“Tackling health inequalities is a matter of social justice. It’s unacceptable in 21st century Scotland that some people can expect to die earlier than others, simply due to an accident of birth or circumstances”

With this statement of intent, Scotland’s First Minister introduces ‘Equally Well’, the first report of the Scottish Government’s Health Inequalities Task Force (June 2008).

‘Equally Well’ describes the nature and concerning extent of health and social inequality in Scotland, highlights wide-ranging policy and practice issues and offers a number of recommendations.

An implementation plan, with implications for the ways in which health (and other) services are delivered, is anticipated in late 2008. NMAHPs and the NHS will have a vitally important part to play in addressing and reducing health and social inequalities.

Are you ready for the health inequalities challenge?

Bridging the Gap aims to provide pre-registration and qualified NMAHPs and others involved in tackling health inequalities in Scotland with a flexible resource that introduces some of the key evidence, issues and themes in health and social inequalities, and provides access to a range of added resources and links to further information.

Bridging the Gap includes:

- Towards an understanding of Health and Inequality
- Building a picture of Health in Scotland
- Identity, Stigma and Health
- Barriers to Access
- Drivers for Change
- Principles in Practice

You can access Bridging the Gap in the ‘quick link’ menu at http://www.equalityinhealth.scot.nhs.uk