"How Housing Issues Affect Californians' Access to Health and Health Care"

Did difficulties around housing during the COVID-19 pandemic impact Californians’ health? A new UCLA study draws a strong connection between housing issues and a lack of access to health care.

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via Zoom Webinar

Sean Tan, MPP
Senior Public Administration Analyst
UCLA Center for Health Policy Research

Issues of housing in California are critical to current local and statewide political debates, but they are also important to public health. Housing is a social determinant of health. In other words, where you live has consequential effects on your overall health and well-being. According to the 2021 California Health Interview Survey (CHIS), 1 in 10 adults — or 3 million people — in California had difficulty paying to keep a roof over their heads, and many also resorted to cutting back on seeking health care as a result of housing affordability.
In this webinar, Sean Tan, author of a new UCLA Center for Health Policy Research (CHPR) report detailing the state of housing in California, will discuss findings from the 2021 CHIS that examine the relationship between California’s prevailing housing issues and residents’ health and well-being. Tan will walk through new data on delays in accessing needed medical care, lack of health insurance, reduced intake of healthy food, moving to less safe neighborhoods, as well as disparities in housing affordability and housing instability by race and ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, citizenship status, income, and homeownership status. Tan will also share implications of this study and policy recommendations, including the critical need to address housing issues as public health concerns and the importance of approaching them with an equitable lens.

About the Speaker/Author
Sean Tan, MPP, is a Senior Public Administration Analyst and CHIS researcher at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research (CHPR). Tan’s research focuses on health insurance and access to care as well as examining issues and interventions surrounding population health equity.

About the California Health Interview Survey (CHIS)
The California Health Interview Survey (CHIS) is the largest population-based state health survey in the nation. A critical source of data on Californians, CHIS provides population-representative estimates regarding a variety of health determinants and health topics. CHIS is conducted by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research. Learn more at chis.ucla.edu.

This research seminar is a joint endeavor brought to you by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and the UCLA Ziman Center for Real Estate’s Housing as Health Care Initiative.

For questions, contact Christina Green at christina.green@anderson.ucla.edu
zimancenter.ucla.edu
110 Westwood Plaza, B100, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1481