



Association of Public Health
Epidemiologists in Ontario

APHEO's Perspective on the Foundational Standard

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About APHEO

- Begun in 1991
 - First website 1998
 - Fall 2001 –Core Indicators section
 - 2008 updated to community-based wiki
- Popular, informative members only APHEO listserve community
- Education sessions, workshops and annual conferences
- APHEO Executive members sit on alPHa, OPHA, OCCHA
- 180 members
- 3rd round of Strategic Planning
- Provincial, national and international recognition through projects and consultations



Foundational Standard

Evidence informed practice...

1. Population Health Assessment
 - Measuring, monitoring and reporting
2. Surveillance
 - Systematic & ongoing collection, collation & analysis...communicated



Foundational Standard...

3. Research and Knowledge Exchange
 - Collaborative problem-solving...mutual learning...through planning, producing, disseminating & applying existing or new research
4. Program Evaluation
 - Systematic gathering, analysis & reporting of data
 - Qualitative and quantitative



Foundational Standard – APHEO Perspective

- Emphasis on epidemiology: monitoring, surveillance, measurement, analysis, dissemination of findings
- Requirement for local-level health information



Population Health Assessment & Surveillance Protocol

- Provides direction on population health assessment and surveillance activities
- Relates to all the OPHS standards



Population Health Assessment & Surveillance Protocol – APHEO Perspective

- Implementation of significant parts of the PHAS at the local health units – particularly Population Health Assessment and Surveillance
 - Data collection, analysis and interpretation
 - Surveillance and monitoring
 - Local-level information



Implementation Challenges – APHEO Perspective

- Revenue neutral aspect of implementation
 - varying epidemiological and evaluation resources
- Standard processes for gathering information and definition of variables and indicators (e.g., special populations)
- Some indicators need to be developed (e.g., work stress, preconception health, parenting, satisfaction with work, family dynamics, built environment)
- Local level data



What it means to APHEO

- Several of the Epis who served on the writing teams are members of APHEO
- APHEO held consultations with membership and provided consolidated feedback to the MoHLTC



APHEO – Implementation Opportunities

- APHEO's projects and initiatives
 - Core Indicators – PHAC project
 - Support the standards and protocols
 - Operationalize what Epis do
- Skills set and volunteer base to collaborate with MoHLTC, MHP and the new OAHPP



Opportunities to Promote Public Health Practice – APHEO Perspective

- Increased access to various sources of data (e.g., perinatal surveillance data, Ministry of Transportation)
 - Innovation of how data is shared and analyzed
- Opportunities for new skill development (e.g, GIS mapping, qualitative data)
- Public Health as a resource to other community partners
 - data needs, standard use of epidemiological information



APHEO - Opportunities to Promote Public Health Practice

- Development of new Core Indicators
- Standard data collection & analysis methods, interpretation and dissemination strategies
- Workshops and educational opportunities to build skills and knowledge
- Skills enhancement modules
 - build knowledge across all PHU staff



What does it mean to Public Health Epidemiologists

- Tools
 - protocol-specific resources that we can use, add to or develop in the future if needed
- Standardized definitions and indicators
 - Core Indicators
- Knowledge development & transfer



What does it mean to Public Health Epidemiologists...

- Training
 - need to address gaps in skills (e.g., evaluation, GIS)
- Epi support for all PHU programs to meet requirements
- Local level data from other data sources (e.g. RRFSS)



Core Indicators & Resources List

1. [Population](#)
2. [Environment and Health](#)
 - o [2A. Social Environment and Health](#)
 - o [2B. Physical Environment and Health](#)
3. [Mortality, Morbidity and Health-Related Quality of Life](#)
4. [Chronic Disease and Injuries](#)
 - o [4A. Chronic Diseases](#)
 - o [4B. Cancer Incidence and Early Detection of Cancer](#)
 - o [4C. Injury Prevention and Substance Abuse Prevention](#)
5. [Behaviour and Health](#)
 - o [5A. Smoking](#)
 - o [5B. Alcohol](#)
 - o [5C. Physical Activity](#)
 - o [5D. Nutrition and Healthy Weights](#)
 - o [5E. Sun Safety](#)
6. [Family Health](#)
 - o [6A. Sexual Health](#)
 - o [6B. Reproductive Health](#)
 - o [6C. Child and Adolescent Health](#)
7. [Mental Health](#)
8. [Infectious Diseases](#)
9. [Use of Health Services](#)
10. [Resources](#)

1. Population

[Population by Age and Sex](#)

[Population Growth](#)

[Projected Population Growth](#)