

Helping health systems address social determinants of health

Social determinants of health (SDOH) are the conditions in which individuals are born and live that affect their health. They include circumstances such as socioeconomic status and the physical environment, and are among several key factors responsible for health care disparities. Addressing SDOH improves patient outcome measures — including morbidity, mortality and life expectancy — and reduces unnecessary utilization and avoidable expenditures across the health care system. Our members are committed to caring for vulnerable populations and they play a major role in addressing SDOH for the communities they serve.

Our offerings

Vizient® and Sg2®, a Vizient company, help members meet this commitment with offerings in the following areas:



- Data and analytics
- Performance improvement
- Peer networks and education
- Strategic and economic insights
- Advisory services

Improve outcomes, manage utilization and reduce costs across the organization

Data and analytics

Vizient and Sg2 offer data and analytics solutions to help members quantify the impact of SDOH; measure and benchmark clinical, financial and quality performance; and align resources for targeted community interventions. To learn more, contact [Beth Godsey](#), senior vice president, data science and methodology.

Offerings

- The **Center for Advanced Analytics** delivers insights through custom analytics; Quality and Accountability rankings; and clinical models for mortality, safety and costs.
- Analyses link clinical data across the continuum with market and publicly available data to provide a comprehensive view of patient-centric measures.
- A data insights brief analyzes the variable impact of COVID-19 on different racial and ethnic groups using data from the Clinical Data Base.

Performance improvement

Our performance improvement offering brings clinical, operational and quality leaders together to focus on the most critical aspects of health care performance. By collaborating and sharing leading practices, participants improve quality, lower costs and increase efficiency. To learn more, contact [Laural Whitmore](#), vice president, improvement collaboratives.

Offerings

- Performance Improvement Collaboratives and Benchmarking Studies participants can learn from the High Utilizers: Identification and Care Management Collaborative, which helped members identify utilization drivers by focusing on whole-person needs as well as care coordination and management strategies across the health system enterprise. Upcoming projects include:
 - SDOH Benchmarking Study – began in fourth quarter 2020, with knowledge transfer anticipated in third quarter 2021
 - Improving Health Equity Collaborative – slated to begin in fourth quarter 2021
- Our COVID-19 member resources page offers the latest clinical, surgical and pharmacy supply updates, including information from the Vizient Disaster Response team, suppliers, regulatory agencies and industry organizations. In addition, the public [COVID-19 resource](#) page offers on-demand webinars and podcasts that feature our members and Vizient and industry experts.
- Hospitals can use the Hospital Improvement Innovation Network's Health Equity Organizational Assessment to evaluate their level of preparedness in:
 - Addressing health disparities through the consistent collection and use of demographic data
 - Implementing organizational and cultural structures to deliver equitable care

Peer networks and education

We offer targeted opportunities for members to exchange knowledge and collaborate on common challenges and improvement strategies. To learn more, contact [Shaifali Ray](#), senior networks director.

Offerings

- The Vulnerable Patient Populations (VPP) Network offers in-person and digital forums for executives who oversee health equity efforts aimed at caring for VPPs. The VPP Network has developed a series of [case studies](#) and member spotlights that highlight examples of the ways in which organizations are addressing the clinical and social needs of VPPs.
- The Chief Diversity Officers Network offers a forum for participants to network and develop solutions supporting the triple aim of achieving supplier diversity, addressing patient SDOH and improving a health system's culture, and promoting employee inclusion and engagement.
- The Vizient Supply Chain and Value Analysis Network provides opportunities for targeted and solutions-oriented member connections on supplier diversity. In 2021, the network is offering a quarterly Supply Chain Leadership Series to Vizient Member Networks participants. Each session features expert panelists and time for open discussion on strategies and best practices that can be used when pursuing business relationships with certified minority-, woman-, veteran-, LGBTQ- and disability-owned enterprises.
- Sg2 hosts a dedicated [LinkedIn page](#) to help members build connections and share ideas on topics such as community health improvement.

Strategic and economic insights

The [Vizient Research Institute](#) and Sg2 provide thought leadership, strategic insights and market analytics on health care trends to help members develop sustainable growth strategies. To learn more, contact [Erika Johnson](#), vice president, strategic research, Research Institute, or [Karyl Kopaskie](#), associate principal, Sg2.

Advisory services

Our advisory services combine market-leading data and analytics with extensive industry expertise to provide members with valuable insights that drive better decision-making and results to achieve sustainable improvement. To learn more, contact [Amit Sharma](#), Sg2.

Offerings

- Provides expert presentations for management teams and board retreats on SDOH and community health improvement. Sg2 intelligence — such as “The Social Determinants of Health: Taking Action Beyond the System of Care,” and the Population Health, Community Health and Social Determinants of Health Resource Kit — includes resources, webinars, podcasts and other information to support community health improvement efforts.
- Sg2 tools such as the [COVID-19 Surge Demand Calculator](#) enable members to gain insights into the short-term effects of COVID-19 on their communities.
- The Research Institute’s 2019 economic research study, “A New Look at an Old Business Model: Viewing Disruption Through a Different Lens,” evaluates opportunities for health systems to purposefully disrupt themselves and invest in experimentation to address SDOH.

Offerings

- Assesses and explores local community health needs and organizational readiness.
- Helps health systems bring together key community stakeholders focused on improving community health, expanding growth and creating new collaboratives.
- Provides consulting services in areas that involve SDOH, including value-based care, behavioral health, women’s health, rural systems of care and pediatrics.

As the nation’s largest member-driven health care performance improvement company, Vizient provides solutions and services that empower health care providers to deliver high-value care by aligning cost, quality and market performance. With analytics, advisory services and a robust sourcing portfolio, we help members improve patient outcomes and lower costs.