The Nursing Process Applied to Population-Based Public Health Nursing Practice

Population-Based Community Assessment Process
- Identify all potential partners
- Engage as many community partners as possible
- Describe the populations that comprise the community, their strengths, health risks, and health influences
- Elicit the community's perception of their strengths, problems and health influences
- Gather and analyze existing/available information to identify health indicators
- Describe the systems that impact the community *(social, economic, educational, political, and judicial)*
- Describe the population at risk based on the analyses
- Identify the health influences/determinants that contribute to the identified risk
- Collect additional information throughout the assessment process as needed
- Based upon the community assessment, develop priorities
- Identify goals for each priority
- Identify the measurable health status outcome indicator(s) for each priority
- **Define the levels of intervention for each priority indicator(s)**

Public Health Nursing Process	Systems Level In collaboration with all the organizations, services, citizens who are part of the systems intervention:	Community Level In collaboration with all the organizations, services, citizens who are part of the community intervention:	Individual/Family Level
Recruit Additional Partners	Recruit additional partners (local, regional, state, national) from systems that are key to impacting and/or who have an interest in the health issue/problem	Recruit additional community partners that may not have participated in the broader community assessment but have an interest in this particular problem	
Identify Population Of Interest	Identify those systems for which change is desired	Identify the population of interest at risk for the problem	Identify new and current clients in caseload who are at risk for the priority problem
Establish Relationship	Begin/continue establishing relationship with system partners	Begin/continue establishing relationship with community partners and population of interest	Begin/continue establishing relationship with the family
Refine And Further Assess	Refine and further assess the impact and interrelationships of the various systems on the development and extent of the health issue/problem	• Refine and further assess the problem (demographics, health determinants, past and current efforts) • Identify the particular strengths, health risks, and health influences of the population of interest	Identify the particular strengths, health risks, social supports and other factors influencing the health of the family and each family member
Elicit Perceptions	Develop a common consensus among system partners of the health issue/problem and the desired changes	Elicit the population of interest's perception of their strengths, problems and health influences	Elicit family's perception of their strengths, problems and other factors influencing their health
Set Goals	In conjunction with system partners, develop system goals to be achieved	In conjunction with the population of interest, negotiate and come to agreement on community-focused goals	In conjunction with the family, negotiate and come to agreement on meaningful, achievable, measurable goals

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Select Health Status Indicators	Based on systems goals, select meaningful, measurable health status indicators that will be used to measure success	Based on the refined community goal/problem, select meaningful, measurable health status indicators that will be used to measure success	Select meaningful, measurable health status indicators that will be used to measure success
Select Interventions	Select system-level interventions considering evidence of effectiveness, political support, acceptability to community, cost effectiveness, legality, ethics, greatest potential for successful outcome, non-duplicative, levels of prevention	Select community-level interventions considering evidence of effectiveness, acceptability to community, cost effectiveness, legality, ethics, greatest potential for successful outcome, non-duplicative	Select interventions considering evidence of effectiveness, acceptability to family, cost effectiveness, legality, ethics, greatest potential for successful outcome
Select Intermediate Outcome Indicators	Determine measurable, meaningful intermediate outcome indicators	Determine measurable and meaningful intermediate outcome indicators	Determine measurable, meaningful intermediate outcome indicators
Determine Strategy Frequency And Intensity	Utilizing best practices, determine intensity, sequencing, frequency of interventions considering urgency, political will, resources	Utilizing best practices, determine intensity, sequencing, frequency of interventions	Utilizing best practices, determine intensity, sequencing, frequency of interventions
Determine Evaluation Methods	Determine evaluation methods for measuring process, intermediate, and outcome indicators	Determine evaluation methods for measuring process, intermediate, and outcome indicators	Determine evaluation methods for measuring process, intermediate, and outcome indicators
Implement Interventions	Implement the interventions	Implement the interventions	Implement the interventions
Regularly Reassess	Regularly reassess the system's response to the interventions and modify plan as indicated	Reassess the population of interest's response to the interventions on an ongoing basis and modify plan as indicated	Reassess and modify plan at each contact as necessary
Adjust Interventions	Adjust the frequency and intensity of the interventions according to the needs and resources of the community	Adjust the frequency and intensity of the interventions accordingly	Adjust the frequency and intensity of the interventions according to the needs and resources of the family
Provide Feedback	Provide feedback to system's representatives	Provide feedback to the population of interest and informal and formal organizational representatives	Provide regular feedback to family on progress (or lack thereof) on client goals
Collect Evaluation	Regularly and systematically collect evaluation information	Regularly and systematically collect evaluation information	Regularly and systematically collect evaluation information
Compare Results To Plan	Compare actual results with planned indicators	Compare actual results with planned indicators	Compare actual results with planned indicators
Identify Differences	Identify and analyze differences in those in those systems that achieved outcomes compared to those who did not	Identify and analyze differences in those in the population of interest who achieved outcomes compared to those who did not	Identify and analyze differences in services received by families who achieved outcomes compared to those who did not
Apply Results To Practice	• Apply results to identify needed systems changes • Depending on readiness of the system to accept the results, present results to decision-makers and the general population	• Apply results to modify community interventions • Present results to community for policy considerations as appropriate	• Report results to supervisor and other service providers as appropriate • Apply results to personal practice and agency for policy considerations as appropriate

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