

vulnerable to any number of negative health outcomes—physical, mental, and emotional.

SUMMARY

In summary, while general information exists on disparities among rural populations related to access to care, there is a paucity of evidence focusing on risk, vulnerability, and social determinants in select rural aggregates (AHRQ, 2009, 2010; CDC, 2011; IOM, 2002; RAC, 2012). For rural nursing scholars, this information deficit offers an extensive venue for research, which ultimately is needed to expand and refine a theory for rural nursing practice (Kulig, 2000; Lauder et al., 2006; Lee & Winters, 2004; Leight, 2003).

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