

# Should we treat **poverty** like any equivalent health condition?

**Of course.** You can help your patients who live in poverty.

**How?** Ask, assess, act & inform patients about benefits available to Canadians. **See Poverty: A Clinical Tool**

**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

ACT

- 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, Child Tax 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

INFORM

- 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. This booklet details resources and income supports.

## 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.

Visit [www.GetYourBenefits.ca](http://www.GetYourBenefits.ca) for more details.

SUPPORTED BY:



UNIVERSITY  
OF MANITOBA

Faculty of  
Health Sciences

THE MANITOBA  
COLLEGE OF  
FAMILY PHYSICIANS



LE COLLÈGE DES  
MÉDECINS DE FAMILLE  
DU MANITOBA

A CHAPTER OF THE COLLEGE OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS OF CANADA  
UNE SECTION DU COLLÈGE DES MÉDECINS DE FAMILLE DU CANADA

