# 6 UNMET NEEDS

of Cardiovascular Patients





#### 1. Awareness

Even with knowledge of family history, patients want to believe a heart attack or stroke couldn't happen to them.

## 2. Empowerment

Patients should feel empowered enough to be their own advocates. Having a family member or friend for support can also help build confidence.





# 3. Risk Factor Mitigation

Exercising, eating a healthy diet, not smoking and addressing high cholesterol are all steps patients can take to reduce their risk.

## 4. Team-Based Care

Primary and specialty care providers need to know who is responsible for what, and how they can best work together to reduce cardiovascular risk.





## 5. Adherence

Heart disease is treatable, but only if patients follow their medication regimen.

## 6. Education

By putting patient-friendly educational materials in their offices, providers can help increase public education.





Together, policymakers, providers and advocates can help fulfill the needs of cardiovascular patients.