

## Public Health Research Agenda Comment Worksheet

*Thank you for participating in this session. Please complete this comment form and return at the end of the meeting.*

### 1. About you:

Work setting: *please check all that apply*

- Federal government
- State or local public health agency
- Academia
- Non-profit organization
- Healthcare organization
- Consultant
- Other practice organization (*please describe*) \_\_\_\_\_
- Other research organization (*please describe*) \_\_\_\_\_

Years in public health

\_\_\_\_\_ years

### 2. Your Priorities:

*For each column, check up to 2 items that reflect what you see as priorities for research.*

<p><b><u>Developing the Public Health Systems Research Agenda: CDC Experience</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 1. Determine how public health agency structure affects performance. (40)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 2. Define and quantify dimensions of public health systems including interorganizational relationships (including the role of the agency within the public health system). (33)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 3. Explore the relationship between performance and health outcomes (and the chain of impacts that leads from improved performance to improved health outcomes). (30)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 4. Define the characteristics of high-performing local, state, and federal public health agencies. (29)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 5. Explore the relationship between social determinants of health and system performance. (28)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 6. Evaluate the costs to achieve and maintain acceptable / optimal levels of performance. (This activity includes exploring reasonable models to collect agency financial data). (27)</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Research Agenda for Public Health Workforce Development</u></b> <i>Over 30 key questions were identified as high priority; the list below represents key gaps in public health science:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 1. Relationship of performance indicators (National Public Health Performance Standards - Essential Service #8- assure a competent workforce) and health outcomes controlled for community context.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 2. Competency - what methods are most effective? What organizational variables support competency development and application?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 3. Best indicators for workforce performance</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Rural Public Health Research Agenda</u></b> <b>Rural Health Disparities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 1. What are the social determinants (including economic and environmental issues) of health disparities in rural populations?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 2. How has technology, such as tele-health, been used or how can it be used to facilitate identification of problems and solutions related to rural health disparities?</li> </ul> <p><b>Rural Public Health Infrastructure</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 1. What is the composition of the current rural public health infrastructure? (i.e., legal authority, structure/governance, functions, perceptions/expectations, and workforce) What is the mix of services and resources that make up a rural public health infrastructure?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 2. What are the characteristics of communities that have and sustain a public health infrastructure?</li> </ul>
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<input type="checkbox"/> 7. Explore the relationship between public health infrastructure / performance and the design, implementation, and impact / outcomes of categorical programs (including the use of evidence-based interventions). (27)	<input type="checkbox"/> 4. Monitor workforce - size, distribution, qualifications, and tenure.	<p><b>Workforce Development and Competency Enhancement</b></p> <input type="checkbox"/> 1. What are the needs (i.e., workers, competencies) of rural health practice? What are the workforce ratios for rural communities?
<input type="checkbox"/> 8. Conceptualize a framework for high-performing public health systems, which includes key elements. (26)	<input type="checkbox"/> 5. Labor market forces: recruitment, retention, wage/salary/benefits and personnel system characteristics.	<input type="checkbox"/> 2. What are “very good” practices for rural public health workforce development?
<input type="checkbox"/> 9. Identify, develop, and refine measures of health outcomes that are sensitive to public health systems capacity and performance. (26)		<p><b>Rural Public Health Preparedness</b></p> <input type="checkbox"/> 1. How is government organized (i.e., different state-regional-local models) across the U.S. to assure accountability for preparedness in rural areas, and what are the implications of this government organization?
<input type="checkbox"/> 10. Explore models and outcomes of accreditation of public health agencies and/or public health systems as performance improvement methods. (21)		<input type="checkbox"/> 2. What components (functions) of preparedness (a) are currently provided and (b) should be provided by rural communities? How are rural communities mobilizing and organizing resources (including people) to provide these functions?
<input type="checkbox"/> 11. Evaluate how shifting policy and financial priorities affect performance of public health systems. (19)		<p><b>Access to Care/Safety Net Support</b></p> <input type="checkbox"/> 1. What are the prevalences of various models of service delivery in rural areas, and to what extent does each model involve public health agencies, activities and functions?
<input type="checkbox"/> 12. Explore what factors and processes facilitate community involvement in using the NPHPSP in system improvement activities (quality improvement). (19)		<input type="checkbox"/> 2. To what extent are various health assessment models (e.g., PATCH, MAPP, APEX) used, who uses/administers them, how are they used, and to what extent are they modified?
<input type="checkbox"/> 13. Evaluate how and to what extent a highly performing public health system is indicative of preparedness. (19)		<p><b>Environmental Health Issues</b></p> <input type="checkbox"/> 1. What is the impact of the lack of resources on environmental health in rural areas?
<input type="checkbox"/> 14. Explore the effectiveness (within the agency and the system) of local and state governance structures (16)		<input type="checkbox"/> 2. What are the linkages between exposure and health outcomes?

**3. Where are the gaps? What (if anything) is missing in the research areas listed above?**

**4. Contact information (optional). If you are interested in continued participation in research agenda setting, please provide your email address below:**

**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

*The Council on Linkages Between Academia and Public Health Practice (Council) welcomes additional comments on the Public Health Research Agenda. Please email Erica Zaken, Project Assistant, Public Health Foundation, at [ezaken@phf.org](mailto:ezaken@phf.org) or fax (202) 898-5609, with any suggestions, questions or concerns.*

*Background materials on Public Health Systems Research may be viewed on the Council's website at <http://www.phf.org/Link.htm#PHSR>*