead

Despite the progress toward African American health and health care equality, much work remains ahead.

We still have much to learn about achieving health care equality. The first step is recognizing that disparities exist.

How Anthem is helping

We know that having insurance alone won’t bridge gaps.

Disparities are complex, and they require commitment to address them effectively.

At Anthem, our mission is to transform health care by providing trusted and caring solutions with an unyielding commitment to meeting the needs of our diverse customers.

Addressing disparities is a priority. That’s why we have a dedicated team of health care professionals focusing on developing caring, innovative, and trustworthy activities to bridge health care gaps.

How you can help

• Support the full implementation of Medicaid expansion for enhanced access to health care and essential benefits

• Take advantage of preventive services with no cost-sharing including screenings for cancer, pap smears, mammograms, well-child visits and flu shots

• If you or someone you know needs health insurance, sign up! The ACA Marketplace Open Enrollment deadline is Jan. 31.

Together, we are transforming health care with trusted and caring solutions.