**Title:** Who’s the Illest?: Social Determinants of Chronic Health Conditions

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**Purpose:** Social determinants of health, such as age, race, income, education, and access to medical care, influence the well-being of adults (Hege, 2018). This study examined how social determinants influence and contribute to chronic illness among older adults in Appalachia.

**Methods:** 2015-2018 BRFSS data was used to examine the relations among: age, race, income, education and access to medical care in future chronic illnesses.

**Results:** The most significant variables were race: African Americans (p = 0.0500) as compared to Caucasians, and all income levels from $25,000 - $35,000 (p = 0.0026), $35,000 - $50,000 (p = 0.0158), $50,000 above (p < 0.0001). Odds ratios steadily increased for every level increased in terms of age, income, education, and healthcare access. African Americans were found to have a higher probability of experiencing a chronic illness.

**Discussion/Conclusions:** Research showed that racial and economic disparities exist in Appalachia. This adds to the literature regarding minorities in an already poor region being faced with more trials and tribulations.