EPA supports research that will help in the understanding and prevention of health disparities from environmental conditions and pollution. Racial/ethnic and economic disparities cause many health problems and are very costly to our society.

EPA seeks to ensure that no community bears a disproportionate burden, especially those which are susceptible, vulnerable, or socioeconomically disadvantaged. This poster features one of the leading edge extramural research RFAs issued under the Science To Achieve Results (STAR) program to address environmental health disparities research.

Potential Application & Translation

This research will:

- help to elucidate the role/contribution of the natural/built/social environment to health disparities;
- allow for the development of policies/interventions that provide primary prevention; and
- contribute to the improvement of resiliency at the individual and community levels.

Potential Lessons Learned

Anticipated outputs and outcomes include:

- a better understanding of disease etiology for environmentally related diseases;
- the development of innovative tools and methods to assess exposure, cumulative health effects and disproportionate health risks and impacts; and
- an increased understanding of population vulnerability.

Upcoming Disparities Research

- 2014 Joint EPA/NIH RFA to establish the Centers of Excellence on Environmental Health Disparities – Awards in Fall 2015
- 2016 STAR RFA on social determinants of health