

MODULE III-A

APPLICATIONS OF EPIDEMIOLOGY: COMMUNITY DIAGNOSIS & PLANNING

OVERVIEW: This module builds upon basic epidemiologic principles, illustrating their application through the processes of community diagnosis and planning.

PREREQUISITE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS:

Completion of “E is for Epidemiology” on-line modules.

OBJECTIVES: Upon successful completion of this module, the participant will be able to:

1. Describe the components of a community assessment.
2. Identify actual and potential sources of data for conducting a community assessment.
3. Analyze a community data base using appropriate quantitative measures (rates, proportions).
4. In a simulated case, apply the principles of program planning to determine a community action plan.

KEY TERMS:

Community diagnosis
Morbidity
Mortality
Incidence
Prevalence

Community competence
Formative evaluation
Summative evaluation
Structure, process, outcome
Levels of prevention

READING ASSIGNMENT: You may choose to read from the 7th or 8th edition of Stanhope and Lancaster.

Stanhope & Lancaster 7th Edition (2008). Chapter 11; Chapter 15.

Stanhope & Lancaster 8th Edition (2012), Chapter 10, pages 222-224; Chapter 12, pages 253-271; Chapter 18, pages 398 – 400.

HOMEWORK:

Review your most recent health department community assessment prior to class. Note in particular the sources of data, conclusions and actions planned. Bring a copy to class if possible.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES:

Working in small groups, analyze the health status of a North Carolina county population using the current NC Health Statistics Pocket Guide. With assistance from on-site facilitators, develop a problem-focused health status profile: prioritize health needs, develop an intervention and evaluation plan, and identify possible sources of funding. Be prepared to share your work with the larger group.