Failure to address language, health literacy, and culture can result in:
- Misdiagnosis
- Poor management of health conditions
- Difficulty seeking referrals and other ancillary services

Medicare-enrolled people with low health literacy have:
- Higher hospital admissions and visits to emergency departments
- Higher medical costs
- Lower access to care

**LACK OF SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE WITH LEP CAN DIRECTLY AFFECT THEIR HEALTH OUTCOMES**

People with LEP are more likely to be uninsured across all racial and ethnic groups.

- **% UNINSURED AMONG PEOPLE WITH LEP**
  - Hispanic: 37%
  - American Indian/Alaskan Native: 31%
  - Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander: 23%
  - Black: 19%
  - White: 16%
  - Asian: 10%

- **% UNINSURED AMONG PEOPLE WHO PRIMARILY SPEAK ENGLISH**
  - Hispanic: 14%
  - American Indian/Alaskan Native: 21%
  - Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander: 10%
  - Black: 11%
  - White: 7%
  - Asian: 5%

People with LEP are still over 3X MORE LIKELY TO BE UNINSURED than people who primarily speak English.

**People with LEP have more difficulty getting care and screenings**

They are less likely to have health coverage, a regular health care provider, and get regular care and screenings for blood pressure, breast cancer, and cervical cancer.

They can experience additional challenges such as:
- Being older
- Having low health literacy
- Having fewer community support services
- Difficulty asking their health provider questions

**CMS OMH Resources to Address Health Disparities Among People with LEP**

- **Coverage to Care** resources provide information to those you serve about their health coverage and available options for primary care services. Resources are available in 9 languages.
- View CMS’s **Guide to Developing a Language Access Plan** to ensure your organization is offering high quality services to people with LEP.
- Learn more about how to make health services accessible and equitable from A Practical Guide to Implementing the National CLAS Standards and Building an Organizational Response to Health Disparities.
- Take the **Introduction to Language Access Plans** web-based training course on the Medicare Learning Network to learn how language access plans affect health care services for people with LEP.

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