



Module Specification

Fundamentals of Evidence Based Public Health

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Contents

| | |
|--|----------|
| Module Specification | 1 |
| Part 1: Information | 2 |
| Part 2: Description | 2 |
| Part 3: Teaching and learning methods | 4 |
| Part 4: Assessment..... | 5 |
| Part 5: Contributes towards | 7 |

Part 1: Information

Module title: Fundamentals of Evidence Based Public Health

Module code: UZVY5R-20-M

Level: Level 7

For implementation from: 2024-25

UWE credit rating: 20

ECTS credit rating: 10

College: College of Health, Science & Society

School: CHSS School of Health and Social Wellbeing

Partner institutions: None

Field: Health, Community and Policy Studies

Module type: Module

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: Yes

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: This module is designed to enable and support learners to meet the Specialist Community Public Health Nursing (SCPHN) Standards of Proficiency (NMC, 2022) by providing the opportunity to develop their knowledge and skills in identifying, evaluating and proficiently using multiple sources of evidence and research relevant to people, communities and populations to inform specialist community public health nursing practice.

The module introduces learners to a range of issues and concepts relating to evidence-based public health. This includes the use of evidence to inform practice as well as role of evidence in the policy process. Topics include the history of evidence-based public health, an introduction to research methods and how evidence of health and disease can be estimated through epidemiological and research methods, and an introduction to how such data and evidence are appraised and critiqued.

Integrated into the above are the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3 of Good Health and Wellbeing and 10, Reduce inequality within and among countries. This will be evident through a focus on using evidence in to identify, analyse and evaluate the distribution of health and disease within populations, with a specific focus on identifying and reducing health inequalities.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: To introduce learners to the concepts and issues associated with evidence-based public health.

To look at different sources of evidence and research methods, as well as their strengths and weaknesses.

To consider the real-world uses of evidence including public health interventions, assessments, policies, and major incident response.

To consider how to disseminate and communicate of evidence for diverse audiences.

Outline syllabus: The outline syllabus typically includes:

Introduction to evidence based public health.

Introduction to epidemiology and essential epidemiological concepts, e.g. association, causality, confounding and bias.

Basic statistics to describe a public health issue, (such as calculating the mean, median, mode, incidence, and prevalence).

Introduction to research methods and how these can be used to provide evidence of health and disease (such as qualitative, quantitative, cohort studies, randomised controlled trials, mixed methods research, systematics reviews and meta-analysis).

Introduction to the hierarchies of evidence and how to explore the reliability and validity of evidence.

The assessment of scientific evidence and its contribution to public health practice and policy including evaluation of effectiveness of interventions (including health impact assessment and health needs assessment).

The role of evidence in relation to major incidents including communicable diseases and pandemics. Understanding of the role of a SCPHN in planning for, assessing, managing and preventing major incidents as well as the impact of the hierarchy of controls on health and wellbeing and service provision.

The dissemination and communication of evidence and the role of the media.

Ethical issues surrounding the collection, interpretation, dissemination, and use of public health information.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: In order to foster an interdisciplinary approach the module is delivered by a multidisciplinary teaching team from the Public and Environmental Health programme teams.

Teaching and learning is flexible and focused on participants' needs as adult learners. Teaching and learning is underpinned by a universal design for learning approach.

Scheduled learning involves four contact days which consist of lectures and small

group seminars.

Independent learning includes an e-learning resource 'Using Health Research', subject-specific quizzes, and self-directed study.

Module Learning outcomes: On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

MO1 Articulate the principles and importance of evidence-based public health and the role of evidence in shaping health and wellbeing policy and practice.

MO2 Demonstrate an ability to critically assess essential epidemiological and statistical concepts, considering the hierarchies of evidence, to effectively describe public health issues and analyse data.

MO3 Critically appraise different types of evidence and their relevance and application to practice. Explain the facilitators and barriers for the implementation of evidence and research into practice.

MO4 Recognise how good quality evidence can inform advocacy for improvements in health and wellbeing and demonstrate effective communication of key public health messages and advice.

Hours to be allocated: 200

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 152 hours

Face-to-face learning = 48 hours

Total = 0

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at readinglists.uwe.ac.uk via the following link

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: The assessment for this module supports the development of the skills of critical analysis, evaluation and use of data required by later

assessments on the programme. Formative and summative feedback for this assessment will be drawn on to further support the development of learners' skills in this area.

Formative feedback throughout the module incorporates online quizzes for each topic featuring Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs) to assess knowledge. Additionally, seminar activities involve working in small groups to answer a series of questions based upon a research paper, applying the topics/methodologies covered in the lecture and applied to SCPHN practice. Answers are discussed with the seminar lead during the session, and a CRIB sheet is provided after the lecture for consolidation of 'model' answer.

Epidemiological report (maximum 2000 words) on a health issue of their choice. Learners should choose a health topic of interest or applied to their role and describe the routine sources of data for that health issue. Learners should consider the quality of the data available, ethical issues with collection and management of that data, identify gaps in the data and identify areas for public health intervention making recommendations for practice.

Assessment tasks:

Report (First Sit)

Description: Epidemiological report (maximum 2000 words) on a health issue

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Report (Resit)

Description: Epidemiological report (maximum 2000 words) on a health issue

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Specialist Community Public Health Nursing (School Nursing) {Apprenticeship-UWE}
[Glenside] PGDip 2024-25

Specialist Community Public Health Nursing (Health Visiting) {Apprenticeship-UWE}
[Glenside] PGDip 2024-25

Specialist Community Public Health Nursing (Occupational Health Nursing)
{Apprenticeship-UWE} [Glenside] PGDip 2024-25