2011-04-13

Public Health Information Access -- Research and Services

E. Hatheway Simpson
University of Massachusetts Medical School

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Public Health Information Access Research and Services
from the National Network of Libraries of Medicine
New England Region

Hathy Simpson, MPH
Public Health Coordinator
Hathy.Simpson@umassmed.edu
NN/LM, NER
University of Massachusetts Medical School

April 13, 2011
Public Health Systems & Services Research
2011 Keeneland Conference
Lexington, Kentucky
Outline

- Introduction to the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN/LM)
- Public health information needs research
- Service outreach projects to improve access to information to address public health issues
Mission of NN/LM
To advance the progress of medicine and improve the public health by
• Providing all U.S. professionals with equal access to biomedical information
• Improving the public's access to information to enable them to make informed decisions about their health
Public Health Outreach

NN/LM, New England Region

- Identify and address the information needs of the public health workforce
- Promote awareness of information resources for public health practice
- Facilitate access to health information
- Connect public health workers to network member libraries
10 Essential Services of Public Health

Core Competencies of Public Health: Information and Evidence

- **Analytic/Assessment Skills**
  - Identifies sources of public health data and information
  - Uses information technology to collect, store, and retrieve data

- **Policy Development/Program Planning Skills**
  - Gathers and analyzes information relevant to specific public health policy issues
  - Gathers and analyzes information that will inform policy decisions

- **Public Health Sciences Skills**
  - Conducts a comprehensive review of the scientific evidence related to a public health issue, concern, or intervention
  - Retrieves scientific evidence from a variety of text and electronic sources

[http://phf.org/resourcetools/Pages/Core_Public_Health_Competencies.aspx](http://phf.org/resourcetools/Pages/Core_Public_Health_Competencies.aspx)
Information Needs of Public Health Practitioners

- Broad range of resources needed
  - Across the Information Continuum

- Challenge to get relevant information
  - Lack of time
  - Lack of knowledge
  - Lack of access

- Want access to:
  - Full-text journal articles
  - News, reports, and conference abstracts
  - Automatic notification of new information
  - Systematic reviews and evidence-based guidelines

http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2458/6/89
Public Health Information Continuum

Research Support for Information

Minimum | Maximum
---|---
Reports of Emerging Health Threats | Evidence-based Guidelines
Emerging Practices | Meta-analyses and Systematic Reviews
Evaluations of New Practices | Published Research Reports
Syntheses of Knowledge on Established Threats & Practices

Need access to all levels of the information continuum

Meeting the Information Needs of the Public Health Workforce

Public Health Information Access Project

Providing access to public health departments through a new digital library

Elaine Martin, DA, PI, Director, NN/LM NER
Javier Crespo, MLS, Associate Director, NN/LM NER
Hathy Simpson, MPH, Public Health Coordinator, NN/LM NER
Karen Dahlen, MLS, Project Coordinator
Project Goals

1. Understand frequency of use of full-text access to selective licensed e-resources and if such access could improve the quality of work in selected departments of health.

2. Identify useful e-databases, e-books, e-journals, and e-articles for this constituency.

3. Evaluate usefulness of these resources related to PHF core competencies and essential services.

4. Introduce technology related to information management: how to save, store, and reuse information.
Departments of Public Health

- New England Region NN/LM
  - Boston Public Health Commission
  - Connecticut Department of Public Health
  - Maine Center for Disease Control & Prevention
  - Massachusetts Department of Public Health
  - New Hampshire Division of Public Health Services
  - Rhode Island Department of Health
  - Vermont Department of Health
- MidContinental Region NN/LM
  - Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment
Library Partners

- Poudre Valley Hospital System, Ft. Collins, CO
- Maine Medical Center, Portland, ME
- Maine State Library, Augusta, ME (Books)
- Dana Medical Library, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT
- Rhode Island Hospital/Lifespan/Providence, RI
- William A. Hinton, State Laboratory Institute Medical Library and Lemuel Shattuck Hospital (MPHD)
- Lamar Soutter Library, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, MA
Electronic Access to Information Resources

- **Stat!Ref** – Compilation of full-text electronic books (references connect directly to PubMed)
- **Global Health** – International coverage of public health: journals, reports, conference proceedings and abstracts
- **PubMed** – National Library of Medicine’s MEDLINE database of biomedical literature
- **PHPPartners.org & EBPH Resources** – web portals to selected public health resources
- **Selected full-text journals** – including *The New England Journal of Medicine* and other journals
- **Cochrane Library** – evidence for health care decision making
- **Free Journal Article Delivery Service**
- **EndNote X4** – citation management software
Evaluation Components

To advance information resource access, there is a need to know:

- What resources are needed?
- Which e-journals are core to the work?
- How information can be more effectively accessed?
- How much will these resources cost?

- **Logic Model**
  - Resources, activities, outputs, outcomes

- **Evaluation Plan**
  - Environmental Scan (ongoing process)
  - Journal Survey - Baseline Data
  - Pre/Post Training Surveys
  - Metrics (use of resources)
  - Just in time “information checks”
  - Project End Survey
Project Challenges

- Issues with installing Digital Library pages
- IT security issues
- Vendor license agreements
- Pricing of electronic resources
- Compliance
- Evaluation challenges
**Project Accomplishments: 2010 – 2011**

- Vendor partnerships and license agreements
- Identified public health departments
- Onsite visits to introduce the project
- Kickoff meeting and train-the-trainer session
- Identified libraries to provide journal article delivery services
- *New Digital Library Webpage* at each DPH to provide access to the licensed resources
- Provision of EndNote software
- Training sessions on resources at each DPH
- Marketing of project and resources
- Collection of survey data and usage metrics
Other Outreach Service Projects from NN/LM NER

- Funding for outreach projects
- Collaborators:
  - Librarians
  - Educators
  - Community-based organizations
  - Health care centers
  - AHECs
  - Patient support groups
  - Aging centers
Focused Outreach Project
Welcome Back Center, Providence, RI
Organization & Dissemination of Public Health Information Resources

Evidence-Based Practice for Public Health
http://library.umassmed.edu/ebpph

Partners in Information Access for the Public Health Workforce
http://PHPPartners.org
Evidence-Based Practice for Public Health Website

http://library.umassmed.edu/ebpph/

The Pathway to Evidence-Based Resources

Evidence-Based Guidelines
Evidence-based public health guidelines based on systematic reviews of the research literature.

Systematic Reviews
Systematic reviews and meta-analyses of the public health literature.

Pre-Formulated and Filtered Searches of Published Studies
Specialized searches of PubMed/MEDLINE on specific health topics or type of research study.

Best Practices
Public health programs, interventions, and policies used by others that have been evaluated and shown to be successful.

About Evidence-Based Practice for Public Health

Evidence-based practice for public health involves using the best available evidence to make informed public health practice decisions. This website provides free online access to evidence-based public health (EBPH) resources, knowledge domains of public health, and public health journals and databases. The resources are arranged along a pathway of evidence to allow public health practitioners to easily find and use the best evidence to develop and implement effective interventions, programs, and policies.

Other Resources

Public Health Journals

Public Health Databases

Knowledge Domains of Public Health
Pathway to Evidence-Based Resources

Evidence-Based Guidelines
Evidence-based guidelines based on a systematic review of the research literature. The guidelines provide summaries of evidence and recommendations for practice from government agencies, professional organizations, and convening expert panels.

Systematic Reviews
Systematic reviews and meta-analyses of the literature that use specific methods and criteria to locate, appraise, and synthesize the evidence from research studies. The reviews uncover the strengths and weaknesses of the evidence and identify gaps in current research.

Pre-Formulated and Filtered Searches of Published Studies
Specialized searches of PubMed/MEDLINE on specific public health topics or limited to studies that correspond to a specific research category.

Best Practices
Public health programs, interventions, and policies that through experience have been evaluated, shown to be successful, and have the potential to be adapted and transformed by others working in the same field.
Our Mission

Helping the public health workforce find and use information effectively to improve and protect the public’s health

Public Health Topic Pages

- Bioterrorism
- Dental Public Health
- Environmental Health
- HIV/AIDS
- How to Access Journal Articles
- Nutrition
- Public Health Genomics
- Veterinary Public Health
- Workforce Development

Main Topic Pages

- Health Promotion and Health Education
- Literature and Guidelines
- Health Data Tools and Statistics
- Grants and Funding
- Education and Training
- Legislation and Policy
- Conferences and Meetings
- Finding People
- Discussion and E-mail Lists
- Jobs and Careers

Current Public Health News

- NIH Launches Largest Oil Spill Health Study - 01-MAR-2011
- Health Care Quality Still Improving Slowly, but Disparities and Gaps in Access to Care Persist - 01-MAR-2011
- Community Guide Recommends Ignition Interlocks to Prevent Impaired Driving Re-Arrests - 01-MAR-2011
- Report: U.S. Life Expectancy Lagging Because of Smoking: Obesity also Cited as Contributing Factor - 01-MAR-2011
- Call for Submissions: Annual APHA Film Festival - Deadline: April 1 - 01-MAR-2011

More News

In the Spotlight

CDC Health Disparities and Inequalities Report - United States, 2011

What's New on PHPartners.org

Subscribe to the weekly announcement-only list of new resources

What is RSS?
Partners in Information Access for the Public Health Workforce

- Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)
- American Public Health Association (APHA)
- Association of Schools of Public Health (ASPH)
- Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO)
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)
- Medical Library Association (MLA)
- National Agricultural Library (NAL)
- National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO)
- National Association of Local Boards of Public Health
- National Library of Medicine (NLM)
- National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN/LM)
- Public Health Foundation (PHF)
- Society for Public Health Education (SOPHE)
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Healthy People Objective:

- Reduce the proportion of children and adolescents who are overweight or obese
1. The role of physicians in addressing childhood obesity.
   Wheeler JG, Rockenbach J.
   PMID: 21366018 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]
   Related citations

2. Promise and hope for healthy schools.
   Alford TJ.
   J Miss State Med Assoc. 2010 Sep;51(9):253-4. No abstract available.
   PMID: 21361088 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]
   Related citations

3. A content analysis of kindergarten-12th grade school-based nutrition interventions: taking advantage of past learning.
   Roseman MG, Riddell MC, Haynes JN.
   PMID: 21216364 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]
   Related citations

4. Engaging community partners to promote healthy behaviours in young children.
   Moores PS.
   PMID: 21214050 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]
   Related citations

5. A lifestyle assessment and intervention tool for pediatric weight management: the HABITS questionnaire.
   Wright ND, Groisman-Perelstein AE, Wylie-Rosett J, Vernon N, Diamantis PM, Isasi CR.
   PMID: 21210873 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]
   Related citations
Coming Soon! Healthy People 2020 SEQ: Structured Evidence Queries of PubMed/MEDLINE
Conclusions

- NLM and NN/LM are active partners in the work of public health
- Community outreach projects
- Improve access to information resources
- Training on finding and using information resources and data
- Collaborations with libraries, academic institutions, and public health agencies and organizations