

Public Health Advisory Board

Guiding principles for public health and health care collaboration

1. Purpose

This set of guiding principles is a tool that professionals can use to build collaborations between public health and the health care sector. This tool is a starting place for ideas that public health and health care can implement to reach common goals.

2. Guiding Principles

Value statement: We will not see meaningful improvement in population health without cross-sector collaboration. (Statewide Public Health Modernization Plan).

- Ensure broad, cross-sector collaboration between public health; coordinated care organizations (CCOs), hospitals and other groups within the health care sector; early learning and education; and community-based organizations to improve population health.
- Leverage existing opportunities for cross sector collaboration (i.e., community health assessments and community health improvement plans). (Public Health Modernization Manual)

Value statement: Direct services to individuals, including clinical interventions, are supported by the public health system's focus on prevention; policy, systems and environmental change; and evidence-based strategies to improve population health. (Statewide Public Health Modernization Plan, CDC 6|18 Initiative)

- Ensure a comprehensive spectrum of strategies are in place for assessing, developing and implementing shared priorities.

Value statement: Public health and health care must work together to ensure that every community member has access to high quality, culturally appropriate health care. This requires jointly developing and implementing solutions to address access and quality barriers. (Public Health Modernization Manual)

- Ensure health care and public health collaborations are outcomes-oriented, sustainable, and allow for transformation and flexibility in implementation.

3. Strategies that align with guiding principles

- Leadership and governance: Include health care and public health perspectives on one another's governing and/or leadership boards and/or decision-making. Ensure that governing and/or leadership boards reflect the composition of the community being served. Ensure there are regular opportunities to solicit and include community input in the decision-making of the governing and/or leadership board. Leverage health care and public health funding to improve population health outcomes. (Public Health 3.0)
- Aligned metrics and data: Implement metrics that can be analyzed and reported by race, ethnicity, primary language and disability, that move health care and public health towards improvement in community health outcomes and elimination of health disparities (e.g., tobacco use prevalence). Identify what health care and public health contribute to individual measures and what could be done in the future. Tie performance payment to improved health outcomes that are shared across health care and public health partners. Develop systems to share data in order to develop community health assessments, identify emerging health issues, and evaluate the effectiveness of new policies designed to improve health. (Public Health 3.0)

- Evidence-based practices: Collect and disseminate information on evidence-based clinical and population health strategies. Ensure that resources are invested in the implementation of practices that are grounded in scientific evidence, including promising culturally-specific practices. (Public Health Modernization Manual)
- Community health assessments and community health improvement plans: Ensure the continuation of partnerships across health care and public health to develop shared community health assessments and community health improvement plans; ensure assessments and plans meet all state, local and federal requirements. Utilize evidence-based and promising culturally-specific practices in the development of community health improvement plans. (Public Health Modernization Manual, Next Generation of Community Health)
- Access to care: Ensure that health care and public health organizations work collaboratively to collect data on access to care; review data to identify barriers to care; and develop solutions to improve access to care that are grounded in community needs. Ensure that health care and public health organizations work collaboratively to plan for and respond to emergencies. (Public Health Modernization Manual)
- Policy: Partner on the development and implementation of public policies that promote health and prevent disease.
- Workforce development: Collaboratively build the capacity of the health care and public health system so both are better equipped to address health outcomes and manage change. Ensure that the health care and public health workforce reflects the community being served.

4. Source documents

[Oregon's Action Plan for Health](#)

[Public health modernization assessment](#)

[Statewide public health modernization plan](#)

[Public Health Modernization Manual](#)

[Public Health 3.0](#)

[CDC 6|18 Initiative](#)

[Next Generation of Community Health](#)

[Public Health Accreditation Board Standards and Measures](#)

[Coalition of Local Health Officials](#)

[Equity of Care](#)