Health care sector activities to improve social care and strengthen social resources

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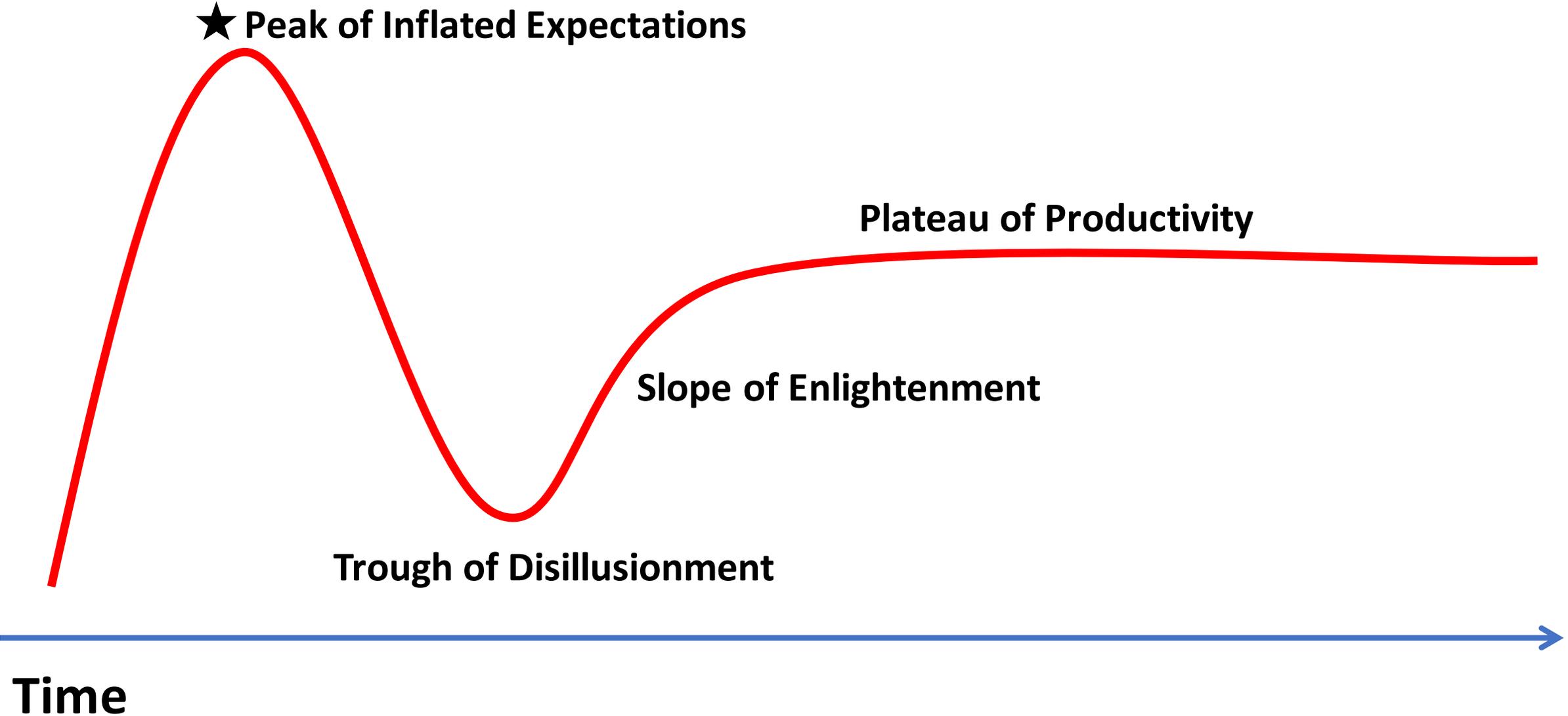
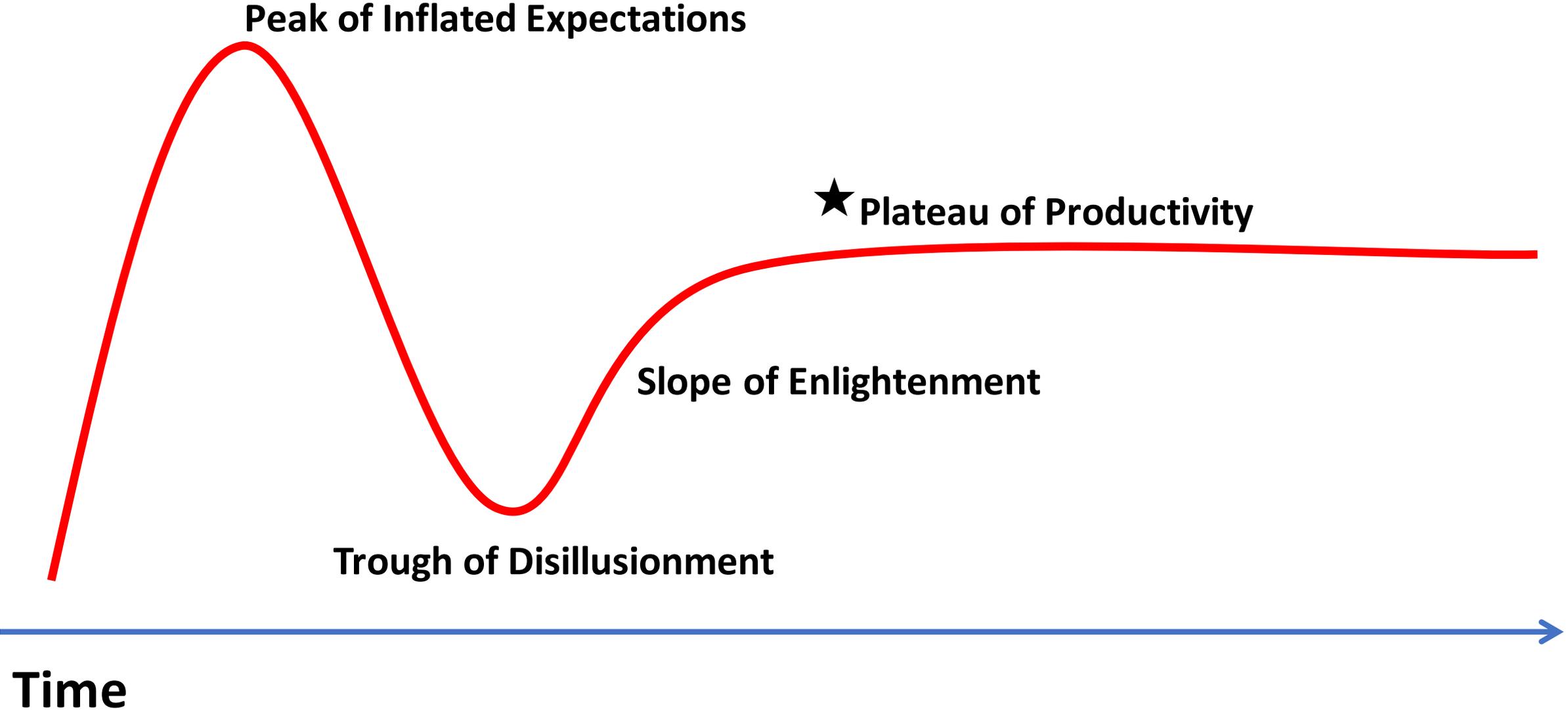September 19, 2019

SIRENetwork.ucsf.edu

Enthusiasm around social and medical care integration is growing fast

SDH on the health care innovation curve

★ Peak of Inflated Expectations

Plateau of Productivity

Slope of Enlightenment

Trough of Disillusionment

Time

SDH on the health care innovation curve

Categories of health sector SDH-related activities

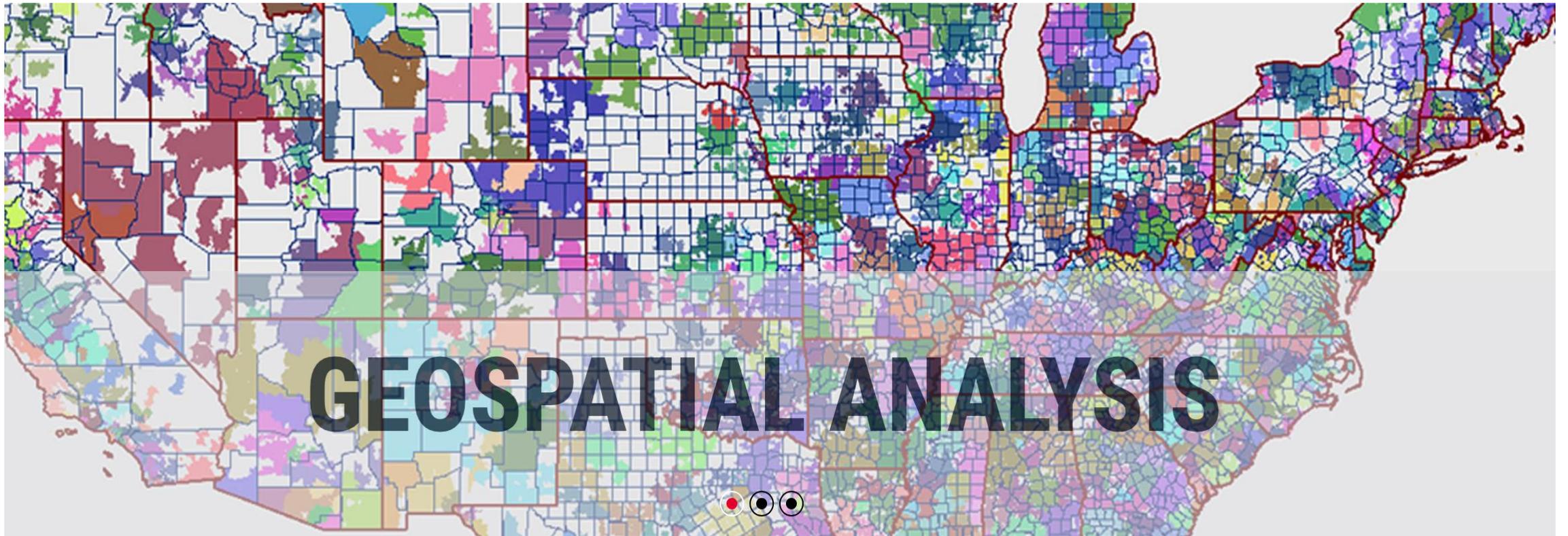**Awareness**
Identify social risk factors

Awareness: Standardized point of care data collection

Social & economic risk screening tool	Recommended Social and Behavioral Domains and Measures for Electronic Health Records	PRAPARE: Protocol for Responding to and Assessing Patient Assets, Risks, and Experiences	Accountable Health Communities Screening Tool
Total # of questions	24	21	10
Housing		☐	☐
Food		☐	☐
Clothing		☐	
Utilities (phone, gas, electric)		☐	☐
Medicine/health care		☐	
Child care		☐	
Transportation		☐	☐
Neighborhood safety		☐	
Interpersonal violence/safety	☐	☐	☐
Physical Activity	☐		
Social connections/isolation	☐	☐	
Stress	☐	☐	

Social risk screening tools comparison table: https://sirenetwork.ucsf.edu/tools-resources/screening-tools

Awareness: Community-level data

Categories of health sector SDH-related activities

Awareness
Identify social risk factors

Health care delivery-focused strategies   **Community-focused strategies**

Categories of health sector SDH-related activities

Assistance
Intervene on social risk factors

Adjustment
Accommodate care to social risk

Awareness
Identify social risk factors

Health care delivery-focused strategies   **Community-focused strategies**

Adjustment strategies

Adjust care to social context, e.g.:

- Access
- Diagnostics
- Treatment

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┌─────────────────┐     ┌─────────────────┐     ┌─────────────────┐
│                 │     │  Intervention to│     │                 │
│ Awareness of    │────▶│  lessen impact  │────▶│ Improved health │
│ social factors  │     │  of social risk │     │ and wellbeing   │
│                 │     │  on health      │     │                 │
└─────────────────┘     └─────────────────┘     └─────────────────┘
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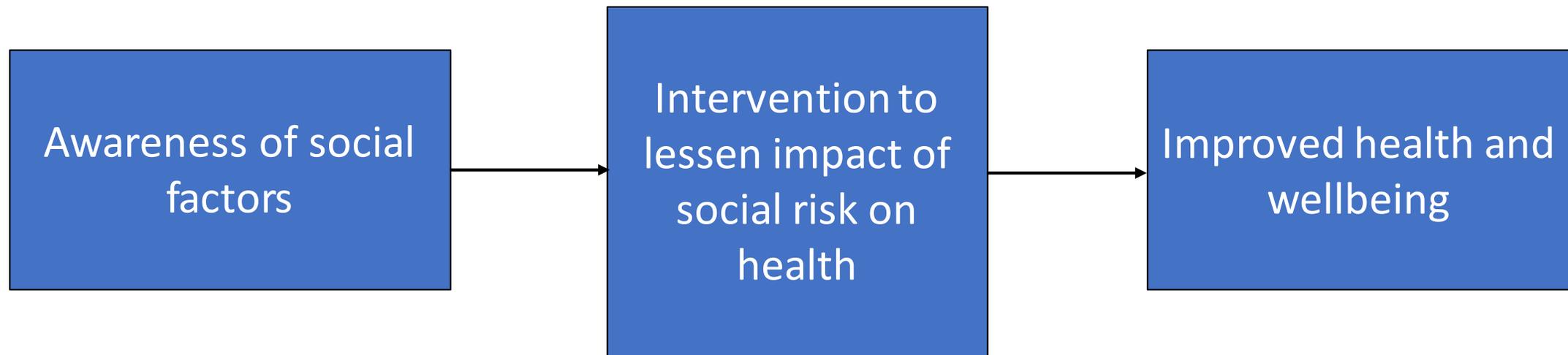
Adjustment strategies: Diabetes

Clinical decisions influenced by social risk data	Example
Target level of blood sugar control	Increase goal HgA1c to avoid hypoglycemia risk in patient w/ limited food or fridge access
Medication management	Change type of insulin to reduce medication cost
Making recommendations	Change physical activity recommendations based on safety
Making referrals	Schedule same day appointments to improve transportation access

Assistance strategies
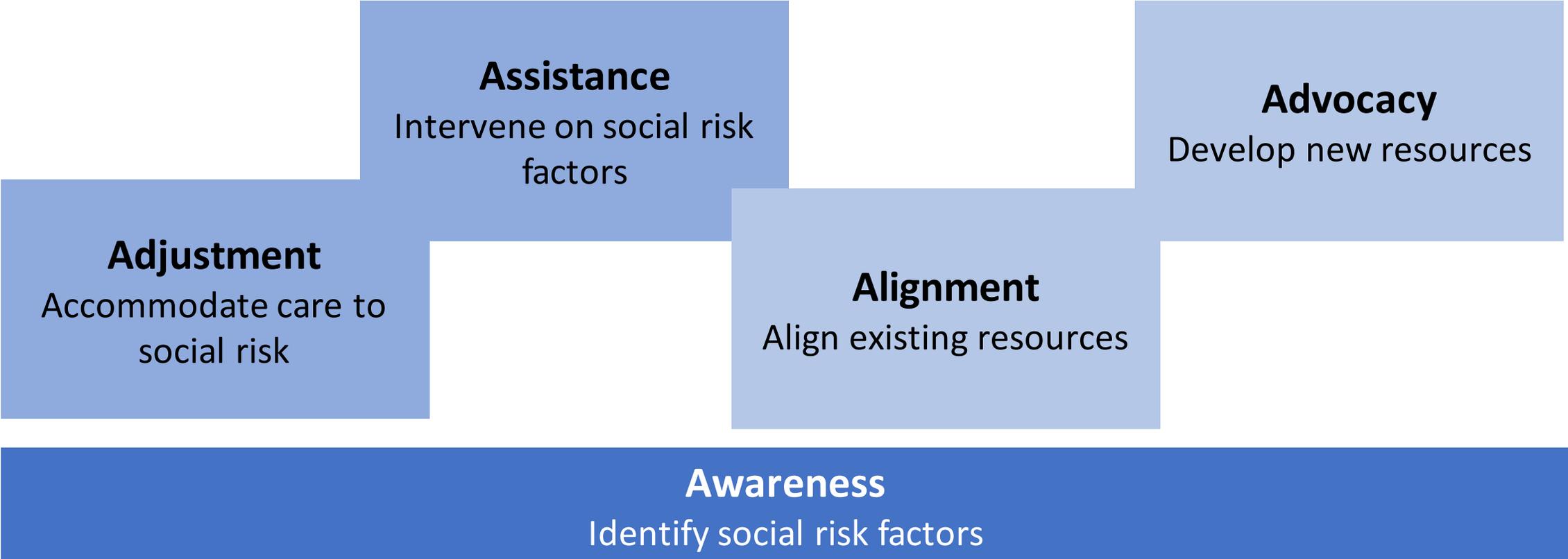
Change social context, e.g.:
- Food
- Jobs
- Housing

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Categories of health sector SDH-related activities

Assistance
Intervene on social risk factors

Adjustment
Accommodate care to social risk

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Health care delivery-focused strategies   **Community-focused strategies**

Categories of health sector SDH-related activities

Assistance
Intervene on social risk factors

Advocacy
Develop new resources

Adjustment
Accommodate care to social risk

Alignment
Align existing resources

Awareness
Identify social risk factors

Health care delivery-focused strategies   **Community-focused strategies**

Alignment, investment, and advocacy examples

Align institutional practices with community needs and priorities
- Anchor institution strategies

Facilitate intersectoral action to align and strengthen community resources
- Accountable Health Communities Alignment Track

Invest in/advocate for new community resources
- Housing investments
- Policy advocacy around public benefits

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Approaches for health care systems to engage around social care (food example)

Adjustment	Assistance	Alignment	Advocacy
Adjust insulin doses to avoid hypoglycemia when food benefits get low	Connect patients with food assistance programs	Source hospital food from local producers	Advocate at local, state, or federal level for food benefits (e.g. SNAP)

Tensions on the Path Upstream

Social Interventions Research & Evaluation Network

SIREN's mission is to catalyze and disseminate high quality research that advances efforts to address social determinants of health (SDH) in health care settings.

Activities include:

Catalyzing high quality research

Collecting & disseminating research findings

Providing evaluation, research, & analytics consultation services

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