Support for meeting CHNA requirements

Under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA), all nonprofit, 501(c)(3) hospitals must conduct a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) once every three years. Failure to comply can result in a $50,000 fine per facility, per year, or worse – the loss of charitable status.

The IBM® Watson Health™ Provider Consulting and Analytics team can help your hospital conduct your CHNA in a way that not only helps you meet regulatory requirements, but also addresses the broader need for improved community health.

A phased approach

The Watson Health approach goes beyond merely checking the boxes required to complete the assessment. Our consultants have the expertise and resources to help you develop an actionable strategy for improvement based on the insights revealed by the assessment.

This strategy consists of four phases, which can be provided separately or together.
Phase I: Data acquisition and compilation
By combining our proprietary data assets with key public health indicators, we provide insight into how your community needs may have changed since your last assessment. Components include:
- Community Needs Index
- Demographic and socioeconomic data at the ZIP-code level
- Physician supply and demand
- Emergency department visits
- Public health indicators
- Cancer estimates
- Heart disease estimates
- PULSE® Healthcare Survey

Phase II: Interviews and focus groups
Working with stakeholders in your organization, our consulting experts will conduct a series of structured interviews and focus groups to gather input from community public health leaders experienced in treating medically underserved, low-income and minority populations, as well as those living with chronic disease.

Phase III: Identify and prioritize significant health needs
Our team will analyze the quantitative and qualitative data, pinpointing where the data and community input converge to highlight significant community health needs. We will then work with you to prioritize these needs.

Phase IV: Final report creation
In addition to helping you conduct a CHNA that meets existing regulatory requirements, you will receive a comprehensive report that includes:
- Summary of the community your hospital serves, including how the community parameters were defined
- Description of the indicators, processes and methods used to conduct the CHNA
- Details on the public input gathered, including descriptions of the populations represented
- List of prioritized community health needs
- Summary of the process and criteria used to identify and prioritize needs
- Implementation strategy
- Inventory of community resources available to address the identified needs
- CHNA that can be made public
Our team
Our consultants have extensive experience working with hospitals to help them improve outcomes. They combine the advanced analytics of Watson Health with real-world clinical expertise and technical competence. Because of this, our team can help bridge the gap between data and hospital operations.

About IBM Watson Health
Each day, professionals throughout the health ecosystem make powerful progress toward a healthier future. At IBM Watson Health, we help them remove obstacles, optimize efforts and reveal new insights to support the people they serve. Working across the landscape, from payers and providers to governments and life sciences, we bring together deep health expertise; proven innovation; and the power of artificial intelligence to enable our customers to uncover, connect and act — as they work to solve health challenges for people everywhere.

For more information on IBM Watson Health, visit: ibm.com/watsonhealth