

Towards a Model for Evidence-based Public Health

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With a few ad hoc additions from Hajo Zeeb, BIPS

Definition

Public Health is the science and the art of preventing disease, prolonging life and promoting physical health and efficiency through organized community effort ...

Winslow 1920

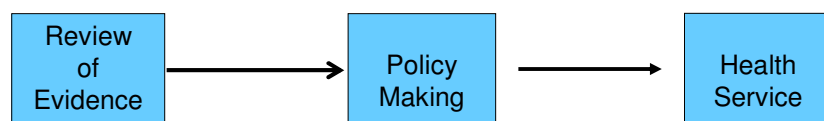
As a starter: EBPH – the „science“ part of this definition

Evidence-based Public Health – three questions

- 1) How does evidence get into Public Health?
- 2) What kind of evidence for Public Health?
- 3) What is the role of evidence in Public Health
- in relation to resources, values, and
interests?

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Naïve “push-model”

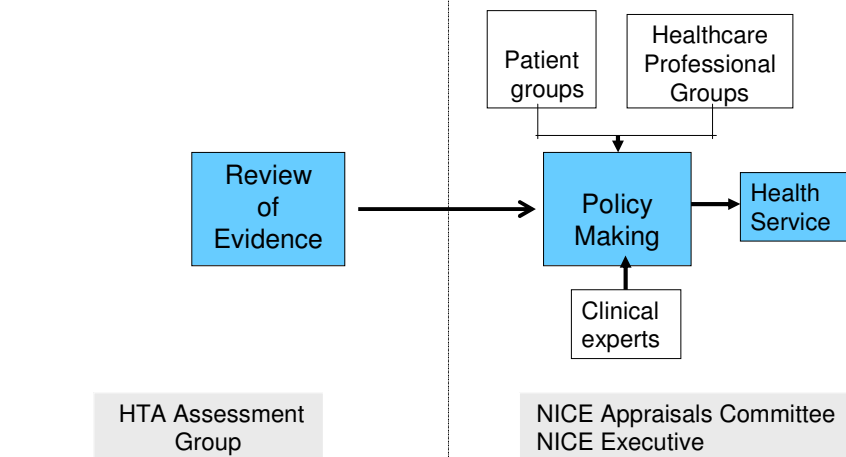


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„Assessment-Appraisal Model“ (modified after Taylor 2002)

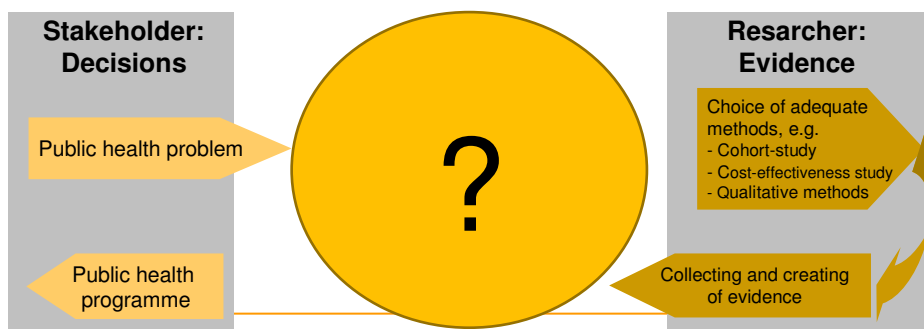
Assessment

Appraisal



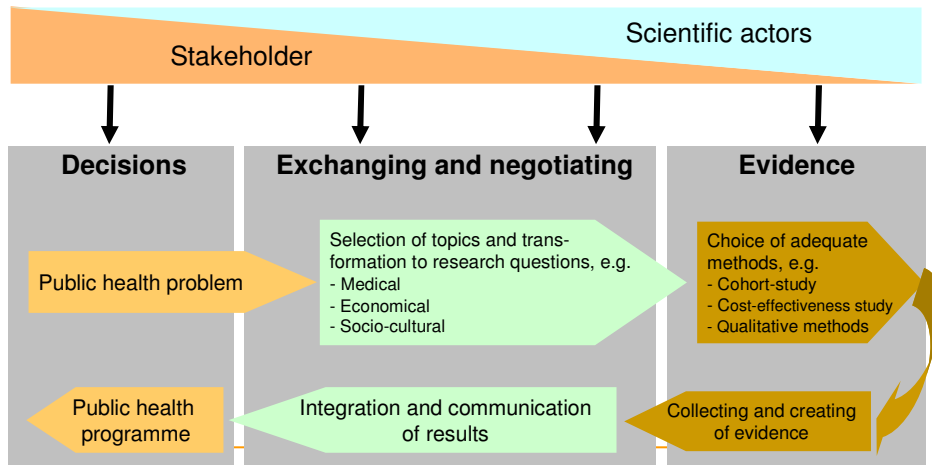
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How does evidence get into Public Health?



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Model of evidence-based public health: Exchanging and negotiating



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What kind of evidence for Public Health?

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Overweight and obesity: Medical/epidemiological aspects

Questions

Who needs to be treated?

Which endpoints? BMI, waist-hip-ratio, or medical consequences?

Effects and side-effects of the interventions?

Methods

Case-control studies

Cohort studies

Cluster randomised-controlled studies

Role of epidemiology (Brownson 1999)
Type 1 Studies: *something* should be done
Type 2 Studies: *this* should be done
(Type 3 Studies: in this or that context)

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TREND - Statement

| COMMENTARY |

Improving the Reporting Quality of Nonrandomized Evaluations of Behavioral and Public Health Interventions: The TREND Statement

Developing an evidence base for making public health decisions | Don C. Des Jarlais, PhD, Cynthia Lyles, PhD, Nicole Crepaz, PhD, and the TREND Group

Trend checklist with 22 points

Checklist are for checking, not to replace critical analysis and thinking

Overweight and obesity: Socio-cultural aspects

Possible questions

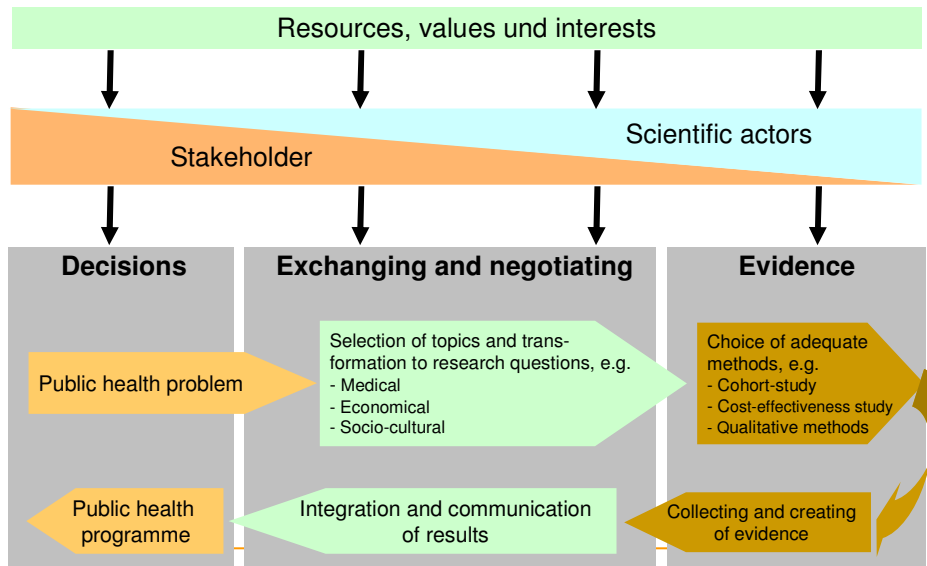
- Is this a form of medicalisation of a social problem?
- Is there a risk of stigmatisation related to specific interventions?

Possible methods

- qualitative und quantitative interviews
- participative methods

What is the role of evidence in Public Health -
in relation to resources, values, and interests?

Resources, values, and interests



Translated from: Gerhardus et al. 2010

Evidence is not independent from resources, values, and interest

Examples:

Biomedical vs. social model for the prevention of obesity

Numerous studies show that the type of sponsor of a study is a good predictor for the outcome

Definition

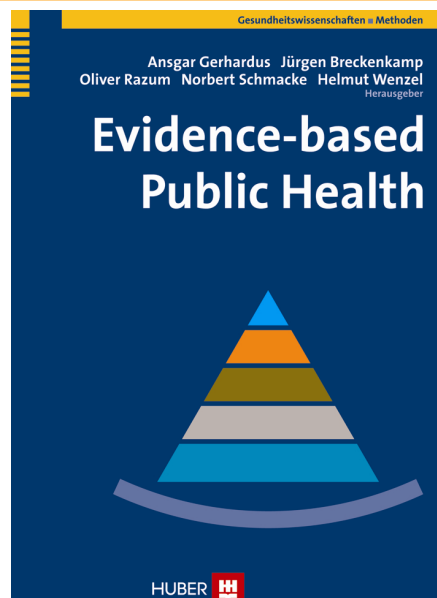
Evidence-based Public Health aims at keeping and improving health at the population level.

The available knowledge on the medical, economic, ethical, social, cultural, and legal aspects of health and the health-related measures should be assessed in a scientific manner.

All steps – from the definition of the problem to the execution of measures and programs - should be explicit, transparent and judicious.

Translated from Gerhardus (2010)

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