## Rationale

Social and structural factors strongly influence the health and well-being of our clients and communities. Teaching Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) students about the social and structural determinants of health (SSDH) and resulting health disparities is complicated by the fragmented presentation of these constructs throughout the DPT curriculum. The result is an incomplete picture of factors that influence a client’s prognosis and the potential reinforcement of negative stereotypes.

## Conceptual Frameworks and Case Development

**Informative Frameworks & Models:**
- International Classification of Functioning, Disability, and Health (ICF)
- PT Client Management Model
- Bronfenbrenner Socioecological Model
- Andersen and Aday Behavioral Model of Health Care Use

Collect existing cases and categorize content according to relevant conceptual frameworks and models

Identify gaps in SSDH content; Consider opportunities to enhance integration of SSDH constructs; Link cases across courses

Grow our Community Tree - create an interconnected group of diverse individuals that students will come to know over their time in our program

## Objectives

Students and faculty from the DPT program have worked to enhance conversations around SSDH through the development of a Community Tree - interconnected cases that students come to know over their time in our program. The objectives of this Community Tree are to:

1. Address student concerns regarding biased case presentations
2. Facilitate rich conversations around SSDH
3. Understand our clients as diverse human beings whose lived experiences are complex

## Snapshot of 1 Case across the Curriculum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summer 1</th>
<th>Spring 1</th>
<th>Summer 3</th>
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</table>
| **Course:** Health Promotion and Wellness I  
**Sample Objectives:**  
1) Summarize key aspects of your client's social history  
2) Describe the relationship between individual, social, and structural determinants of health.  
| **Course:** Musculoskeletal I  
**Sample Objective:** Formulate a clinical impression of your client’s newly developed low back pain (lumbar spinal pathology)  
| **Course:** Health Promotion and Wellness II  
**Sample Objective:** Co-create a plan of care that integrates SSDH and reflects your client’s values, priorities, and preferences  

## Next Steps

**Implementation:** 6 interconnected community members will be introduced Summer 1 to students and faculty  
**Evaluation:** Acceptability, usability, and feasibility will be assessed via student and faculty surveys  
**Expansion:** Within 2 years, our Community Tree will grow to 20 members

References:  
Kim et al. A conceptual framework for developing teaching cases. Medical Education. 2006