

E-Health Strategy & Public Policy

**Pan American Health Organization
9th Regional Conference on Health Services Information
“E-Health: Reaching Universal Access to Health”
October 22, 2012
Washington DC**

**Georges C. Benjamin, MD, FACP, FACEP(E), FNAPA, Hon FRSPH
Executive Director
American Public Health Association**

Population Health Measures Can Address 21st Century Health Problems

- Growing chronic diseases
- Emerging & reemerging infectious disease
- Unaddressed injury epidemics
- Public health emergency preparedness
- Patient safety
- Addressing the social determinates of health
- Eliminating health disparities
- Community based care coordination
- Health education & literacy

Major Systems Change Coming



Some Drivers of Population Health System Change

- Growing capacity to link & analyze large data sets
- Disruptive & fast technology
 - Social media, E-Communication, hand held wireless devices
- Need to document ROI for health interventions
 - Cost, quality & value
- Enhanced use of data to drive public policy to improve health



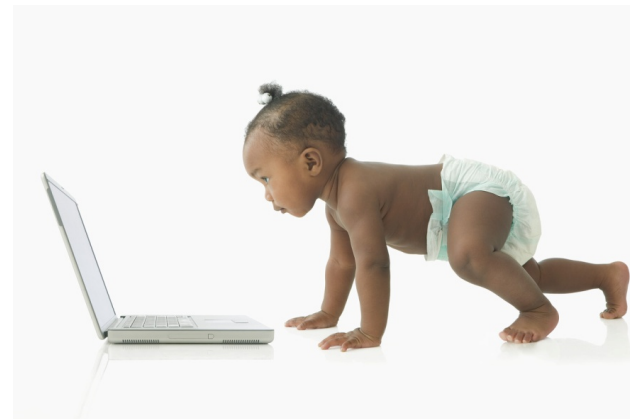
Some Drivers of Population Health System Change



- Population mobility
- Better integrate primary care & public health
- Globalization
- Access disparities to E-Tech
- Generation Y (Millennials)
- Baby boomers

U.S. Healthy People 2020 Goal

Use health communication strategies and HIT to improve population health outcomes and health care quality, and to achieve health equity



Health People 2020 Policy Objectives

1. Enable quick and informed action to health risks and public health emergencies
2. Increase health literacy skills
3. Provide new opportunities to connect with culturally diverse and hard-to-reach populations
4. Provide sound principles in the design of programs and interventions that result in healthier behaviors
5. Increase Internet and mobile access

Healthy People 2020

E –Technology Objectives

- Support shared decision-making between patients and providers
- Provide personalized self-management tools and resources
- Build social support networks
- Deliver accurate, accessible, and actionable health information that is targeted or tailored
- Facilitate the meaningful use of health IT and exchange of health information among health care and public health professionals

Social Media: Power Health Tools



Twitter



YouTube



Facebook



Flickr



LinkedIn



Foursquare



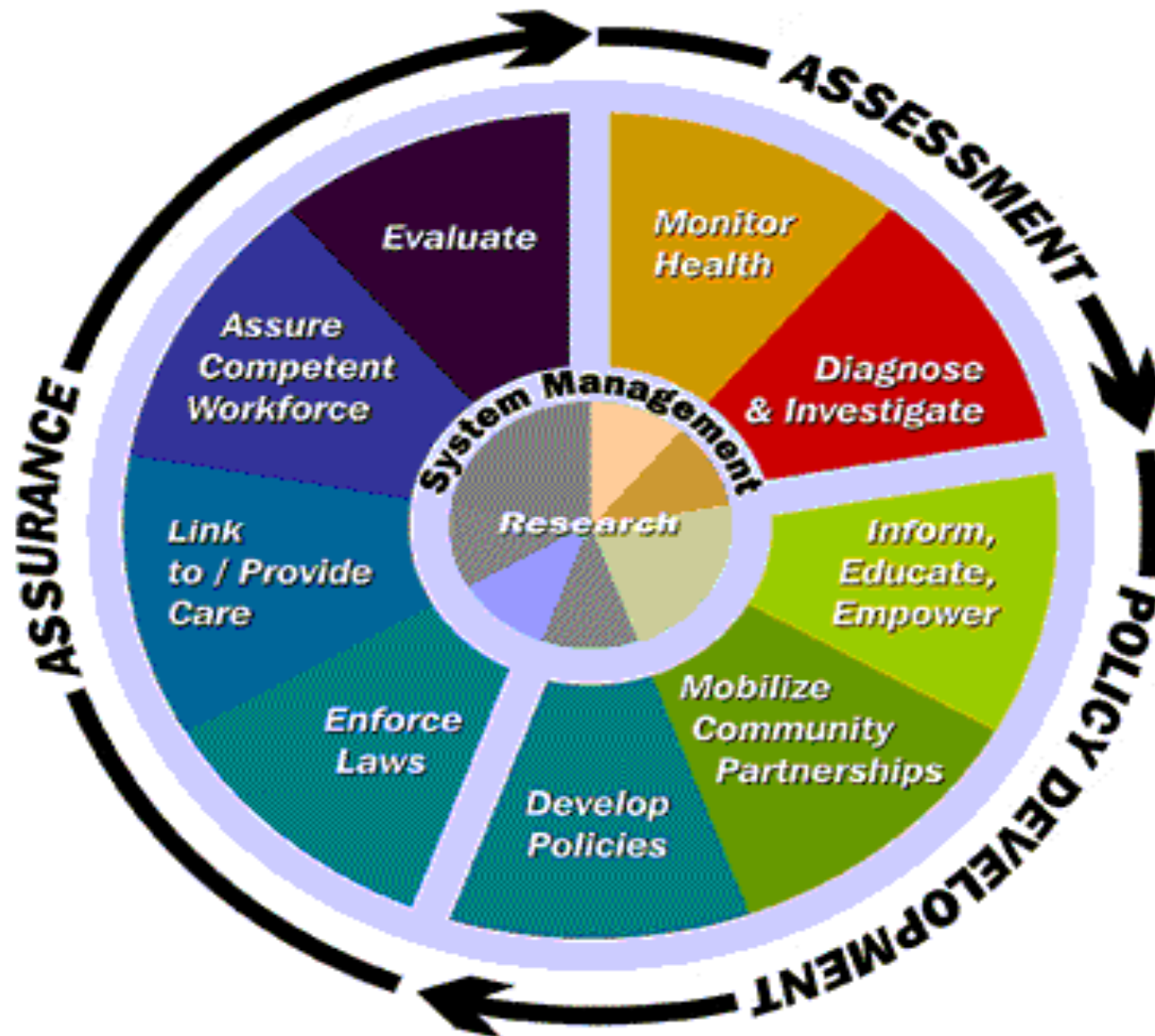
Blog



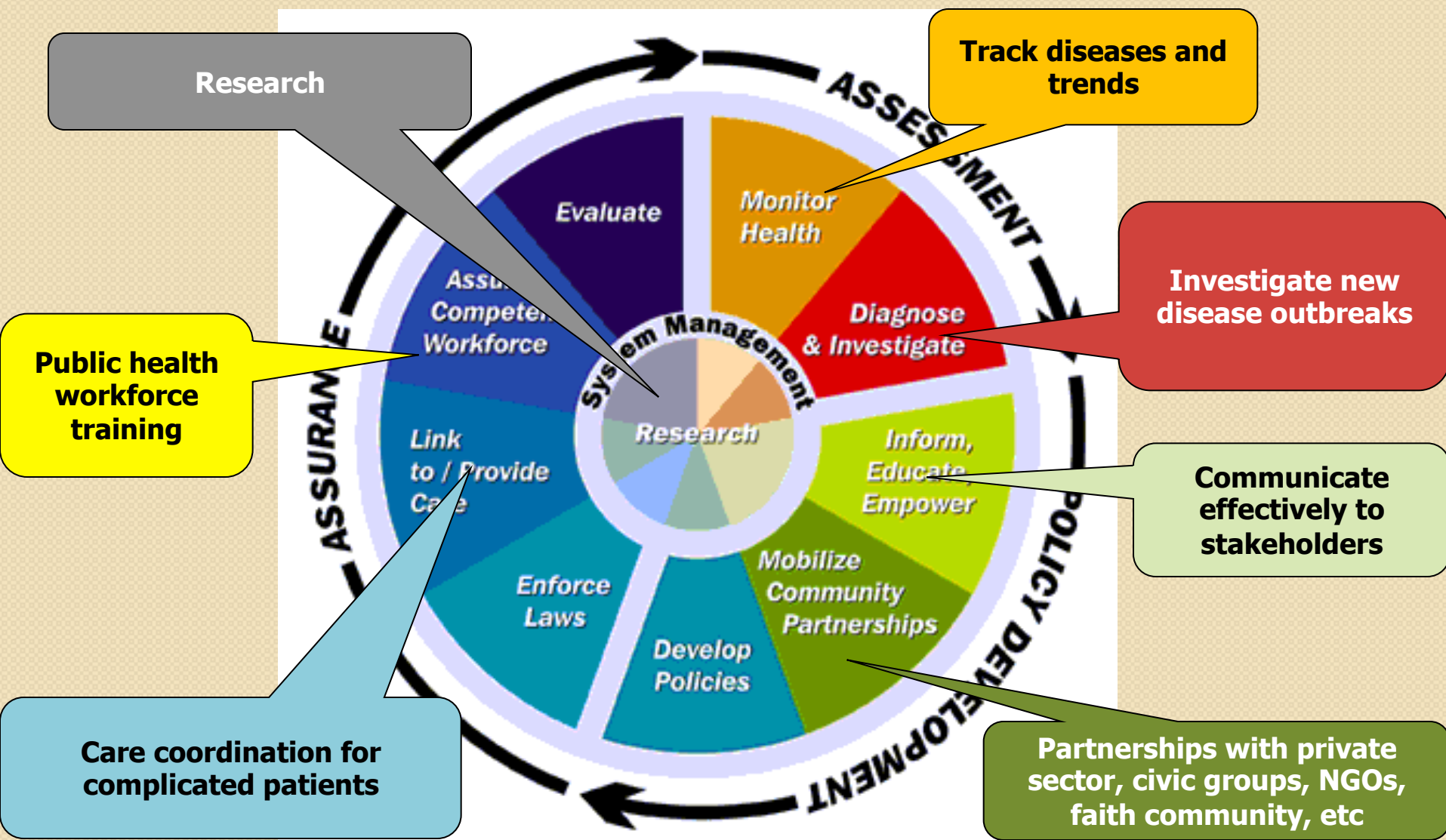
E-mail

Online educational tools: Webinars, Podcasts

10 Essential Services Public Health

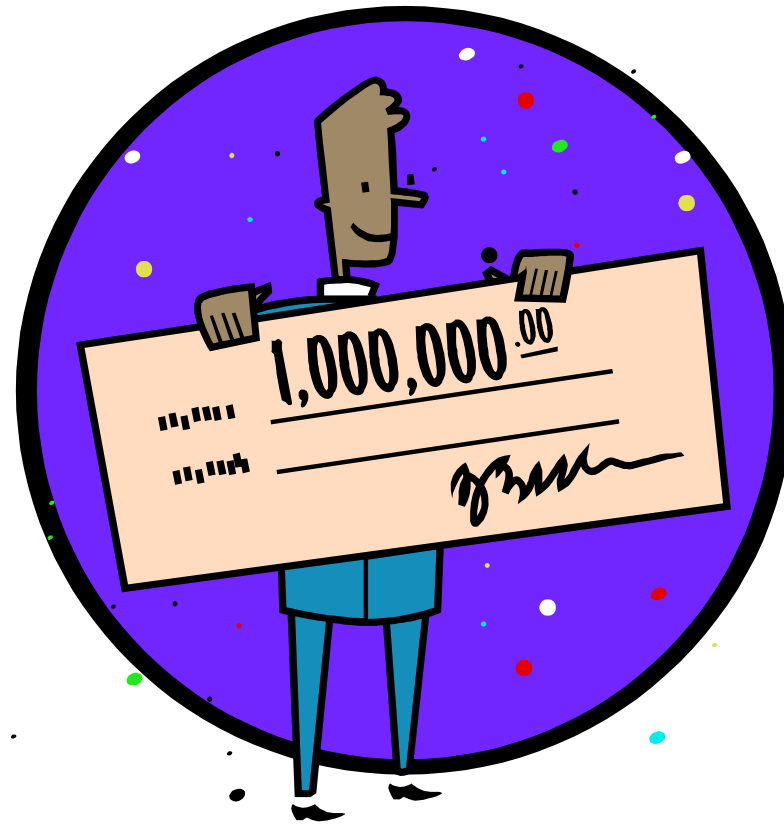


Telehealth Population Health Issues



Paying For Population E-Health Is Challenging

- Grant based - Not fee based
- Obsolescence is a problem
- Questions about ROI for prevention
- Results become key & data is the driver
- Population health IT systems need planned investments
 - Data linkages to HIT
 - Specialized systems



Recommendations For The Future



- Make strategic investments in population based E-Tech & data systems
- Require appropriate linkages of public health & health care data systems
- Demand accountability for population based outcomes from all

Georges C. Benjamin, MD, FACP, FACEP(E), FNAPA, Hon FRSPH
Executive Director
American Public Health Association
WWW.APHA.org



‘Protect, Prevent, Live Well’