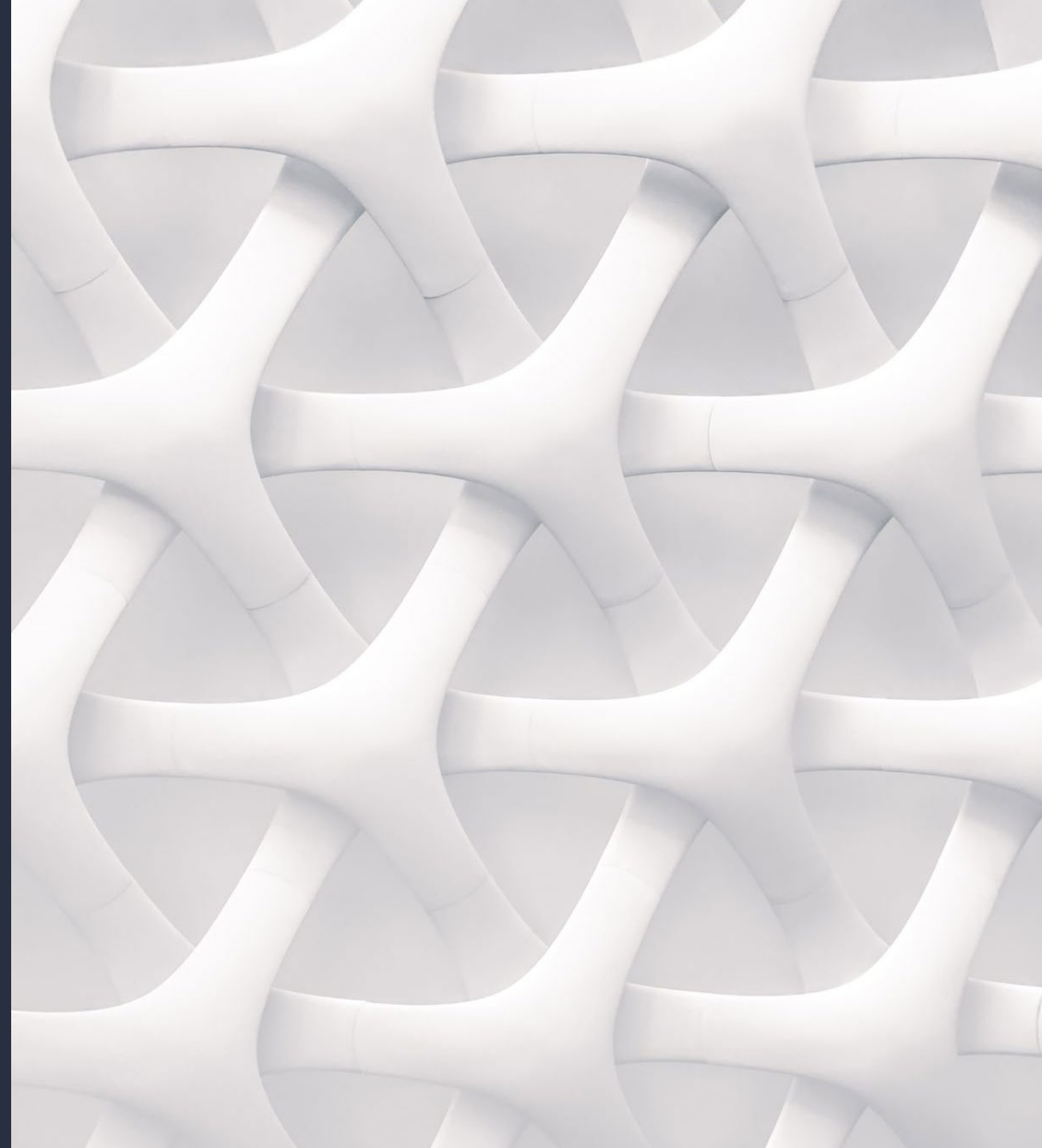


Applying EDI Principles and Considerations for Immunization Practice

Mustafa Ahmed, Director - Equity,
Diversity, and Inclusion | Fraser Health



Agenda

I have nothing to disclose

- 1) Objective
- 2) Definitions
- 3) Factors contributing to
Barriers/Disparities in Immunizations
- 4) Strategies for applying EDI
- 5) Conclusion

Introduction

Objective:

To explore how Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) principles can be applied to enhance immunization practices, ensuring equitable access and addressing disparities in vaccine uptake

Important

Immunization is a critical public health tool. Applying EDI principles can help overcome barriers and ensure that all individuals have the opportunity to be protected from vaccine-preventable diseases



Understanding EDI in Health Care

- Equity

Ensuring fair access to immunization services regardless of socio-economic status, geography, race, gender, age, or ability

- Diversity

Recognizing and respecting the diverse needs, preferences, and concerns of different populations in immunization strategies.

- Inclusion

Creating immunization programs that are accessible and welcoming to all, particularly marginalized or underserved groups.

WE WELCOME

ALL RACES AND ETHNICITIES

ALL RELIGIONS

ALL COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN

ALL GENDER IDENTITIES

ALL SEXUAL ORIENTATIONS

ALL ABILITIES AND DISABILITIES

ALL SPOKEN LANGUAGES

ALL AGES

EVERYONE.

WE STAND HERE WITH YOU

YOU ARE SAFE HERE

* Content adapted from the original "We Welcome" sign created by IPRC members Lisa Mangum and Jason Lewis

Factors Contributing to Disparities/Barriers to Immunizations



Cultural & Linguistic barriers

Language differences and cultural beliefs about healthcare can hinder vaccine uptake.



Social Economic Barriers

Limited access to healthcare services, lack of transportation, and inability to take time off work can affect immunization rates



Information and Trust Barriers

Misinformation and distrust in healthcare systems can lead to vaccine hesitancy.

Statistics highlighting disparities in immunization rates among different racial, ethnic, socioeconomic, and geographical groups

Strategies for Applying EDI



Equity Strategies

1. Targeted Outreach:
 - Develop and implement outreach programs specifically designed to reach underserved communities
2. Mobile and Community-Based Immunization:
 - Bring immunization services directly to communities that are hard to reach or have low uptake rates

Diversity Strategies

1. Cultural Competency Training:
 - Train healthcare providers on cultural competency to better understand and engage with diverse communities
2. Multilingual Resources:
 - Provide vaccine information and consent forms in multiple languages relevant to the community demographics

Inclusion Strategies

1. Inclusive Communication:
 - Use images and messaging in communication materials that reflect the diversity of the community.
2. Stakeholder Engagement:
 - Engage community leaders and organizations in the planning and implementation of immunization campaigns to ensure programs are inclusive and address community needs

Taking Action for EDI in Immunization

Commitment to EDI:

- Applying EDI principles in immunization practice is not only about ensuring equitable access but also about respecting and valuing the diverse needs of the community

Continuous Improvement:

- EDI is an ongoing process that requires continuous effort, evaluation, and adaptation to meet the evolving needs of the population

Call to Action:

- Encourage healthcare professionals, policymakers, and community leaders to integrate EDI principles into all aspects of immunization practice to achieve better health outcomes for all.

