

# Key Dimensions of Equity-Oriented Health Care

## 10 Strategies to Guide Organizations in Enhancing Capacity for Equity-Oriented Health Care

Equity-oriented health care (EOHC) is about directing adequate resources to people who are experiencing health and social inequities. It does not mean treating everyone equally, because people need different things.



**Equality** ≠ **Equity**

You can read more about Health Equity on [our website](#) and our [Equity-Oriented Health Systems Improvement Policy Brief](#).

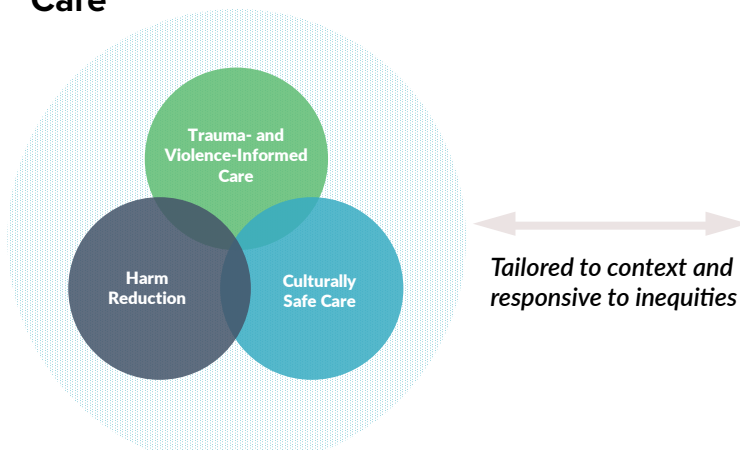
EQUIP's approach to Equity-Oriented Health Care incorporates the **3 Key Dimensions**:

- 1. Trauma- and Violence Informed Care**
- 2. Culturally-Safe Care**
- 3. Harm Reduction**

These 3 Key Dimensions are interconnected, responsive to inequities, and tailored to each particular context. **Ten Strategies** flow from these key dimensions to guide organizations in how to enhance their capacity for providing equity-oriented services.

As shown in the Figure below, EQUIP's key dimensions and tailored strategies aim to reduce the effects of structural inequities; the impacts of racism, discrimination and stigma; and the disparities between conventional care approaches and people's needs.

### Key Dimensions of Equity-Oriented Health Care



### 10 Strategies to Guide Organizations in Enhancing Capacity For Equity-Oriented Services

- Explicitly commit to equity
- Develop supportive organizational structures, policies, and processes
- Re-vision the use of time
- Attend to power differentials
- Tailor care, programs and services to local contexts
- Actively counter racism and discrimination
- Promote meaningful community + patient engagement
- Tailor care to address inter-related forms of violence
- Enhance access to the social determinants of health
- Optimize use of place and space

## Why is Equity-Oriented Health Care Important? Evidence from the EQUIP Study:

Patients experiencing equity-oriented care showed higher levels of comfort and confidence about the care they received



Increased levels of comfort and confidence predicted increased confidence to manage their health issues



Over time, as confidence increased, patients' self-reported quality of life improved, and symptoms of chronic pain, depression and PTSD decreased



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To learn more about EQUIP Healthcare, please visit [www.equiphealthcare.ca](http://www.equiphealthcare.ca)