

Topic 3: A Global Charter for the Public's Health

The Global Charter for the Public's Health – core services and enabling functions

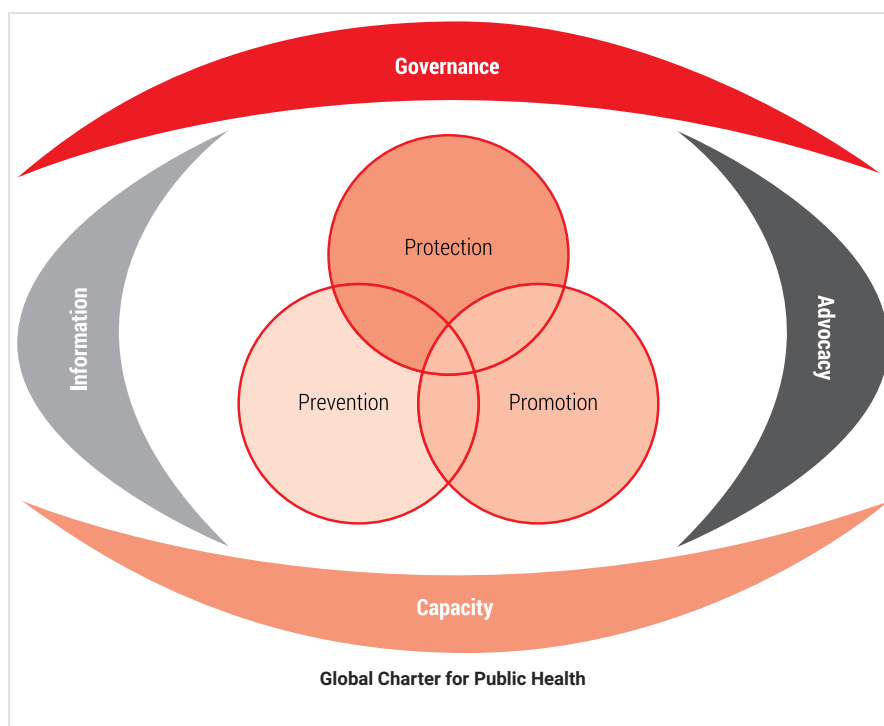
So now that you have an understanding of what health is, what public health is, determinants of health and the historical developments, important charters and declarations we need to consider what the core principles or components of public health practice are.

Principles of public health [4:01 mins]

Watch this video on the principles of public health by Melissa Graham from the teaching team.

[\[Transcript\]](#)

As Melissa discusses in the video, The Global Charter for the Public's Health includes two key components that are made up of specific areas of practice. Core services includes the practice areas of health protection, prevention and promotion, and these are supported by the public health enabling functions governance, advocacy, capacity and information (research, surveillance, evaluation) (Lomazzi 2016). These core services and enabling functions do not operate in isolation, rather they are interrelated and collaboration between these areas is required to realise changes in public health issue. The figure below provides a visualisation of the interaction between these areas. Next week we will delve deeper into the role of each of these core services and enabling functions for addressing current and emerging public health issues.



Where do public health professional work?

It is widely recognised that the demands on health care systems will always be greater than the resources available to meet those needs. Add to this emerging population issues such as an increase in chronic disease (estimates suggest 4 in 5 people in Australia will have some sort of chronic condition (AIHW 2018)), living longer, new technology, changing community expectations with regard to prevention and treatment, and climate change the pressure on the health system will only increase. One way governments respond to increasing demands and limited resources is to direct resources to particular priority groups. In addition to addressing priority populations' public health, approaches need to be innovative and ensure that the core principles of equity and social justice that underpin public health action are considered when developing and designing innovative solutions to public health problems (Baum 2016). We will examine these concepts shortly.

Some examples of careers in public health as they relate to the core and enabling functions are provided in the table below; however, it should be noted that many public health professionals work across multiple core services and enabling functions. For example, a Health Promotion Officer employed in a community health or women's health service will be involved in the delivery of health promotion programs that seek to address health inequities for marginalised communities, but will often also be involved in advocacy activities and information (through evaluating their programs). Careers in public health are varied and allow for practitioners to work in a wide range of setting and contexts across a wide range of health issues and populations. See some more examples [here](#). Not all of the jobs listed would be available to someone solely on the strength of their Masters of Public Health qualification; some may require additional qualifications.

Examples of careers in public health

Core services

Protection	Environmental Health Officer in local government
	Occupational Health and Safety Officer in hospitals
	Note: these two positions require qualifications in addition to the Masters of Public Health.
Prevention	Gender Equity Officer in local government
	Project Officer in social services or disability organisations
Promotion	Community Development worker in non-government organisations
	Health Promotion Officer in women's health services

Enabling functions

Governance	Health Policy Officer in federal, state or local government
Information	Public Health Researcher in government or universities
	Health Promotion Evaluation Officer in community health
	Notifiable Diseases Surveillance Officer in government and hospital networks
Capacity	Workforce Education and Training Officer
	Public Health Lecturer in universities
Advocacy	Project Officer at community organisations such as Parent's Voice or AMAZE
	Health Policy Officer in federal, state or local government

Public health is everywhere and public health professionals work in a wide range of contexts.





Required reading

The full Global Charter for the Public's Health is available here:

- Lomazzi, M. 2016, 'A Global Charter for the Public's Health — the public health system: role, functions, competencies and education requirements', [European Journal of Public Health](#), vol. 26, no. 2, pp. 210–212.

Recommended reading

A number of essential functions of public health have been identified; however, these vary across the globe. You may wish to read the article 'Defining and assessing public health functions: a global analysis' which highlights the range of essential functions of public health across countries.

- Martin-Moreno, JM, Harris, M, Jakubowski, E & Kluge, H 2016, 'Defining and assessing public health functions: a global analysis', [Annual Reviews Public Health](#), vol. 37, pp. 335-55.



Discussion: Research

Now extend your knowledge of the diversity of public health employment options by carrying out some research yourself.

Reminder: If you haven't done so already, make sure you have joined the LTU LinkedIn group for public health.

Public health job ads or position descriptions

- Locate a Public Health job advertisement or position description and identify the core service/s and/or enabling functions this Public Health position contributes too.
- Share your findings with your fellow students.
- Spend around 15 minutes on this task.

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2023 PHE5PUH T2 Week 1, Topic 3: Public health job ads or position descriptions


Locate and share a public health job advertisement or position description and identify the core service/s and/or enabling functions this public health position contributes to.



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 LORETTA HEGARTY 23d

Public Health Role

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Your career and the impact you create in terms of public health

- Review the websites of the Public Health Association of Australia and American Public Health Association and compare how public health and the employment opportunities are depicted by these two professional bodies.
- Think about your own career and the impact you create in terms of public health. Register your thoughts into the padlet.
- Spend about 30 minutes on this task.

Guidelines

- This activity is not graded but is an essential part of your learning. Your submission will be reviewed by your tutor, though you may not receive specific feedback.
- Complete this activity by Monday before 12:00 midday.

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2023 PHE5PUH T2 Week 1, Topic 3: Your career and the impact you create in terms of public health

Describe your own career and the impact you create in terms of public health.

Career and impact

MADISON HOUGH 24d

Career and impact

Public Health Association of Australia (PHAA) has a strong focus on Aboriginal health and closing the gap, prevention and protection seems to be at the forefront of their overall mission and they mention protecting the natural environment, which is turn benefits every Australian's health. They have a very holistic approach to health and are

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