



BULE HORA UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF HEALTH & MEDICAL SCIENCES
PHARMACY DEPARTMENT POST BASIC PROGRAM

Description of the course

Course Title: Determinants of Health

Course Code: SPHM-3042

ECTS: **4**

Semester : **I**

1ST Year Post Basic Pharmacy Students

Course Instructor: Anteneh Fikrie(BSc(PH), MPH)

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1. Introduction to Public Health

Learning Objectives:

- At the end of this session, you should be able to:
 - ❖ Define the *common definition of terms* in public health
 - ❖ Elucidate the *Core* and *Essential Functions of public health*
 - ❖ Differentiate between *Public health* and *medicine*

Terms

- *Public*
- *Health*
- *Public Health*
- *International health*
- *Global health*

Definitions

- **Lay Point of view:** Persons are healthy when they are *doing their activities with no apparent symptoms of disease in them.*
- **The New oxford Dictionary of English** describes health as 'the state of being free from illness or injury'.
- **Professional points of view:** From this point, health is defined as *a measure of the state of the physical bodily Organs, and the ability of the body as a whole to function. It refers to freedom from medically defined diseases.*

Definitions...

Health

- The WHO defines health as 'a state of complete *physical, mental, and social well-being* and but not merely the absence of disease, or infirmity'.

Public:

- Is about 'the what' of belonging to the people; relating to, or affecting, a nation, state, or community; opposed to private.
- of, concerning, or open to the people as a whole.
- Involved in the affairs of the community

Definitions.....

- **Public health:** “The *science* and art of preventing disease, *prolonging life* and *promoting physical health* and *mental health* and *efficiency* through *organized efforts* and *informed choices* of *society, organizations, public* and private, communities and individuals”.

(C.E.A. Winslow In 1923)

- **John Last** defines **Public Health**:
 - “Efforts organized by Public Health society to protect, promote and restore the peoples’ health”.

Definitions.....

International health

- Deals with health *across regional* or *national boundaries*
- International health more often refers to *health personnel* or *organizations* from one area or nation providing direct health care, or health sector development, in another area or nation.
- The branch of public health focusing on *developing nations* and *foreign aid* efforts by industrialized countries.

Definitions.....

• Global health

- Global health is the health of populations in a global context.
- “Global health is the area of study, research and practice that places a priority on improving health and achieving equity in health for all people worldwide”.
- Problems that transcend national borders or have a global political and economic impact are often emphasized.
- Global health is about worldwide health improvement, reduction of disparities, and protection against global threats that disregard national borders.

Global health vs international health vs public health

	Focus	Cooperation	Strategy	Aim	Disciplines
Global health	Health issues that transcend national boundaries	Global	Prevention and clinical care	Health equity among nations	Highly interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary
International health	Focus on issues outside of one's own country	Bi-national	Prevention and clinical care	Help other nations	Embraces a few disciplines
Public health	Focus on specific communities or countries	National	Prevention	Health equity within a nation or community	Multidisciplinary, particularly with health and social sciences

Public Health & Medicine

	Public Health	Medicine
Patient	Primary focus on Population/Public service Entire population	Primary focus on individual/individual service Individuals
Emphasis	Disease prevention and promotion of health	on diagnosis and treatment; care for the patient
Intervention	Assessment, policy development, assurance	Medical/surgical treatment
Reliance	On many sectors	On health system
Process	System management	Patient management
Decision	A policy decision is required	It is up to the patient to accept the doctor's recommendation
Outcome	Healthy community	Healing the patient

2. Functions of Public Health

Functions of Public Health

- The **three Core** functions of public health

A. Assessment

B. Policy development

C. Assurance

A. Assessment

- The regular collection, analysis and sharing of information about health conditions, risks and resources in a community.
- **What to assess?**
 - ❖ Identify trends in illness, injury, and death and the factors, which may cause these events.
 - ❖ Identify available resources and their application.
 - ❖ Identify unmet needs.
 - ❖ Identify community perceptions about health issues.
 - ❖ Collect data regarding specific populations.

Assessment.....

- Identify at-risk and high-risk populations, i.e.,
- Under-fives, pregnant mothers, frail elderly, the disabled, etc.
- Assess nutritional trends/needs; housing, jobs, healthcare providers, social services, etc.
- Monitor changing community needs
- Assess changing population trends

Assessment data sources:

- Health facility registries
- Vital registries
- Health screening
- Epidemiologic studies
- Public forums
- Health resource inventory
- Consumer complaint follow-up information

B. Policy development

- **Policy development and leadership:**

- That fosters local involvement and a sense of ownership.
- That emphasizes local needs, and
- That advocates equitable distribution of public resources and complementary private activities commensurate with community needs.

Policy development process....

- Define **health needs**
- **Set priority**
- Develop **policies & plans** to address the most important health needs by setting goals with **measurable objectives**
- Develop alternative **strategies** for implementing plans
- Identify necessary & available **resources**

development

- **Considerations in policy development**

- Scientific information
- Data from the assessment
- Political & organizational feasibility
- Community values
- Involving all private & public sectors

C. Assurance

- Make sure it happens
- **Legislative** mandates & legal responsibilities
- Regulation of **services & products** provided
- Maintain **accountability** to the people by setting objectives & reporting on progress
- Maintain services needed to attain an **intended impact or outcome** with the available resources & technique

The 10 essential functions of Public Health

- Describes how the **purpose of public health** is achieved i.e.,
Explains how public health is performed
- Clarify the **role of public health** in the **overall health care system**
- They provide a consensus statement on the **basic functions of public health** in a country

The 10 essential functions of Public Health...

EXHIBIT 14-1 The 10 Essential Public Health Functions

Assessment

1. Monitor health status to identify and solve community health problems.
2. Diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community.

Policy Development

3. Inform, educate, and empower people about health issues.
4. Mobilize community partnerships and action to identify and solve health problems.
5. Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts.

Assurance

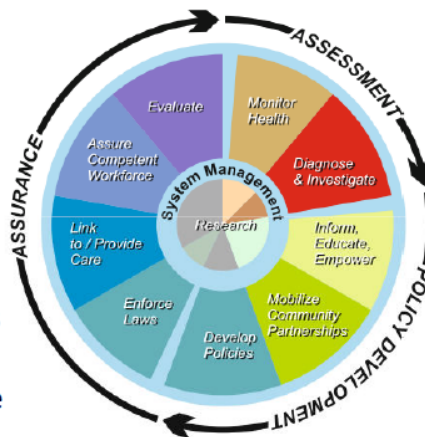
6. Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety.
7. Link people to needed personal health services and assure the provision of healthcare when otherwise unavailable.
8. Assure a competent public and personal healthcare workforce.
9. Evaluate the effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and population-based health services.
10. Conduct research for new insights and innovative solutions to health problems.

The 10 essential functions of Public Health...

Ten essential functions....Cont'd

The 10 essential functions:

1. Monitor health status
2. Diagnose and investigate
3. Inform, educate, empower
4. Mobilize community participation
5. Develop policies and plans
6. Enforce laws and regulations
7. Link to/ provide care
8. Assure competent workforce
9. Evaluate
10. Research



Source: Schmitt NM and Schmitt J. Definition of Public Health. In: Kirch W(Ed.) Encyclopedia of Public Health. Springer; 2008. p. 222—233.

Monitoring health

- The intermittent performance and analysis of measurements aimed at detecting changes in the health status of populations or in the physical or social environment.
- E.g., Ethiopia demographic & health survey
 - Monitoring is routine & continuous while evaluations are **less frequent & dictated by need**
 - Monitoring: data collected easily through the system (implementing persons)

Diagnose and investigate

- Diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community.
- The process of determining health status and the factors responsible for producing it.
- May be applied to an individual, family, group, or community (in public health we are concerned more with diagnosing community).

Inform, educate, empower

- Inform and educate individuals, groups, and communities about good health in order to promote health, lifestyle choices and mitigate health risks.
- Provide critical information that safeguards health and safety in response to disasters or other health crises.

Inform, educate, empower...

- **Use one or a combination of techniques.**
 - E.g., House-to-house (HEWs).
 - Media campaigns.
 - Movie screen ads.
 - School health programmes.
 - Prison health programmes.

Mobilize community participation

- Mobilize community participation (and ultimate self-reliance).
- Communities assuming more responsibility for their own health.
- By support from groups such as local government agencies, local leaders, voluntary groups, etc.

Enforce laws

- To protect health and safety.
- Enforce public health regulations by providing oversight, education, and assurance of compliance with federal and regional public health laws designed to protect and promote the health of the public.
 - E.g., Enforce communicable disease reporting, investigation and follow-up, for example: Tb, HIV/AIDS, STDs.
- Enforce timely childhood immunizations.
- Enforce inspection of restaurants and hotels for safe food.
- Enforce inspection of public facilities: schools, confinement facilities, etc.

Link to/ provide care

- Link people to needed health services.
- Ensure the provision of health care when otherwise unavailable.

Assure competent public health workforce

- **Competency**– a term used to signify specific abilities, skills, talents, knowledge, and understanding that are components of individual behavior.
- Competency is the quality of being functionally adequate in performing activities and assuming that role of a specified position with the requisite knowledge, ability, skill, judgment, attitudes, and values.

Competent PH workforce

1. Analytic Skills
2. Communication Skills - Oral and Written
3. Policy Development/Program Planning Skills
4. **Basic Public Health Science Skills**
5. Knowledge and use of **software packages**
6. Understanding of surveillance systems, survey development and administration, and vital statistics
7. Demonstrates ethical conduct

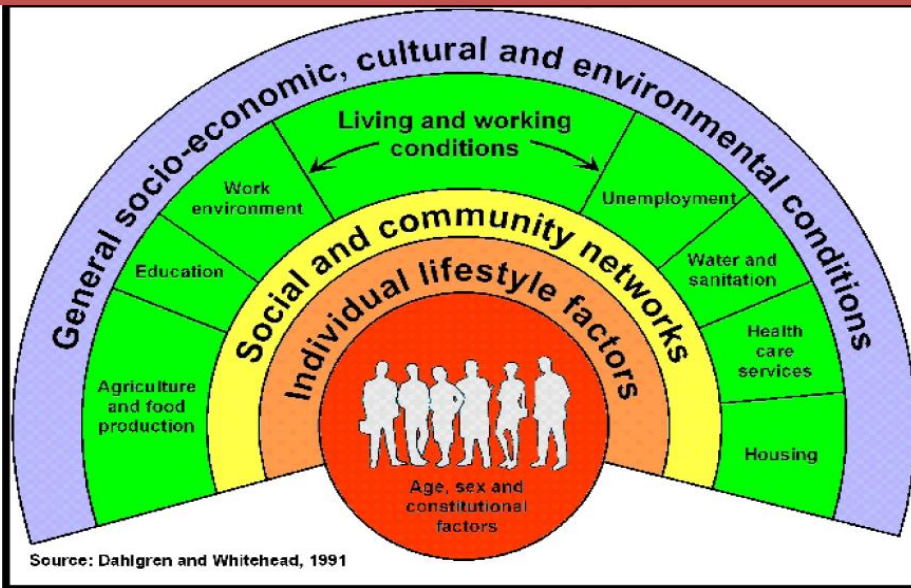
Evaluate

- **Evaluation:** periodic assessment of the relevance, effectiveness & impact of activities in the light of the objectives
- Evaluate all PH programs for performance, effectiveness & outcomes
- Implement continual improvement strategies.

Research

- New insights and innovative solutions to health problems
- The systematic investigation into and study of materials and sources in order to establish facts and reach new conclusions.
- To discover or verify information presented in (a book, programme, etc.).

What are the Determinants of Health?



Thanks!!!