

The Role of Environmental Public Health Indicators

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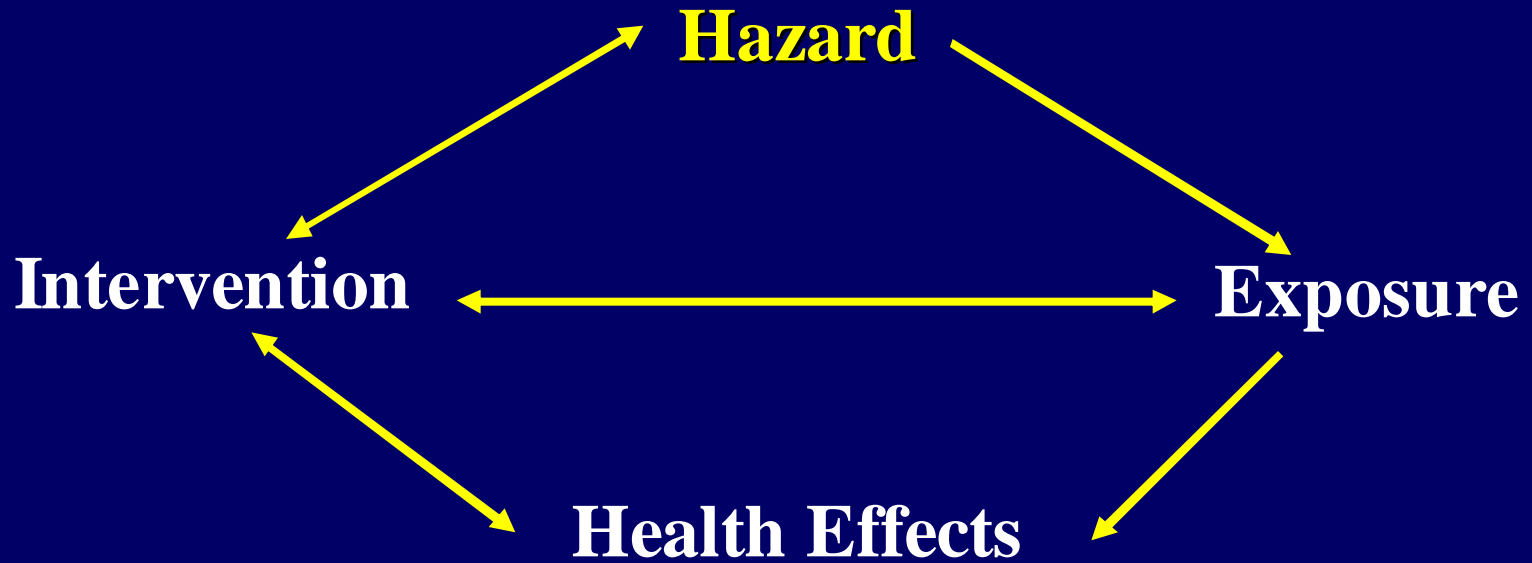
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)



Introduction

Purpose: EPHIs can be used to assess environmental status or health risk as it relates to the environment

EPHI framework



EPHI Proposed Uses

- **Surveillance of status and trends**
- **Program and policy development**
- **Build core capacity to respond to problems**
- **Evaluation of interventions**

An “Ideal” Indicator Is:

- **Measurable, quantifiable**
- **Possible to track over time**
- **Based on demonstrated linkages between environment and health**
- **Informative to the public and to responsible agencies**
- **Has clear case definitions**

Process of Developing Indicators

- **Define the information needed**
- **Develop a conceptual framework – DPSIR**
- **Formulate potential indicators**
- **Evaluate indicators by selection criteria**
- **Implement indicators**
- **Review indicators**

CDC Feasibility Criteria for EPHIs

- **Measurable**
- **Monitored over time**
- **Accessible for state, county, etc.**
- **Accuracy (reliable, valid)**
- **Sensitive to changes**
- **Timeliness**

Work with others who have public health indicator systems

- **PAHO**
- **Canada**
- **WHO-European Office**
- **EPA**

EPHI Project: Products

- **CSTE brochure**

[http://www.cste.org/pdffiles/Environmentalpublichealthindicators.p](http://www.cste.org/pdffiles/Environmentalpublichealthindicators.pdf)

- **CDC website <http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/indicators/default.htm>**

- **Definitions**

- **Indicators and measures**

- **Data Sources**

- **Draft Technical Supplements**



Where Do We Go From Here?

- **Utilize the Border Strategy for Indicator Development**
- **Work with others who have environmental indicator systems**