

# Essential Public Health in the Modern Era

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# Historical Look at Public Health



# Top Ten Causes of Death 1904

Cause of Death	Deaths per 100,000
Pneumonia and influenza	192
Tuberculosis	188
Diseases of the heart	164
Diarrhea, enteritis and ulceration	111
Intracranial vascular lesions	109
Nephritis	102
Accidents excluding MVA	85
Cancer	71
Senility	41
Bronchitis	36

# Essential Functions of Public Health

- Monitor health status to identify community health problems.
- Diagnose and investigate health problems in the community.
- Inform, educate, and empower people about health issues.
- Mobilize community partnerships to solve health problems.
- Develop policies to support individual and community health.
- Enforce laws that protect health and promote safety.
- Link people to health services.
- Assure a competent public health and health care workforce.
- Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of services.
- Research innovative solutions to health problems.

# Top Ten Causes of Death 2004

Cause of Death	Deaths per 100,000
Diseases of the heart	223
Malignant neoplasms	187
Cerebrovascular disease	51
Chronic lower respiratory disease	42
Accidents	37
Diabetes mellitus	25
Alzheimer's	22
Influenza and pneumonia	21
Nephritis	15
Septicemia	11

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# Additional Public Health Measures

- Building Healthy Neighborhoods Task Force
- Built environment summits and workshops
- Central California Regional Obesity Prevention Program



# Additional Public Health Measures

- Regional and Local Blue Print Planning efforts
- Participation in CCLHO, CHEAC and HOAC to advocate for smart growth policies
- Cooperate with County Planning Department to explore Health Impact Assessments

# Challenges for Public Health

- Small percentage of local, state and federal funding allocated to healthy eating and active living initiatives
- No clear authority to participate in built environment planning process

# Potential Outcomes

- Process to develop and re-develop communities that assure active living and healthy nutrition
- Decreased morbidity and mortality due to heart disease, cerebral vascular disease, cancer, chronic lung disease and diabetes

# Next Steps for Public Health

- Advocate for funding to support public health programs targeting built environment
- Strategic planning that recognizes building healthy communities as an essential public health function
- Establish formal role of public health in existing planning process

# Thank You

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