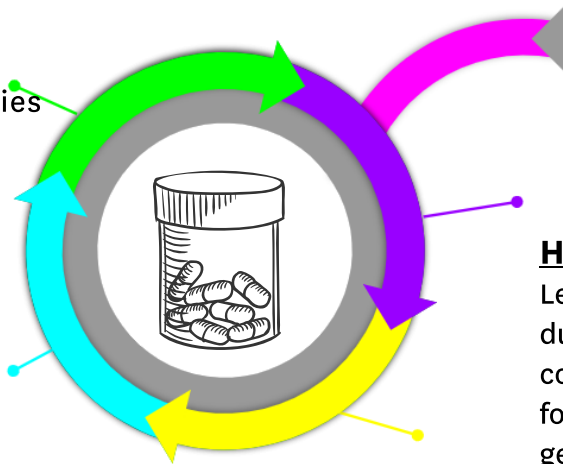


## CONSEQUENCES

Black Indigenous People of Color (BIPOC) and low income Coloradans end up with more out of pocket expenses AND higher costs.

Patients often forced to choose between paying for rent & groceries or rationing/forgoing a needed medicine.

Being unable to take medicines as prescribed creates adverse health effects that lead to higher costs down the road - further threatening economic security.



## HISTORIC OPRESSION OF BIPOC AND WORKING CLASS COLORADANS

Institutional power structures lead to generational trauma, toxic stress, suppression of economic opportunity & environmental and medical racism. For example, BIPOC

Coloradans are more likely to live in areas with higher exposure to air pollutants, a form of environmental racism which is linked with increased risk of childhood asthma.

## HEALTH DISPARITY

Less economic opportunity creates durable inequality in communities of color and a lack of access to healthy foods and preventative health care across generations.

## RX DRUG UNAFFORDABILITY

- Prescription drug costs are the fastest-growing consumer health expense in the U.S.
- Drug prices have risen since 2014 by an average of 57%, and prices for drugs with no generic substitutes rose by 142%.

Sources: (CoverMyMeds 2021, CDPHE 2019, Health Affairs 2017)

## CHRONIC DISEASE BURDEN

- BIPOC are 1.5-2X more likely than white people to have a chronic disease.
- Low-income Americans are more likely to have one or more chronic illnesses.
- One-third of the uninsured have a chronic disease, and they are six times less likely to receive care for a health problem than the insured.

### Asthma

### Cardiovascular Disease

### Diabetes

**Rates of childhood asthma in BIPOC Coloradans are 73% higher than white Coloradans**  
(CDPHE 2019)

**Black Coloradans have the highest prevalence of high blood pressure and Latinx Coloradans have the highest prevalence of high cholesterol**  
(CDPHE 2019)

**BIPOC Coloradans are almost 1.5 times more likely to have diabetes than white Coloradans.**  
(CDPHE 2019)

Cost for asthma inhalers has far outpaced the average rate of inflation.

Prices climbed about 35% from 2013 to 2018, from an average price of around \$280 in 2013 to more than \$380  
(GoodRx 2020)

Affordability issues prevent 1 in 8 (2.2 million) Americans with heart disease from taking their medications as prescribed.  
(Circulation 2019)

The cost of Rx for three common drugs to treat heart disease can range from \$12 to as much as \$400 a month

The price for diabetes medications and supplies increased 58% in the past 5 years, nearly double the rate of overall Rx prices  
The price of insulin is already out of reach for most Americans living with diabetes - in some cases, over \$300 a vial  
(GoodRx 2019)