

Glossary of Key Terms in Public Health Practice

Term	Definition
Determinants of Health	<p>Factors that influence the health of individual, families, and populations (Garcia, Schaffer, & Schoon, 2014, p. 20)</p> <p>Protective Factors Health determinants that protect a person from illness and/or assist in improving the person's health (p. 20)</p> <p>Risk Factors Health determinants that contribute to the potential for illness to occur or to a decrease in health or well-being (p. 20)</p>
Evidence-Based Practice	<p>A problem solving approach for clinical practice that includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Research evidence b) Clinical expertise c) Patient preferences and values (p. 44)
Interventions	<p>Interventions are actions that PHNs take on behalf of individuals, families, systems, and communities to improve or protect health status (Garcia, et al., p. 34; MDH, 2001, p. 1).</p>
Levels of Practice	<p>There are 3 levels of PHN practice:</p> <p>Individual/Family Interventions change knowledge, attitudes, beliefs, practice, and behaviors of individuals. These individuals may be alone, or part of a family, group, or class (Garcia, et al., p. 19; MDH, 2001, p. 5).</p> <p>Community Interventions change community norms, community attitudes, community awareness, community practices and community behaviors (Garcia, et al., p. 19; MDH, p. 4).</p> <p>Systems Interventions change organizations, policies, laws, and power structures (Garcia, et al., p. 19; MDH, p. 4).</p>
Levels of Prevention	<p>There are 3 levels of prevention interventions:</p> <p>Primary Strategies promote health and protect threats to it (Garcia, et al., p. 24; MDH, p. 4).</p> <p>Secondary Strategies detect and treat problems in their early stages (Garcia, et al., p. 24; MDH, p. 4).</p> <p>Tertiary Strategies limit further negative effects from a problem and aim to keep existing problems from getting worse (Garcia, et al., p. 24; MDH, p. 4).</p>

Principles of Population-Based Practice	<p>Criteria for population-based, public health nursing practice:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Focus on entire populations of possessing similar health concerns or characteristics. 2. Be guided by an assessment of population health status that is determined through a community assessment process. 3. Consider the broad determinants of health. 4. Consider all levels of prevention, with a preference for primary prevention. 5. Consider all levels of practice (Garcia, et al., p. 7; MDH, p. 2-3).
Public Health Core Functions	<p>There are 3 Core Functions of governmental public health agencies:</p> <p>Assessment Community assessment of population health needs by monitoring and investigating levels of population health and illness (p. 14)</p> <p>Policy Development Development of health policies, goals, plans, and interventions to meet priority community health needs (p. 14)</p> <p>Assurance Measurement of outcomes of health policies, goals, plans, and interventions (p. 14)</p>
Public Health Nursing Process	<p>Integration of concepts of public health, community, and all three levels of public health nursing practice into the nursing process: assessment, diagnosis, planning, implementation, and evaluation (p. 24-34)</p>

Source: Garcia, C. M., Schaffer, M. A., & Schoon, P. M. (2014). *Population-Based Public Health Clinical Manual: The Henry Street Model for Nurses (2nd Ed.)*. Indianapolis, IN: Sigma Theta Tau International.

Source: Minnesota Department of Health, Center for Public Health Nursing. (2001). *Public health interventions*. St. Paul, MN: Author. Retrieved from: <http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/opi/cd/phn/wheel.html>

Public Health Intervention Wheel Definitions

The 17 public health interventions are divided into wedges on the Public Health Intervention Wheel. The three wedges include a cluster of interventions that tend to occur concurrently or consecutively (Garcia, Schaffer, & Schoon, 2014, p. 37).

Red Wedge

Surveillance	Describes and monitors health events through ongoing and systematic collection, analysis, and interpretation of health data for the purpose of planning, implementing, and evaluating public health interventions (MDH, 2001, p. 13).
Disease and other health event investigation	Systematically gathers and analyzes data regarding threats to the health of populations, ascertains the source of the threat, identifies cases and others at risk, and determines control measures (p. 29).
Outreach	Locates populations-of-interest or populations-at-risk and provides information about the nature of the concern, what can be done about it, and how services can be obtained (p. 41).
Screening	Identifies individuals with unrecognized health risk factors or asymptomatic disease conditions in populations (p. 63).
Case-finding	Locates individuals and families with identified risk factors and connects them with resources (p. 55).- {This is an individual level intervention for surveillance, disease and health event investigation, outreach, and screening.}

Green Wedge

Referral and follow-up	Assists individuals, families, groups, organizations, and/or communities to identify and access necessary resources in to prevent or resolve problems or concerns (p. 79).
Case management	Optimizes self-care capabilities of individuals and families and the capacity of systems and communities to coordinate and provide services (p. 93).
Delegated functions	Direct care tasks a registered professional nurse carries out under the authority of a health care practitioner as allowed by law. Delegated functions also include any direct care tasks a registered professional nurse entrusts to other appropriate personnel to perform (p. 113).

Blue Wedge

Health teaching	Communicates facts, ideas and skills that change knowledge, attitudes, values, beliefs, behaviors, and practices of individuals, families, systems, and/or communities (p. 121).
------------------------	--

Counseling	Establishes an interpersonal relationship with a community, a system, family or individual intended to increase or enhance their capacity for self-care and coping. Counseling engages the community, a system, family or individual at an emotional level (p. 151).
Consultation	Seeks information and generates optional solutions to perceived problems or issues through interactive problem solving with a community, system, family or individual. The community, system, family or individual selects and acts on the option best meeting the circumstances (p. 165).

Orange Wedge

Collaboration	Commits two or more persons or organizations to achieve a common goal through enhancing the capacity of one or more of the members to promote and protect health (p. 177).
Coalition building	Promotes and develops alliances among organizations or constituencies for a common purpose. It builds linkages, solves problems, and/or enhances local leadership to address health concerns (p. 211). There is {no individual level} .
Community organizing	Helps community groups to identify common problems or goals, mobilize resources, and develop and implement strategies for reaching the goals they collectively have set (p. 235). There is {no individual level} .

Yellow Wedge

Advocacy	Pleads someone's cause or act on someone's behalf, with a focus on developing the community, system, individual or family's capacity to plead their own cause or act on their own behalf (p. 263).
Social marketing	Utilizes commercial marketing principles and technologies for programs designed to influence the knowledge, attitudes, values, beliefs, behaviors, and practices of the population-of- interest (p. 285).
Policy development	Places health issues on decision-makers' agendas, acquires a plan of resolution, and determines needed resources. Policy development results in laws, rules and regulation, ordinances, and policies (p. 313).
Policy enforcement	Compels others to comply with the laws, rules, regulations, ordinances and policies created in conjunction with policy development (p. 313).