

# Public Health

Sometimes controlled experiments are unethical or impossible, so we look for correlating criteria to est. cause-and-effect relationship

**Natural experiment** p. 34, table 2.1

**Randomized Controlled Trials (RCT)** p. 31

using randomization, ind. are assigned to either have the "cause" or not - are monitored for dev. of the "effect"

Altering the "cause" alters the "effect" (2)  
Ex: reducing smoking reduces lung cancer rates

**Cohort Study**

people with the "cause" + people without it are monitored to see if they dev. the "effect"

**Case Control Study** (req. 1)

Cases with disease are compared to control w/o disease - det. whether the cases/controls were exposed to potential "cause"

The "cause" precedes the "effect" (2)  
Ex: cig. smoking comes before the development of lung cancer

**Contributory Cause** p. 30

very specific def. of causation that meets 3 requirements

1. The "cause" is associated with the "effect" @ the individual level  
Ex: people w/ lung cancer are more frequent smokers than those without lung cancer

How can we get the job done?

**Implementation**

Recommendation: what works to reduce the health impact?

Evaluation: how well does the intervention work in practice?

**PERIE process**

Problem: what is the problem?

Etiology: what are the contributory causes?

**History over time**

1890s: Health Protection  
1840-1910s: Hygiene Movement  
1880-1940s: Contagion Control  
1950-1980s: Filling holes in medical care system  
1980-2000: Health promotion/Disease Prevention  
2000s: Population Health

Today: Population Health: focusing on actions in community + population level (more on p. 10)

## History over time

**Population Health Components**

1. Health issues: Physical + mental health; genetic + social functioning
2. Populations: local, national & global communications
3. Society-wide concerns: disasters, climate change, technology hazards, infectious disease
4. Vulnerable groups: How do we define vulnerable groups? ex: immunosuppressed, genetic vulnerability

**Traditional Health**

ex: communicable disease control

ex: Group B community based interventions directed @ health promotion + disease prevention

**3 Approaches** (chart on p. 15)

1. Traditional approach
2. Social interventions: aimed @ achieving non-health related goals (like social justice, economic growth) ex: interventions that improve the built environment, increase education, address socioeconomic disparities
3. Health care: delivery of services to individuals on a 1 to 1 basis ex: vaccines, screening for disease, medications

**Health care**

del. delivery of services to individuals on a 1 to 1 basis

ex: vaccines, screening for disease, medications

**Reducing Risk Strategies**

Reducing high risk: focuses on those with the highest probability of developing disease - aim to bring risk down close to those of the general population

Improving the average risk: focuses on entire pop + aims to reduce their risk

**Determinants of health/disease** p. 16

Behavior: smoking, not wearing a seatbelt

Infection: Imperson exposure to infection + disease

Genetics: impact of genetic factors

Geography: local geological conditions (like radon exposure)

Environment: built environment + air pollution

Medical Care: vaccines, preventive care, cure post disease development

Socioeconomic/cultural: health insurance access to med. care, religious beliefs about treatments

**Changes in populations over time**

1. Demographic Transition: Describes the impact of falling childhood death rates + extended life spans on the size + age groups of populations - inc. elderly population creates a heavier burden of disease, aging becomes a public health issue
2. Epidemiological Transition (public health transition): As social + economic development occurs, diff. types of disease become more prominent - developing countries: communicable diseases, malnutrition, child undern. - developed: noncommunicable + chronic disease
3. Nutritional transition: countries move from poorly balanced diets (low nutrient protein, calories) to diet of highly processed foods (fat, sugars, salt) - must consider consequences of under + over nutrition

**Public Health 3.0**

ex: imagined + broadened approach

ex: engage multiple sectors + community partners to generate collective impact

ex: improve social determinants of health

chapter 1

chapter 2

**Population Comparisons** p. 29-30

Studies that use info from or groups without studying the individuals - est. group associations (like a hypothesis that requires investigation @ ind. level)

Beware of confounding variables

**2 basic rates**

Incidence: # new cases of disease in a year / # people in the @ risk population (on p. 2.1)

Prevalence: # of people living with particular disease / # of people in the "at-risk" population

**Classifications of Recommendations**

look @ table 2.3 on p. 37

A+ multi: strong recommendation

B: should in general be used

C: May - requires use of judgement on individual basis

D: Don't - enough evidence against rec.

I: insufficient; not enough evidence to pick a side

**Levels of intervention** p. 34

1. Primary: Takes place before the onset of disease (prevention)
2. Secondary: After development of disease/risk factor but before symptoms
3. Tertiary: after occurrence of symptoms but before irreversible damage

**Quantitative Studies**

large sample, focus on numbers

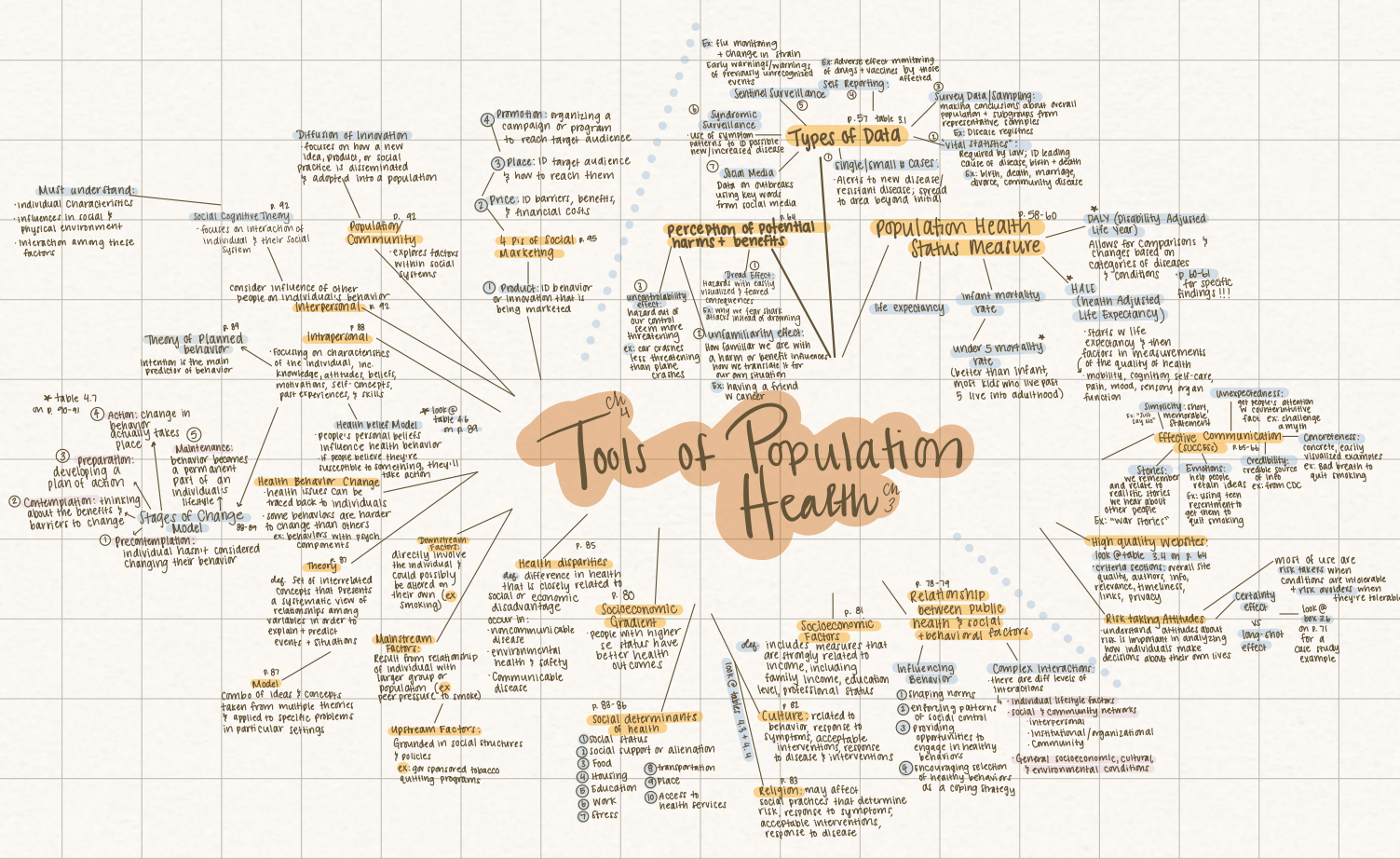
**Types of evidence** p. 42 box 2.7

**Qualitative Studies:** look in depth @ small examples, can help explain quantitative findings

**Changes in populations over time**

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# Tools of Population Health



# Health Law, Policy, & Ethics ch.5

Ex: tobacco regulated because sold by 1 state to all others

**Interstate Commerce Clause**  
 def. major source of federal authority in public health & healthcare  
 - used to justify wide range of involvement

**Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC)**  
 - can be declared by WHO's Director General  
 - allowed for unbinding disease control regulations, assistance, & communication with other nations regarding the source

**International Health Regulations**  
 table 5.2 only, 114 for change from 2005

p. 102  
**Police Power:**  
 US Constitution doesn't explicitly mention health, so those decisions are largely left up to the states

p. 102  
**Rights: Protections afforded to individuals**

**Negative Constitution:**  
 constitution allows for, but does not require gov. to act to protect public health or provide healthcare services

- created through
- 1 US constitution
  - 2 state constitutions
  - 3 laws passed @ federal or state level

p. 104  
**International law:** US constitution trumps even international law

p. 100  
**Health Policy:** subset of larger arena of public policy

**Authoritative Decision:**  
 - decision made by individual or group that has the power to implement it  
 ex: policies made by government or private groups

**Health in all Policies Approach:**  
 - private + public entities work toward common goal to address improved health for all while reducing inequalities  
 \* cumulative efforts

- implies that health consequences should be considered when making all policies

106  
**Philosophies toward Role of Gov.**  
 \* table 5.2 + 5.3 on p. 106

1 **Social Justice:** equitable distribution of health as a social responsibility

2 **Market Justice:**  
 - emphasizes individual, rather than collective responsibility for health

**Protection of human research subjects**  
 yes?

less restrictive, respects rights of people  
 ↓  
 isolation separates sick people with a contagious disease from people who aren't sick

p. 109  
**Quarantine:** compulsory physical separation of those with a disease or risk of developing one

1 **Respect for persons:**  
 - individuals are autonomous agents  
 - person with diminished autonomy is entitled to protection

3 **Justice:**  
 - who should receive benefits of research & bear its burden?  
**Institutional Review Boards (IRB):**  
 - created in response to Belmont Report, outlines 3 basic ethical principles

2 **Beneficance:**  
 persons treated in ethical manner by making efforts to secure their wellbeing