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**Medical, Public Health and Social Work Associations' Statements on
Police Brutality and Racism as a Public Health Issue.**

MEDICAL ASSOCIATIONS

[AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION](#)

“The ongoing, systemic inequalities that affect the lived experience and health of African Americans have created an epidemic. Like any illness that spreads through a people, the impact is felt far beyond any single incident involving any single individual.”

“Systemic discrimination over decades has led to distrust in our health care system, this is in addition to the fact that Africans Americans are twice as likely to be uninsured. There is evidence that racism is associated with a host of psychological consequences, including depression, anxiety and other serious, sometimes debilitating conditions.”

[ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN MEDICAL COLLEGES](#)

“Racism is antithetical to the oaths and moral responsibilities we accepted as health professionals who have dedicated our lives to advancing the health of all, especially those who live in vulnerable communities.”

“Over the past three months, the coronavirus pandemic has laid bare the racial health inequities harming our Black communities, exposing the structures, systems, and policies that create social and economic conditions that lead to health disparities, poor health outcomes, and lower life expectancy.”

[AMERICAN THORACIC SOCIETY](#)

“As a professional society, it is also important that we have an active voice in the ongoing debate that is racking the United States; the debate surrounding racial intolerance is once more at the forefront of our consciousness. Racism has been brought into sharp focus once again, as we are made aware of the racially-based disparities in healthcare delivery and outcomes that have become painfully obvious in

the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. These disparities are at the core of the tragic events unfolding in Minneapolis and in other cities throughout the country.”

[CHILD NEUROLOGICAL SOCIETY](#)

“We as child neurologists are tasked with diagnosing and treating many diseases and disorders, including inborn errors of metabolism. There are many reasons for racism, but America is still struggling with an inborn error that was bestowed upon us by our founding fathers.”

[INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH METRICS AND EVALUATION](#)

“IHME can and will do more to illuminate the public health impacts of systemic racism. We will undertake research to address racial disparities in a range of areas, including life expectancy, child mortality, education, and economic opportunity. We will expand our work on COVID-19 to specifically examine the differential impacts of the disease by race. And we will make every effort to bring attention to police brutality.”

[NATIONAL MEDICAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION](#)

“Police brutality, which was once thought of as isolated incidences, has grown into a public health issue. Police violence not only negatively affects those individuals directly involved but also creates a tidal wave of chaos that spans across state and regions lines. Police brutality directly increases the divide between communities of color and police officials, which present in multiple way. It has resulted in an increasing number of individuals and communities that feel distrust toward police officials. They are, therefore, reluctant to report instances to police and bypass the unjust judicial systems by taking matters into their own hands.”

STATE ASSOCIATIONS

[COLORADO MEDICAL SOCIETY](#)

“The Colorado Medical Society (CMS) condemns all racism and senseless acts of violence. Racism is a social determinant of health. The structural racism we are witnessing nationwide undermines the health of individuals, families and communities we serve. CMS is deeply concerned with the prevalence of discriminatory and racist acts that are resulting in the unwarranted deaths and marginalization of people of color.”

[KENTUCKY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION](#)

“KMA stands with other organizations, including business, education, civic and healthcare, that discrimination and racism have a profound impact on the health of our

citizens. Although progress has been made to address a number of disparities and social determinants of health, it is obvious that we still have a long way to go and a duty to act.”

[MASSACHUSETTS MEDICAL SOCIETY](#)

“Racism permeates all sectors of society. Health care is no exception. Systemic racism, in and of itself, causes illness and premature death for people of color. That is wholly unacceptable. Hashtags and words are well-intentioned gestures, but we must hear, and we must act.”

[MEDICAL ASSOCIATION OF GEORGIA](#)

“The Medical Association of Georgia (MAG) and the Georgia State Medical Association (GSMA) are greatly saddened by George Floyd’s senseless death. MAG and GSMA condemn senseless acts of violence and systemic oppression, and MAG nor GSMA will tolerate inequality, injustice, or racism. Given the demonstrable links between violence and racism and poverty and patient health, MAG and GSMA will continue to advocate for health equity for every Georgian – and MAG and GSMA will continue to take steps to mitigate any disparities in the accessibility of medical care, especially when it comes to our most vulnerable or historically oppressed populations.”

[MARYLAND STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY](#)

“MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society, is calling for action to address the tragic and ongoing public health crisis of racism in Maryland and across America. The COVID-19 pandemic has tragically demonstrated the health disparities experienced by communities of color. Ongoing acts of police brutality are a disturbing symptom of a systemic disease.”

“Disparities in health care, workforce development, housing, education, law enforcement, criminal justice, and other institutions are deeply rooted in both explicit racism and unconscious biases. These disparities are directly correlated with poor health outcomes and greater risk of premature death. Action must be taken to address the root causes of systemic racism so that all facets of society can be enhanced by racial equity.”

[MEDICAL SOCIETY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA](#)

“MSDC is disturbed by the death of George Floyd. As a member of the House of Medicine, we draw attention to the American Medical Association and their statement ‘[Police Brutality Must Stop](#)’. We are encouraged by the activism of our members and District residents to draw attention to issues around race, inequality, and social determinants of health.”

MEDICAL SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY

“We are healers of medical ailments but we all must now turn to healing our nation hand in hand with all peoples. We must listen, learn and act. We must be sensitive to the post traumatic stress that this tragedy will have on each of our patients both the senior and the innocent young. We are responsible to heal this nation and pass on a country to our children that hopefully will only read about this tragedy but never to experience again.”

MINNESOTA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

“The MMA was founded, in part, to ‘...improve health and protect the lives of the community.’ That same goal exists today as part of the MMA’s mission to, “make Minnesotans the healthiest in the nation.” Historically, physicians and the MMA have worked to improve health and protect lives by championing excellence in clinical care and by advocating for traditional public health interventions where the threat was most obvious – clean air and water, vaccinations, tobacco control, nutrition, exercise, seat belts, helmets, etc. More recently, the MMA declared gun violence a public health crisis.”

“[Disparities in health](#) are familiar to all of us – consider differences in mortality rates, birth outcomes, suicide, and COVID-19 infections, to name just a few. Yet these are largely the sequelae of long-standing, institutionalized racism – historic discrimination and bias in housing, employment, education, and more.”

OREGON MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

“During a time of great stress and suffering in this country due to the global COVID-19 pandemic—a disease that disproportionately affects Black people and other communities of color—we have witnessed another purposeful act of violence against a person of color with the death of George Floyd. The health of the community is more than the medical care we provide to our patients. Racism is a public health issue, and as medical leaders, Oregon physicians and physician assistants must stand up against the reality of systemic racism and its consequences to improve the health, safety, and wellbeing of people of color.”

VERMONT MEDICAL SOCIETY

“The physicians and physician assistants of the Vermont Medical Society (VMS) denounce the recent brutal and senseless acts of violence towards Black people by law enforcement officers and acknowledge the impact systemic racism has in driving adverse health outcomes in our State and across the nation.”

“The VMS stands with the Vermont State Police, the American Medical Association (AMA), the American Psychiatric Association (APA) and the American Academy of Pediatrics in Vermont (AAPVT) in denouncing not only police brutality against Black people, but in recognizing that racism and violence against people of color is

unacceptable, unwarranted and a detriment to our country. The continued discrimination against people of color has deep lasting health impacts, as well as divisive social impacts. We cannot have a healthy nation if we continue to marginalize and harm any sector of our population.”

[WASHINGTON STATE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION](#)

“As our nation continues to be shaken by racism and injustice, the WSMA joins the many voices that are calling out the connectedness between these issues and health equity. As a health care community, we know well that racism is detrimental to public health and must be addressed.”

“Racism is a social determinant of health. The disparate health outcomes of black Americans in the U.S. can be seen as an extension of a historical context where non-white, and specifically black, lives have been devalued. Physicians and other health care professionals wield power, privilege, and responsibility for dismantling structural racism, and we have an obligation and opportunity to contribute to health equity through legislative action and advocacy.”

[WISCONSIN MEDICAL SOCIETY](#)

“The systemic racist structure failed the promise of life to this American. Racism is a constant threat to health, medical care and longevity in America. The Wisconsin Medical Society, driven by our mission of health to Wisconsinites, declares racism to be a Public Health Crisis and calls for equity in health.”

“Racism threatens health. Racism worsens the social determinants of health, including housing, employment, education, community and neighborhood, food and medical care. Poor housing, including homelessness, results in illnesses such as diabetes and asthma. Unemployment increases heart disease risks and overall mortality; poor education increases death from diabetes; physical space loss for exercise increases childhood obesity; and food deserts significantly increase African-American obesity. The greatest health threat faced today in COVID-19 has further revealed these profound disparities demonstrated by the disproportionate mortality in communities of color.”

PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATIONS

[SEIU HEALTHCARE](#)

“Racism is the real virus that prevents our country from becoming what it should be. Rooting it out must start with acknowledging the contributions of African Americans – more than a century of free labor, creative ingenuity, lives sacrificed in wars – and uniting to correct the wrongs of the past.”

[COMMITTEE OF INTERNS AND RESIDENTS \(SEIU HEALTHCARE\)](#)

“As we have seen time and time again, systemic racism is a major threat to the health of our patients and communities of color. Black Americans are 2.5 times more likely to be killed by police brutality. Our patients are Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd. They are Michael Brown, Sandra Bland, Trayvon Martin, Rodney King and so many others. Their lives matter and we as caregivers need to come together to demand change.”

“Systemic racism is a public health issue and it is clear that a fundamental change to our society’s institutions is desperately needed to correct entrenched biases. Real, structural reform is necessary in our laws, our health care system, our justice system, our schools, etc. We need to question if the resources going to policing institutions might be better spent on other public services that would actually help people.”

[PUBLIC HEALTH INSTITUTE](#)

“Police violence and racism are a public health crisis: In 2019, [police killed 1,099 people in the United States](#), and Black people were three times more likely to be killed by police than white people. This trauma leaves a profound, lasting legacy—not only on individuals, but on families and entire communities: studies link the trauma of violence and racism to higher rates of chronic stress, long-term impacts to mental health, chronic disease and more.”

“COVID-19 and police brutality are not separate health concerns; they are deeply entwined. They are both compounding, ongoing crises—traced to a health emergency that has ravaged our country since its beginning: systemic racism. We have a duty to speak out because silence is acceptance of the status quo.”

[NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY AND CITY HEALTH OFFICIALS](#)

“The legacy of violence against Black Americans extends deep into the history of this country and has cost countless lives. This violence is a public health issue deeply rooted in our nation’s legacy of systemic racial, economic, and social oppression and injustice.”

“Racism is a public health issue and local health departments should play a lead role in efforts to address it. Violence or the threat of violence—driven by on-going, systematic racism—creates a toxic stress that impacts the health of children, families, and communities.”

[AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION](#)

“Prevalence, impacts, and inequities: Law enforcement violence is a critical public health issue. Consistent with domains of violence defined by the World Health

Organization (WHO), law enforcement violence has been conceptualized to include physical, psychological, and sexual violence as well as neglect (i.e., failure to aid).”

[ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS & PROGRAMS IN PUBLIC HEALTH](#)

“As public health professionals, we must hold ourselves and each other accountable for systemic racism and the role of racism in public health. Even though public health works to achieve a society in which all people live long, healthy lives (*Healthy People 2020*), there exist stark inequalities between the health status of Black and Brown Americans and that of White Americans. These differences are due to the underlying racism that persists in the field of public health.”

[AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR MICROBIOLOGY](#)

“Numerous research studies highlight inequities in health and in our country - African Americans are nearly twice as likely to die from Covid-19 compared to others in the U.S. population. To defeat this virus that threatens humanity, and ensure that our most vulnerable communities are getting the care they need, we must also protect all of humanity by fighting against inequality.”

[NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION](#)

“Let us adhere to caring about ourselves and others and providing a healthful environment globally. We need to work together to end racism and stop the loss of life and the destruction of property for little or no reason. We also need to stop the infectious spread of both COVID-19 and racism.”

[SOCIETY FOR PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION](#)

“Racism is a public health problem that is only now being amplified by the COVID-19 pandemic, which has disproportionately harmed black and brown populations in urban communities. We must now all commit to not being silent in our anti-racism efforts particularly in the face of blatant systems of oppression and police brutality.”

[NATIONAL NETWORK OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSTITUTES](#)

“Public health as a discipline has always been grounded in hard data. We are a community who derives knowledge from facts. And we have more data than we need to prove that racism kills. We are all impacted, every community and each one of us. What’s more, this is a public health emergency of epic proportion. The harmful health effects of racism cannot and must not be ignored or denied. While no one has the power to change the past, every living individual has the power to change the future. And every organization has a moral responsibility and a legitimate role in healing our nation from the longstanding damage inflicted by racism.”

NURSING ASSOCIATIONS

[NATIONAL COALITION OF ETHNIC MINORITY NURSES ASSOCIATION](#)

“Our country is in a state of turmoil and unending crisis that contributes to our long term physical and mental health. Immigrants are detained and their children kidnapped, Asian Americans are attacked and blamed for the corona virus, Native American women are kidnapped or murdered and perpetrators never brought to justice, people of color are not protected by the laws of this land. As nurses, we call on all health care professionals to declare a state of public health emergency to address these social ills and move this country toward true equality.”

[NURSE PRACTITIONERS OF NEW YORK](#)

“It is this structure of racism that produces stark gaps in wealth, health, housing, and employment opportunities. The overrepresentation of racial and ethnic morbidity and mortality seen in the COVID-19 pandemic highlights racial and economic inequities that have been present for centuries.”

“Racism is the pandemic that we, as nurse practitioners, must work to eradicate. It is only by ending these structural inequalities that we can affirm that health is ***not just the absence of disease but is a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being*** (WHO definition).”

[AMERICAN PSYCHIATRIC NURSES ASSOCIATION](#)

“The tragic events of the past week painfully demonstrate the longstanding inequities deeply embedded into our communities and lives. From injustices experienced by colleagues, friends, and family, to disparities highlighted by the COVID-19 pandemic, racism continues to profoundly impact the health and wellness of individuals and communities across the nation.”

[AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF NURSE PRACTITIONERS](#)

“We cannot tolerate that our patients continue to experience poor access to health care, lack of transportation and nutritious food, inadequate housing and more due to historic, systemic racism. Racism is, in fact, a public health issue with devastating physical and mental health consequences. It must be eradicated from our nation if we are to realize our potential of providing an equitable future for all of our citizens.”

[AMERICAN COLLEGE HEALTH ASSOCIATION](#)

“The marginalization of people of color also extends to health disparities, which, most recently, is evidenced by the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on minorities. According to [CDC data](#), one third of people who have been hospitalized with COVID-19 are African American, even though African Americans make up only 13% of the U.S.

population. This unequal impact on the health of African Americans extends to other health disparities when considering health complications, such as, diabetes, hypertension, obesity, asthma, and chronic stress.”

[AMERICAN COLLEGE OF NURSE MIDWIVES](#)

“The convergence of a global pandemic disproportionately killing Black Americans and the preying on Black individuals by law enforcement are current examples of prejudice and social inequalities that shape much of American life. There are also racial disparities that affect our educational institutions, employment, and community services, among others. We are all “created equal.” We must all hold ourselves accountable and fervently defend these basic human rights. Racism is a public health crisis.”

[AMERICAN NURSES ASSOCIATION](#)

“Racism is a longstanding public health crisis that impacts both mental and physical health. The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated this crisis and added to the stress in the black community, which is experiencing higher rates of infection and deaths.”

[ASSOCIATION REHABILITATION NURSES SOCIETY](#)

“Racism is a threat to the public health of our nation. Nursing is the country's most trusted profession. As representatives of the profession, we are committed to social justice and the health and well-being of our population. ANA President Ernest Grant, PhD RN FAAN, reminds us that, as nurses, we have an ethical obligation ‘to be allies and to advocate and speak up against racism, discrimination, and injustice.’”

[EMERGENCY NURSES ASSOCIATION](#)

“Our nation is hurting, its pain is obvious to anyone paying attention. We need to be listening to the message of the thousands of people who have taken to the streets focused on an issue—systemic racism and the damage it has caused for generations—that no one person alone can fix.”

“Systemic racism fosters mistrust in communities, it triggers implicit bias, leads to inequities in health care, creates socio-economic disparities and is undeniably evident as the root cause for the deaths of black Americans who lost their lives because of their skin color.”

[HOSPICE AND PALLIATIVE NURSES ASSOCIATION](#)

“The circumstances involved with the deaths of George, Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, and Breonna Taylor were abhorrent. The continued effects of systemic racism and injustice impact every part of our lives, including the safety and health of those whose care is entrusted to nurses.”

“As nurses, it is important for us to honor our responsibilities as noted in *Provision 8 of the American Nurses Association (ANA) Code of Ethics for Nurses*, which states, ‘The nurse collaborates with other health professionals and the public to protect human rights, promote health diplomacy, and reduce health disparities.’”

[NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF NEONATAL NURSES](#)

“NANN will work with our leaders, our community, and our Health Policy and Advocacy committee to ensure that lawmakers on every level hear and understand our collective voices on these matters. We will find ways to take the action that is needed to encourage and demand the end of systemic racism in this country and our members will have opportunities to join in our legislative efforts. This is a human issue that affects us all, impacting our community of neonatal nurses, patients, and families both inside and outside the NICU.”

[NURSE PRACTITIONERS IN WOMEN'S HEALTH](#)

“Racism is a public health issue. NPWH mourns the death of George Floyd and we stand in solidarity with those across the country calling for justice and action to change structures and policies that have enabled and permitted senseless violence to occur.”

[NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PEDIATRIC NURSES PRACTITIONERS](#)

“As pediatric-focused advanced practice nurses, we are all too aware of the significant impact these events have on children’s health and wellbeing. Research on early exposure to adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) has significant short- and long-term impact on both physical and mental health.”

“The coronavirus pandemic has caused significant and widespread disruption while revealing disproportionate impacts on health equity. Acts of discrimination and racism further contribute to these health disparities, significantly and detrimentally impacting child and adolescent health development. We stand with those calling for change in systemic structures resulting in social and health inequities such as health care access and delivery.”

[NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL NURSES](#)

“It is the position of the National Association of School Nurses (NASN) that systematic racism must be eliminated from the United States and this elimination can begin with school systems, school staff, families and children. Racism, a public health crisis, threatens the health, educational attainment, and well-being of children and adolescents. School systems hold a profound formative influence in the lives of students. Where racism exists, students of color experience adverse impacts on their health, well-being, and learning. Schools must be systems within communities where antiracism is the default culture and climate.”

[NATIONAL HOSPICE AND PALLIATIVE CARE ORGANIZATION](#)

“We demand that every life be valued and respected, and we believe in care without barriers. Everyone deserves compassion, comfort, peace and dignity during life’s most intimate and vulnerable experiences. This is not possible without eliminating the structural racism and health inequities that plague our health system and have resulted in racial minorities bearing a disproportionate burden of death and illness.”

[NATIONAL LEAGUE FOR NURSING](#)

“We believe we should all breathe and speak loudly in support of those who rally and march peacefully in our streets raising their voices in concern. We do not support the violence from any group or from any direction. We are concerned about the public health issues of racism and the coronavirus: gatherings of large groups, lack of masks and physical distancing, and the potential of spreading this virus that has devastated the lives and economic welfare of so many families in the United States and around the world.”

[NATIONAL STUDENT NURSES ASSOCIATION](#)

“The injustices seen in this country are the consequences of 400+ years of oppression and have caused mental, emotional, and physical distress throughout generations. The African-American community has witnessed racial injustice throughout their lives creating fear, anger, sadness, and extreme emotional anguish. The impact of racism across the nation fuels the flames within African-American communities to address the ongoing systemic inequalities of racial injustice.”

[NURSES CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP](#)

“As nurses we know health disparities exist. We can identify where those disparities will be present by zip codes. Healthy People 2020 has acknowledged racism as a social determinant of health. From an ethical perspective, social justice and equity are values we lift up as a profession.”

[NURSING NETWORK ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN INTERNATIONAL](#)

“Racism and discrimination are a social determinant of health and significantly contribute to health and social inequities. As a global community of nurses and midwives we have a responsibility to identify, describe and resist racism and then work to dismantle it. Antiracist work is a nursing and midwifery intervention.”

[ONCOLOGY NURSES SOCIETY](#)

“The overwhelming lack of access to care and treatment for people of color across the United States became immediately apparent. The increased public health restrictions meant to curtail the spread of COVID-19 have substantially intensified anxiety levels for

all Americans. As recent events have again shown, racism is an insidious disease that affects all aspects of American life. ONS calls for all of us to commit to an end to hatred, discrimination, and racism in every form.”

[SOCIETY OF UROLOGIC NURSES AND ASSOCIATES](#)

“The protests of the past 2 weeks serve as a reminder that, for too long, the racism and bigotry that has plagued America has been inadequately addressed and never “cured.” The deaths of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and countless other people of color dictate a need for deep reflection and change among many of us.”

[NATIONAL NURSES UNITED](#)

“In fact, it is racism that is the deadly disease, whether it is infusing police killings, the decades of racist disparities in health care, housing, employment, education, criminal justice, and so many other facets of our society that have boiled over in a call for change now in our streets,” Castillo concluded. “This is an extremely perilous moment. We are at a crossroads in this nation. It is increasingly evident that verbal opposition to the policies in Washington and in many states, is not enough.”

[NEW YORK STATE NURSES ASSOCIATIONS](#)

“Our nation’s African American community is going through an extremely painful experience, pain that has been inflicted upon this community repeatedly throughout history and is magnified by mass media and repeated deaths,’ said Dan Gillison, CEO, National Alliance on Mental Health. ‘Racism is a public health crisis.’ A health crisis we have not begun to meaningfully address.”

SOCIAL WORK ASSOCIATIONS

[NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORK](#)

“These recent wounds have opened up deep societal scars as we are in the middle of two pandemics that disproportionately affect communities of color. COVID-19 has claimed more than 100,000 American lives, and unequal access to quality medical care has contributed to the incredibly disproportionate impact of COVID-19 among traditionally underserved Black and Brown populations. The other pandemic – institutional racism – has been responsible, in some way or another, for untold fatalities for more than 400 years.”

[ASSOCIATION OF ONCOLOGY SOCIAL WORK](#)

“While our country fights a generations-long pandemic of racism, we face a global pandemic that has created uncertainty across our professional and personal lives; it has

disproportionately impacted communities of color. This has amplified the issue of social injustice in America and many of us have absorbed the mental and emotional angst it creates.”

PUBLIC HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

[DR. ABRAAR KARAN MD, MPH, DTM&H](#)

Department of Medicine, Brigham & Women's Hospital/ Harvard Medical School

“For those who see #covid19 & the #protests2020 as separate— they are not. They are deeply interlinked. Until the deepest inequities are addressed— #racism being at the center of those ...#covid19 will not go away. Failing to treat every person with justice, respect, fairness and humanity is a part of a *failed* epidemic response. Epidemics like #covid19 are not solved in vacuums. And while I have voiced concerns that protests risk creating more outbreaks, the status quo wasn't going to stop #covid19 either. As much as this is a chapter in American racism, so too is it in the #covid19 response It's beyond time for us in public health to step up.

**Tweeted on May 31, 2020*

[MAIA MAJUMDAR, PhD](#)

*Faculty, Computational Health Informatics Program (CHIP)
Research Associate, Harvard Medical School*

“As an epidemiologist, I'm well aware that the [#MinneapolisUprising](#) (in no small part due to police use of pepper spray) will increase [#COVID19](#) risk. But [#policebrutality](#) has been a [#publichealth](#) problem for much longer than the [#pandemic](#) has, and this is a necessary action.”

**Tweeted on May 30, 2020*

[DR. RHEA BOYD, MD, MPH](#)

Pediatrician and Child Advocate

“1 in 1000 Black men and boys will be killed by police in their lifetime. 1 in 1000 is also the mortality rate of measles, a risk deemed so deadly, it has near constant public health surveillance and prevention. That we don't treat police violence the same is a form of racism.”

**Tweeted May 31, 2020*

[DR. JULIA MARCUS, PhD, MPH](#)

Infectious Disease Epidemiologist and Assistant Professor in the Department of Population Medicine at Harvard Medical School & Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Institute

“Public health professionals are being told that we're losing credibility by getting ‘political’ right now. To be clear: the politicization of systemic racism and police brutality as "liberal" issues doesn't make their health impacts any less real. We're just doing our job.”

**Tweeted on June 3, 2020*

[DR. SEEMA YASMIN, MD](#)

Clinical Assistant Professor, Primary Care & Population Health, School of Medicine and Director, Research and Education Programs, Stanford Health Communication Initiative

“Public health experts are also worried about the epidemic of police brutality and the murders of black people - both of which are public health emergencies.”

**Tweeted on May 31, 2020*