



# The CFPC Social Justice Lens

## What is the Social Justice Lens?

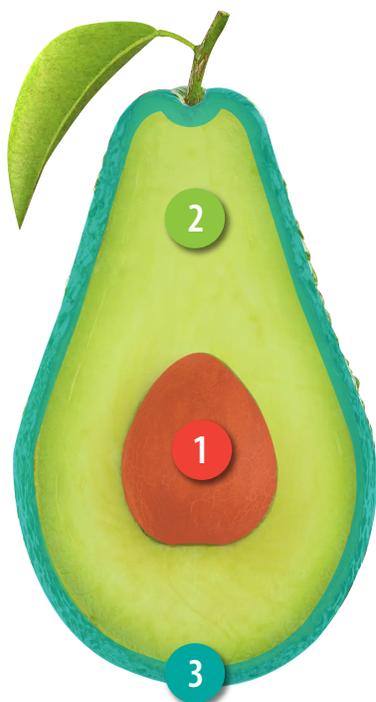
The College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC) is committed to social justice. This commitment is reflected in **Goal 2** of the *CFPC Strategic Plan 2017–2022*, which focuses on **meeting the evolving health care needs of our communities**. More specifically, **Objective 2.2** of the strategic plan states that the CFPC will **advocate for equitable health outcomes for vulnerable/marginalized groups, including (but not limited to) Indigenous, rural, and remote populations**.

As a reflection of this commitment, the CFPC requires that social accountability is included in the development and evaluation of CFPC policies and activities. We have created a tool to help CFPC committees, working groups, and departments apply these principles to their work. Most work in family medicine already contains social justice at its core; this tool helps make those implicit connections more explicit.

## When to Use the Lens

We encourage you to use the lens to help frame the conversation around social justice for high-level decisions made by your committee, working group, or department. Simply follow the steps below to help frame the impact of your decisions, and facilitate an ongoing dialogue around social justice and equity in your group's activities. This lens is intended to help ensure that the CFPC's work is guided by social justice and equity. When complete, click "**submit**" to share your responses with the Social Accountability Working Group.

## The Levels of Socially Accountable Care



- 1. Micro:** The clinical environment; encompasses both the individual family physician–patient relationship and the inter-professional, team-based care setting.



- 2. Meso:** The local community; the geographic context in which clinical and academic medical work are situated. Includes education, training, and continuing professional development (CPD).



- 3. Macro:** The broader realm of policies and their impact on population and public health, where family physicians act as advocates for healthy public policy.



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## The Social Justice Lens

This tool is simple and easy to use. Consider the initiative you are currently working on. For each of the three levels of care below (micro/meso/macro), please answer:

1. How does your project currently address social justice on this level?
2. How could your project better address social justice on this level?

Group name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Project/Decision: \_\_\_\_\_

**Micro Level**



**Meso Level**



**Macro Level**



### What do we mean by social justice?

Social justice is the pursuit and/or attainment of equity in society; it focuses on addressing the social determinants of health (SDH) and minimizing their negative effects on someone's health.

The SDH refer to conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work, and age.<sup>2</sup>

The SDH include:<sup>3</sup>

- Income
- Education
- Unemployment and job security
- Employment and working conditions
- Early childhood development
- Race
- Gender
- Sexuality
- Food insecurity
- Housing
- Social safety net
- Health services
- Indigenous status
- Disability

Refer to the Patient's Medical Home Best Advice Guide: **Social Determinants of Health** for more information

**SUBMIT**

**References**

1. Canadian Nurses Association. *Social Justice—a Means to an End, an End in Itself*. Ottawa: Canadian Nurses Association; 2010. Available at: [https://www.cna-aiic.ca/~media/cna/page-content/pdf-en/social\\_justice\\_2010\\_e.pdf](https://www.cna-aiic.ca/~media/cna/page-content/pdf-en/social_justice_2010_e.pdf). Accessed June 18, 2015.
2. Wilkinson RG, Marmot MG, eds. *Social Determinants of Health: The Solid Facts*. 2nd ed. Copenhagen: WHO Regional Office for Europe; 2003.
3. Mikkonen J, Raphael D. *Social Determinants of Health: The Canadian Facts*. Toronto: York University, School of Health Policy and Management; 2010.