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Healthy People 2020 Structured Evidence Queries: Facilitating access to published research for public health planning and policy development

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Introduction
Healthy People 2020, from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), provides national objectives to guide health promotion and disease prevention efforts in the United States. The objectives provide a framework to monitor and measure improvements in health status of the American population over the decade from 2010 to 2020. Public health program planning/policy development to improve community health should be informed by the best available and most current research evidence.

Purpose
The purpose of the Healthy People 2020 Structured Evidence Queries (SEQs) is to reduce the time and increase the precision of finding and accessing research literature to support the development of evidence-based actions to achieve Healthy People 2020 objectives. The National Library of Medicine (NLM) collaborated with the HHS Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion to develop structured evidence queries, pre-formulated search strategies of NLM's PubMed database to retrieve citations to published research related to Healthy People 2020 objectives.

Methods
The structured queries were developed by librarians, working in consultation with subject matter experts from federal agencies. The librarians selected Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) and text words to develop optimal search strategies to retrieve research articles on achieving specific Healthy People objectives. Subject matter experts from the Federal Interagency Healthy People Workgroup reviewed each search query for accuracy and relevancy. Each finished SEQ retrieves a manageable number of citations to the most current and relevant research evidence.

![Healthy People 2020 Structured Evidence Queries](http://phpartners.org/hp2020)

Healthy People 2020 Structured Evidence Queries

**Search by Topic Area**
- Access to Health Services
- Adolescent Health
- Arthritis, Osteoporosis, and Chronic Back Conditions
- Blood Disorders and Blood Safety – Beta
- Chronic Kidney Disease
- Diabetes
- Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease – Beta
- Early and Middle Childhood
- Environmental Health – Beta
- Family Planning
- Food Safety
- Hearing and Other Sensory or Communication Disorders
- Healthcare-Associated Infections
- HIV/AIDS
- Oral Health
- Pain Management
- Physical Activity
- Prepregnancy
- Respiratory Diseases
- Sexually Transmitted Diseases – Beta
- Sleep Health
- Substance Abuse
- Tobacco Use
- Violence
- Vision
- Violence
- Woman

Structured Evidence Queries Under Development
- *Cancer*
- *HIV – Beta*
- *HIV/AIDS*
- *Hepatitis, Typhus, and Other Infections*
- *Infection and Infectious Disease*
- *Mental Health*
- *Mental Health, Substance Abuse, and Suicide Prevention*
- *Occupational Safety and Health – Beta*
- *Oral Health*
- *Physical Activity*
- *Prepregnancy*
- *Screening*
- *Sexually Transmitted Diseases – Beta*
- *Sleep Health*
- *Substance Abuse*
- *Tobacco Use*
- *Violence*

Use the PubMed filters sidebar to modify search results

Narrow by:
- Article type
- Full text
- Publication date
- Language
- Sex
- Ages

Outcomes
The Healthy People SEQs website is organized by Healthy People topic areas. At the current time, structured evidence queries for 289 health objectives in 23 topic areas have been formulated by librarians and reviewed by subject experts. These include the SEQs for all objectives related to the Healthy People 2020 Leading Health Indicators, a subset of high-priority health issues that represent significant threats to the public’s health. An additional 116 SEQs in 7 topic areas are undergoing expert review and are available in beta version; SEQs for the remaining 12 topic areas are under active development.

The SEQs are integrated with the HealthyPeople.gov website. Users retrieve the most recent research articles indexed for MEDLINE on Healthy People objectives each time a SEQ is selected. The search results can be modified in PubMed to address particular practice and research needs. Information on how to modify and save searches, obtain full-text copies of articles, and receive assistance from the National Network of Libraries of Medicine is provided in the FAQs section of the site.

Additional resources on public health topics are available from the Partners in Information Access for the Public Health Workforce website, [http://phpartners.org](http://phpartners.org).

Conclusion
Healthy People 2020 Structured Evidence Queries facilitate access to peer-reviewed research evidence to achieve national health promotion and disease prevention objectives. The search queries will be periodically updated and refined and will ultimately be available for all Healthy People 2020 objectives.

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