

## Open School

### Video Activity: Perspective on Population Health

(<http://www.ihl.org/education/IHIOpenSchool/resources/Pages/Activities/Perspective-on-Population-Health.aspx>)

*Holly Oh, MD, Chief Medical Officer, The Dimock Center in Boston*

#### Facilitator instructions

- Review the learning objectives and description with your group.
- Watch the [video](#) together (4 min 54 sec)
- As a group, discuss the questions at the bottom of the page.

#### Learning Objectives

At the end of this activity, you will be able to:

- Summarize how patients' financial difficulties can lead to problems with their health.
- Discuss the role social inequities play in health care today.
- Explain how one patient encounter can inspire a clinician to think about a community's needs.

#### Description

Holly Oh, a pediatrician at The Dimock Center in Boston, looks back on a memorable patient encounter from almost a decade ago. A young male, complaining of cold symptoms, reminded her that health care is only part of the conversation when discussing a patient's well-being and quality of life. It's important, she explains, to look beyond the symptoms to understand the real health of a patient — and a population.

#### Related IHI Open School Online Courses

- [TA 101: Introduction to Population Health](#)
- [L 101: Becoming a Leader in Health Care](#)
- [PFC 101: Dignity and Respect](#)

#### Key Topics

Prevention and wellness, engage patients and families in care, engage physicians in improvement, health reform in the US, triple aim — population health, individual care, and cost control optimization.

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**Facilitator**, show [the video on this page](#). For your group's discussion after the video, feel free to adjust these questions and/or add your own.

### **Discussion Questions**

1. What do you think was going through Dr. Oh's mind as she stood with her hand on the doorknob ready to leave for her Thanksgiving holiday?
2. How would you define population health?
3. Why is it important for clinicians to think beyond the patient they are caring for at the moment?
4. How can socioeconomic issues affect a patient's health?
5. Can you provide an example from your local area of how a community resource is improving health?