

South Central Public Health Partnership TRAINING PROFESSIONALS TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC

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Decision Making: A Systematic and Organized Approach

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Course Description

The course discusses the nature of qualitative decision making and explains how the complexity of decisions often overwhelms our cognitive capabilities. To deal with dynamic complexity, decision makers need to adopt a structured decision making process that aids in identifying alternative course of action and the major factors which are influencing the decision. The course provides and discusses a method for structuring each step in the decision making process and provides examples of the using the process.

Learning Objectives

- To discuss the nature of qualitative decision making.
- To provide rationale for developing and using a systematic and structured approach for qualitative decision making.
- To identify and explain the fundamental steps in qualitative decision making.
- To provide a method for structuring each step of the decision making process.
- To demonstrate a structured qualitative decision making approach.

Core Competencies for Public Health Professionals *Council on Linkages between Academia and Public Health Practice

- 2A2: Describes how policy options can influence public health programs
- 2A3: Explains the expected outcomes of policy options
- 2A4: Gathers information that will inform policy decisions
- 2B4: Describes the implications of policy options
- 2C4: Critiques selected policy options using data and information
- 2B5: Uses decision analysis for policy development and program planning
- 2A6: Participates in program planning processes
- 3A6: Applies communication and group dynamic strategies in interactions with individuals and groups
- 7B11: Applies basic human relations skills to the management of organizations, motivation of personnel, and resolution of conflicts
- 7A13: Describes how cost-effectiveness, cost-benefit, and cost-utility analyses affect programmatic prioritization and decision making
- 7B14: Uses cost-effectiveness, cost-benefit, and cost-utility analyses in programmatic prioritization and decision making
- 7C15: Includes the use of cost-effectiveness, cost-benefit, and cost-utility analyses in programmatic prioritization and decision making

MCH Competencies *Maternal and Child Health Competencies developed by the Association of Teachers in Maternal and Child Health (ATMCH)

• C1: Organizational and management theories and practices, and their administration in both public and private agencies.

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