

University of Arizona

College of Public Health

MPH Competencies

Competencies
A. ANALYTICAL SKILLS:
A. 1. Defines a problem
A. 2. Determines appropriate uses and limitations of data
A. 3. Selects and defines variables relevant to defined public health problems
A. 4. Evaluates the integrity and comparability of data and identifies gaps in data sources
A. 5. Understands how the data illuminates ethical, political, scientific, economic, and overall public health issues
A. 6. Understanding basic research designs used in public health
A. 7. Makes relevant inferences from data

Competencies
B. COMMUNICATION SKILLS:
B. 1. Communicates effectively both in writing and orally (unless a handicap precludes one of those forms of communication)
B. 2. Interpreting and presenting accurately and effectively demographic, statistical, and scientific information for professional and lay audiences adapting and translating public health concepts to individuals and communities
B. 3. Soliciting input from individuals and organizations
B. 4. Advocating and marketing for public health programs and resources, including political lobbying, grant writing, collaboration building, and networking
B. 5. Leading and participating in groups to address specific issues, including ability to work in teams, span organizational boundaries, and cross systems
B. 6. Using all types of media to communicate important public health information
B. 7. Demonstrating cultural competency in all of the above and community development

Competencies
C. POLICY DEVELOPMENT/PROGRAM PLANNING SKILLS:
C. 1. Assess and interpret information to develop relevant policy options
C. 2. States policy options and writes clear and concise policy statements
C. 3. Articulating the health, fiscal, administrative, legal, social, political, and ethical implications of each policy option
C. 4. Deciding on the appropriate course of action and writing a clear and concise policy statement and implementation plan
C. 5. Translates policy into organizational plans, structures, and programs
C. 6. Identifying public health laws, regulations, and policies related to specific programs
C. 7. Developing mechanisms to monitor and evaluate programs for their effectiveness and quality

Competencies
D. CULTURAL SKILLS:
D. 1. Understanding the current forces contributing to cultural diversity in the Southwest
D. 2. Interacting competently, respectfully, and professionally with persons from diverse backgrounds
D. 3. Identifying and examining the role of cultural, social, ethnic, religious, spiritual, and behavioral factors in determining disease prevention health promoting behavior, and health service organizational and delivery
D. 4. Developing and adapting approaches to public health problems that take into account cultural differences
D. 5. Determining health related consequences of social structure
D. 6. Understands the dynamic forces contributing to cultural diversity

Competencies
E. BASIC PUBLIC HEALTH SCIENCE SKILLS:
E. 1. Defining, assessing, and understanding the health status of population, determinants of health and illness, factors contributing to health promotion and disease prevention, and factors influencing the use of health services
E. 2. Understanding research methods in all basic public health sciences
E. 3. Applying the basic public health sciences including behavioral and social sciences, biostatistics, epidemiology, environmental public health, and prevention of chronic and infectious diseases and injuries
E. 4. Understanding of the historical development and structure of state. Local, and federal public health agencies

Competencies
F. FINANCIAL PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT SKILLS:
F. 1. Developing and presenting a budget
F. 2. Managing programs within budgetary constraints
F. 3. Developing strategies for determining priorities
F. 4. Monitoring program
F. 5. Preparing proposals for funding from internal and external sources
F. 6. Applying basic human relations skills to the management of organizations and the resolution of conflicts
F. 7. Managing personnel
F. 8. Understanding the theory of organizational structure and its relation to professional practice
F. 9. Conducts cost-effectiveness, cost benefit, and cost utility analyses
F. 10. Negotiates and develops contracts and other documents for the provision of population-based services