Integrating Public Health in Health Professions Education:

A Resource List for Students, Educators and Health Professionals

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Introduction

This is a compiled list of resources (e.g., peer-reviewed articles, competencies and standards, teaching materials) for health professional students, educators, and health professionals to learn more about issues affecting individuals at a population level, to become more familiar with other population health issues, to integrate public health into existing curricula, and for increased collaboration with public health.

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Collaborations

**Harvard Pop Med Portal**  
This portal is an online resource and communication forum for learners and educators with an interest in the population dimensions of health care.

**Partners in Information Access for the Public Health Workforce**  
This collaboration of U.S. government agencies, public health organizations, and health sciences libraries provides timely, convenient access to selected public health resources on the Internet.

**Regional Medicine-Public Health Education Centers (RMPHEC)**  
Regional Medicine-Public Health Education Centers (RMPHECs) and Regional Medicine-Public Health Education Centers-Graduate Medical Education (RMPHEC-GME) are a collaborative effort of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to improve population health, public health, and prevention education for medical students and residents.
Competencies and Standards

**Academic Medicine, February 2010**

**Medical Education for a Healthier Population: Reflections on the Flexner Report from a Public Health Perspective**

In this article commemorating the Flexner Centenary, the authors review the progress of U.S. and Canadian medical schools in addressing public health-oriented principles in the context of contemporary societal health needs, provide an update on recent efforts to address what has long been perceived as a deficit in medical education (inadequate grounding of medical students in public health), and provide new recommendations on how to create important linkages between medical education and public health. The article includes population health competencies for medical students recommended by Regional Medicine-Public Health Education Centers.

**American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM)**

**Osteopathic Core Competencies for Medical Students**

These competencies for osteopathic medical students include language related to population health including: public health systems, counseling for health promotion/disease prevention, environmental and occupational medicine, and global health.

**Council on Linkages between Academia and Public Health Practice**

**Core Competencies for Public Health Professionals**

The Core Competencies are a set of skills desirable for the broad practice of public health, reflecting the characteristics that staff of public health organizations may want to possess as they work to protect and promote health in the community. They are designed to serve as a starting point for academic and practice organizations to understand, assess, and meet training and workforce needs.

**Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME)**

**Functions and Structure of a Medical School Standards for Accreditation of Medical Education Programs Leading to the M.D. Degree**

This document includes recently adopted language for standards ED-11 and ED-15, which include population health concepts.
Curricular and Education Resources

Association for Prevention Teaching and Research (APTR)
Case-Based Series in Population-Oriented Prevention (C-POP)
Developed to address national objectives for prevention education in a format that recognizes the students' abilities and preferences for case-based learning, this series uses small-group discussion cases that can be adapted to a variety of settings and instructor capabilities. These cases guide the learners from a specific clinical problem to the broader clinical and population-based prevention issues for the topic.

Association for Prevention Teaching and Research (APTR)
Healthy People Curriculum Taskforce
Established in 2002, the Association for Prevention Teaching and Research (APTR) Healthy People Curriculum Task Force mission is to fulfill Healthy People 2010 Objective 1.7: "Increase the proportion of schools of medicine, schools of nursing and health professional training schools whose basic curriculum for health care providers includes the core competencies in health promotion and disease prevention."

Association for Prevention Teaching and Research (APTR)
Population Health Modules
These innovative teaching modules include ready-to-use material aimed at improving clinical and population-based prevention skills for all health professions students. All seven modules feature presentations produced by subject matter experts, supplemental materials to facilitate small group learning, and a bibliography of key resources.

Association of Schools of Public Health (ASPH)
Continuing Professional Educational Council
The Council on Continuing Education advises on policy matters regarding continuing education activities at schools of public health, brings together for discussion and action members of schools of public health actively engaged in continuing education functions and programs, and provides the framework for study, review, evaluation and policy development on issues relating to activities concerning continuing education.

Association of Schools of Public Health (ASPH)
Undergraduate Public Health Learning Outcomes Model
Developed in collaboration with the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AACU), Association for Prevention Teaching and Research (APTR), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Association of Schools of Public Health (ASPH) learning outcomes model is designed to facilitate the introduction of public health for undergraduate students in two- and four-year colleges and universities.
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

**Epidemiologic Case Studies**
These case studies feature interactive exercises developed to teach epidemiologic principles and practices. The exercises are based on real-life outbreaks and public health problems and were developed in collaboration with the original investigators and experts from CDC. The case studies require students to apply their epidemiologic knowledge and skills to problems confronted by public health practitioners at the local, state, and national level every day.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

**Learning Connection**
This is a one-stop learning resource created to simplify and increase access to quality public health learning that can help increase public health knowledge and skills and meet professional development needs.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

**Principles of Epidemiology for Public Health Practice, 3rd edition**
This self-study course covers basic epidemiology principles, concepts, and procedures useful in the surveillance and investigation of health-related states or events. It is designed for federal, state, and local government health professionals and private sector health professionals who are responsible for disease surveillance or investigation. The course materials consist of six lessons. Each lesson presents instructional text interspersed with relevant exercises that apply and test knowledge and skills gained.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

**Office of the Associate Director for Program Data to Action**
Data and analysis tools that are intended to serve as resources in the promotion of policy, system, and environmental changes to improve health. Includes Sortable Stats, an interactive state-level data set with 20 priority risk factors and health indicators; Policy Implementation Analyses, downloadable tables that provide state-level information about adoption of policy best practices; and Burden Assessments, downloadable graphs that describe the location, size and rates of health problems across the nation.
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
Office for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support
Primary Care and Public Health Initiative Educational Materials
This CDC site includes CDC’s Noon Conference, which offers monthly teleconferences on important public health topics for medical residency educators and other primary care educators. With each teleconference, CDC releases educational modules that can be customized for training medical residents and other health care providers, as well as high-quality trainings for primary care providers.

Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)
Public Health Training Centers (PHTC) Network
The HRSA-funded PHTC are partnerships between accredited schools of public health, related academic institutions, and public health agencies and organizations. The PHTC Network offers hundreds of trainings, which cover topics such as leadership and management, epidemiology, and basic public health skills. There are also resources and publications with tools and information relevant to public health practitioners.

Johns Hopkins School of Public Health OpenCourseWare
Online public health courses provided by Johns Hopkins School of Public Health.

Prevention Education Resource Center (PERC)
(Sponsored by APTR)
This is a web-based repository of teaching materials related to prevention and population health at the graduate and undergraduate level. PERC facilitates the exchange of ideas on teaching methods and approaches to integrating curriculum in order to increase the teaching of health promotion and disease prevention in health professions education.

Public Health Grand Rounds
A collaboration between CDC and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Gillings School of Global Public Health, this site features webcasts presenting real-world case studies on public health issues.

Public Health Learning
This site offers a variety of continuing education and professional development courses for public health professionals and links to courses developed at other universities and training organizations.
Educational and Training Opportunities

Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC)
Directory of MD-MPH Educational Opportunities
Over 80 medical schools sponsor activities to help their medical students pursue a master's degree in public health (or similar master's-level public health degree). This directory includes information provided by the schools describing the length, admissions policy, curricula, and financial assistance associated with these MD-MPH activities.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
Public Health Training Fellowships
This is a directory of public health training programs for students, graduates, and health professionals.
Institute of Medicine (IOM) Reports

**Institute of Medicine (IOM)\nPrimary Care and Public Health: Exploring Integration to Improve Population Health**
In this 2012 report, the IOM identifies a set of core principles derived from successful integration efforts – including a common goal of improving population health, as well as involving the community in defining and addressing its needs. The principles provided in this report can serve as a roadmap to move the nation toward a more efficient health system.

**Institute of Medicine (IOM)\nTraining Physicians for Public Health Careers**
This 2007 report addresses: (1) what knowledge and skills are needed by public health physicians, (2) the number of programs needed to maintain an adequate supply of physicians trained for public health careers, and (3) how these programs can be funded.

**Institute of Medicine (IOM)\nWho Will Keep the Public Healthy? Educating Public Health Professionals for the 21st Century**
This 2002 report puts forth a framework and recommendations for education that are directed toward preparing public health professionals, including medical students, to meet the challenges of the 21st century.
Overviews and Primers

Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada (AFMC)
**Primer on Population Health**
A virtual textbook on public health concepts for clinicians, the Primer presents the population perspective of health that is relevant to clinical practice and illustrates how public health concepts can be used in clinical situations.

Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC)
**Understanding Public Health in Medical Education: A Modular Slide Set**
These slides provide an overview of the relationship between medicine and public health, review why public health is relevant to medical education and careers, and include recommendations and resources to improve public health content in medical education.
Pediatrics

**American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)**

Community Pediatrics Database
This site provides access to an index of projects undertaken by practices, training programs, and academic centers in Pediatrics.

**Community Access to Child Health (CATCH)**
CATCH supports pediatricians to collaborate within their communities so that all children have access to needed health services and a medical home.

**Community Pediatrics Training Initiative (CPTI) Program**
The CPTI Program is a national program of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) designed to improve residency training by supporting pediatricians in becoming leaders and advocates to create positive and lasting change on behalf of children's health.

**Pediatric Public Health Residency Curriculum Guide**
The Pediatric Public Health curriculum aims to help pediatric program directors include population-based educational activities in their residency curricula to enhance clinical practice and meet the educational goals of residency training (e.g., ACGME competencies). The curriculum guide has two unique features: (1) The curriculum is written in such a way that it is "adaptable"—it can be implemented in pediatric, family medicine, and medicine-pediatrics residency programs, and (2) The curriculum is written with particular attention to issues of culture and socio-economically diverse populations.
Peer-Reviewed Publications

*Academic Medicine*, April 2008
**Issue on Population Health Education**
This issue on population health education examines efforts to train physicians who are well equipped to address issues of population health.

*Academic Medicine*, February 2010
**Medical Education for a Healthier Population: Reflections on the Flexner Report from a Public Health Perspective**
In this article commemorating the Flexner Centenary, the authors review the progress of U.S. and Canadian medical schools in addressing public health-oriented principles in the context of contemporary societal health needs, provide an update on recent efforts to address what has long been perceived as a deficit in medical education (inadequate grounding of medical students in public health), and provide new recommendations on how to create important linkages between medical education and public health. The article includes population health competencies for medical students recommended by Regional Medicine-Public Health Education Centers.

*American Journal of Preventive Medicine* Supplement, October 2011
**Patients and Populations: Public Health in Medical Education**
The supplement, sponsored by the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), includes more than 30 research papers and commentaries authored by top medical educators and public health professionals. Content focuses on improving public health and prevention content throughout the continuum of medical education. It grew out of a conference, "Patients and Populations: Public Health in Medical Education," held in 2010 and sponsored by the AAMC-CDC Cooperative Agreement as part of a commitment to strengthen collaborations between academic medicine and public health. This includes a link to the full conference program and presentations.

**Joint Supplement**
This supplement focuses on the integration of primary care and public health; it complements the Institute of Medicine (IOM) study, *Primary Care and Public Health: Exploring Integration to Improve Population Health*, and was supported by four agencies of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Health Resources and Services Administration, and the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities of the National Institutes of Health).

*Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC)*
**Public Health and Medical Education Bibliography**
An extensive list of publications on public health and preventive medicine training issues, curriculum models; history of public health/preventive medicine, and medical education; academic and public health partnerships; and other related topics.