Module 1: Core Functions and Cornerstones of Public Health Nursing Practice

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Introduction
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- Henry Street Consortium
- Continuing education credits

Course overview
- Module 1 – Core Functions and Cornerstones of Public Health Nursing
- Module 2 – Public Health Intervention Wheel
- Module 3 – Precepting Public Health Nursing Students using the Henry Street Entry-level Competencies

Course Objectives
- Participants will demonstrate increased understanding of population-focused competencies for the new graduate public health nurse.
- Participants will identify population-focused nursing interventions matched to the new graduate competencies which public health nursing students can complete in the clinical setting.
- Participants will report increased confidence in their ability to be an effective public health nursing preceptor.

Definitions
- Public health nursing
  - Population-focused
  - Health promotion & disease prevention
  - Governmental agency
- Specialty PHNs
  - Licensed School Nurses – educational needs
  - Correctional Nurses – safety
  - Faith Community Nurses – intentional care of the spirit
  - Occupational Health Nurses – cost/benefit

Three Core Functions and Ten Essential Services of Public Health
- Assessment – “knowing what needs to be done”
- Policy development – “being part of the solution”
- Assurance – “making sure it happens”

(Core Public Health Functions Steering Committee, 1995)

One good community nurse will save a dozen future policemen.
Herbert Hoover
Assessment and Essential Services
- Assessment – “knowing what needs to be done”
  1. Monitor health
  2. Diagnose and investigate

Policy Development and Essential Services
- Policy Development – “being part of the solution”
  3. Inform, educate, and empower
  4. Mobilize community partnerships
  5. Develop policies

Assurance and Essential Services
- Assurance – “making sure it happens”
  6. Enforce laws
  7. Link to/Provide Care
  8. Assure Competent Workforce
  9. Evaluate
  10. System Management

Cornerstones of Public Health Nursing
- Florence Nightingale

Research
- Research is the center of the Core Function Wheel.

Cornerstone 1: Focuses on the health of populations
- Population-of-interest
  - Essentially healthy but health could be enhanced or protected.
- Population-at-risk
  - Common identified risk factor or exposure that poses a threat to health.
Cornerstone 2: Reflects community priorities and needs

Evaluate → Assessment → Implement Interventions → Prioritize Interventions → Prioritize Needs

Cornerstone 3: Establishes caring relationships

- Caring relationships are established with:
  - Individuals and families,
  - Communities,
  - Systems.

“Nobody cares how much you know, until they know how much you care.”

Theodore Roosevelt

Cornerstone 4: Grounded in:

- Social justice
- Compassion
- Sensitivity to diversity
- Respect for all people

Cornerstone 5: Encompasses wholistic health

- Mental
- Physical
- Emotional
- Social
- Spiritual
- Environmental

Cornerstone 6: Promotes health based on epidemiological evidence

- Epidemiology – disease in populations
- Evidence-based nursing practice
- Evidence-based resources

- Research evidence
- Health care resources
- Best Evidence
- Clinical circumstances
- Patient preference

Cornerstone 6 continued: Prevention

- Primary prevention
- Secondary prevention
- Tertiary prevention

National Guidelines Clearinghouse www.guideline.gov
Joanna Briggs Institute http://joannabriggslibrary.org/
(Caraveo, A. J., G. & Citelia, D. 2006)
Primary prevention
- Health promotion
- Specific protection

Secondary prevention
- Early detection and treatment
- Screening

Tertiary prevention
- Prevents existing problems from becoming worse
- Rehabilitation

Cornerstone 7: Collaborates with community resources
- Core functions of governmental public health nursing
- Schools
- Faith-based institutions
- Community groups
- Food shelves
- Emergency housing
- Free/sliding fee scale clinics
- Community boards
- Interpreters

Cornerstone 8: Functions under the Nurse Practice Act
- Minnesota Nurse Practice Act
- Public Health Nursing: Scope & Standards of Practice (2nd Edition)

Conclusion
References