Working Session on Health Information and Virtual Media
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Organized by
Information Knowledge Management Area IKM, PAHO/WHO

Pan American Health Organization
525 Twenty-third Street, NW
Washington, D.C., 20037
“The Canadian Population Health Initiative’s Role as a Knowledge Broker in Population Health”

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May 8, 2003
CPHI’s Mission

• to foster a better understanding of factors that affect the health of individuals and communities, and

• to contribute to the development of policies that reduce inequities and improve the health and well-being of Canadians.
Knowledge Brokering

Researchers

Policy Makers
Decision Makers

CPHI

Public
4 Strategic Goals

1. Knowledge Exchange - Establish collaborative strategies and networks to bring a focus to understanding the determinants of health

2. Knowledge Generation and Synthesis – Build a better understanding of the factors affecting population health
3. Policy Synthesis and Analysis – Contribute to policy development to improve the health and well-being of Canadians

4. Knowledge Transfer and Reporting – Provide objective and credible information on population health issues
### Health Indicators Framework

#### Health Status

|---|---|---|---|

#### Non-medical Determinants of Health

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Health Behaviours: Tobacco, drugs, alcohol, physical activity, diet</th>
<th>Living &amp; Working Conditions: Poverty, education employment, housing, crime, decision latitude</th>
<th>Personal Resources: Early childhood development, social supports, life stresses</th>
<th>Environmental Factors: Air, water quality, toxic exposures, ecologic integrity</th>
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#### Health System Performance

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<th>Acceptability: Patient satisfaction</th>
<th>Accessibility: Influenza immunization, mammography, Pap smears, wait times (cardiac)</th>
<th>Appropriateness: C-section, VBAC¹ rates</th>
<th>Competence</th>
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<tr>
<th>Continuity</th>
<th>Effectiveness: Transplant &amp; cancer survival, TB, HIV, measles, joint replacement, injury</th>
<th>Efficiency: MNRH², % ALC³, ALOS⁴, surgical day case rates</th>
<th>Safety: Hip fractures while in facility</th>
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#### Community and Health System Characteristics

Demographics; per capita expenditures, health personnel, hospital beds & volumes of services provided

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1. vaginal birth after cesarean section; 2. may not require hospitalization; 3. alternative level of care; 4. average length of stay
Initial Themes - Research

1. Why are some communities healthy & others not?

2. To what extent do Canada’s major policies and programs improve population health?

3. How do social roles at work, in family and in community affect health status over life course?
4. What are population health effects of broad factors in social organization in Canada and other wealthy countries?

5. What is Canada’s relationship to population health from a global perspective?
Research Activities

1. Supporting 44 research Programs and Projects - funded through RFP ($11 million)

2. Commissioning policy relevant research
   - “what we know, don’t know”
   - health effects of existing policies

3. Co-funding research (partnerships)
4. Assessing, analyzing, and synthesizing findings and other research evidence

5. Promoting the integration of research evidence into decision-making
Areas of Investigation

- Communities/Place and Health
- Early Child Development/Children/Youth
- Aboriginal People’s Health
- Income/Poverty/Social Inclusion
Areas of Investigation (cont’d)

• Obesity

• Work/Workplace/Labour Market Experiences

• Health Planning

• Knowledge Transfer
Research Infrastructure

• Facilitating linkage of existing databases and increasing opportunities to exploit data (e.g. health services with population health)

• Improving researchers’ access to data
Research Infrastructure (con’t)

- Strengthening population health research network and “nodes”
- Building capacity in population health research
Themes – Policy Synthesis and Analysis

• Poverty and health

• Aboriginal peoples’ health

• Obesity
Policy Analysis

1. Promote linkages and exchange of knowledge regarding population health issues among a pan-Canadian network of researchers, decision-makers and intermediaries (e.g., media).

2. Support analysis of policy options and emerging public policy issues.
Policy Analysis (con’t)

3. Transfer knowledge about the determinants of health to decision-makers to identify policy priorities and more informed decision-making

4. Transfer knowledge about the determinants of health to the public for increased understanding and awareness of population health issues
Policy Synthesis and Analysis Process

- Scoping papers
- Expert Reference Groups
- Roundtables
- CPHI reports
Reporting

Flagship Report (late 2003):
“Improving the Health of Canadians”

Content:

• A comprehensive analysis of Canadian’s health and its determinants

• Forward looking; highlight what is working and policy options
Reporting (con’t)

Other Reports:

• *Issues Series* – cross cutting; frames strategic issues and CPHI agenda

• *Research Reports* – CPHI research program results
Reporting (con’t)

• *Special Reports* – Submissions to or results of major stakeholder meetings; address topical issues; supports CPHI outreach strategy

• *Other products*

• *Web site*
Knowledge Exchange

Workshops:

• National Partnership Meeting - March 02
• Atlantic Regional Workshop - Feb. 03
• Prairie Regional Workshop - March 03