Health Impact Assessment
Training Series

sponsored by

Health Resources in Action

www.hria.org

Conference May 31, 2012
9:30am-4:30pm
Clark University- Worcester, MA

Final Webinar June 13th
10:00am-11:30am

Registration:
www.tinyurl.com/HIAeval

Questions: ascherb@hria.org
Exploring the Promise & Practice of Health Impact Assessments: Screening Webinar

Presented by Holly Avey, Ph.D., M.P.H.
May 9, 2012
SCREENING
SCOPING
ASSESSMENT
RECOMMENDATIONS
REPORTING
MONITORING & EVALUATION
HIA Screening Webinar Overview

• Basic yes/no screening questions
• Additional considerations
• Screening outputs
• Lessons learned
• Is this a good HIA?
• Screening tools
• Resources
• Strategies for identifying potential projects and partnerships
Basic Yes/No Screening Questions

• Is there a decision regarding a policy, plan, or project, currently under consideration whose outcomes are likely to impact health?
Basic Yes/No Screening Questions

• Does the decision-making process allow for input from an HIA?

Basic Yes/No Screening Questions

- Are health considerations currently explicitly a part of the discussion? Would the HIA bring new information to the decision-making process?
Basic Yes/No Screening Questions

• Can the HIA be completed within the timeline for the decision, and with the resources available?
  • Available staff
  • Available data
  • Time for development of partnerships/stakeholder support
What HIA is not . . . What HIA is

- HIA is not used **before** a policy, program, or project has even been considered.
  - It’s not used to make the case for why a policy, program or project should be proposed.

- HIA is not used **after** a policy, program, or project has been completed.
  - It’s not an assessment to understand the impacts of a program or policy once it has been implemented.

- HIA is used **during** a time when a proposed policy, program, or project is under active consideration.
  - It’s the sweet spot – it’s proactive!
Additional Considerations

• What is the likelihood that the HIA findings and recommendations will receive consideration by decision-makers?

• Are there other stakeholders who are willing and able to participate in the HIA?
Additional Considerations

- Does this HIA have the potential to increase partnerships, visibility, and support for future HIAs and other Health in All Policies efforts in your region?
Additional Considerations

• Is there the potential for different sub-groups within the community to be more adversely affected than others?
Has a group or organization requested an HIA on a particular decision?
Screening Outputs

• A description of the proposed policy, program, plan, or project that will be the focus of the HIA, including
  • the timeline for the decision
  • intervention points at which HIA information will be used
  • Who the decision-makers and key stakeholders are
• A statement of why the proposal was selected for screening.
• A preliminary opinion regarding the potential importance of the proposal for health
Screening Outputs

• The expected resource requirements of the HIA and the ability of the HIA team to meet them.

• A description of the political and policy context of the decision and an analysis of the opportunities to influence decision-making or otherwise make health-oriented changes.

• A screening recommendation:
  • no further action required
  • no HIA, but health advice and input to be offered in an alternative way
  • or proceed with HIA
Screening Process Example: Lessons Learned

Fort McPherson Zoning Blueprint:
There are discrete windows of opportunity for incorporating health considerations into redevelopment decision-making:

– design guidelines
– zoning
– developer’s agreement
Is This a Good HIA?:

Proposed plan to expand Children’s Health Insurance Program criteria

• Is there a decision currently under consideration that’s likely to impact health?
• Does the decision-making process allow for input?
• Is health part of the discussion? Would the HIA bring new information?
• Can the HIA be completed within the timeline, and with the resources available?
Is This a Good HIA?:
Proposed initiative by the mayor’s office to utilize unused green space for community gardens

• Is there a decision currently under consideration that’s likely to impact health?
• Does the decision-making process allow for input?
• Is health part of the discussion? Would the HIA bring new information?
• Can the HIA be completed within the timeline, and with the resources available?
Is This a Good HIA?:
Community development plan to recruit biodiesel industry to the area

• Is there a decision currently under consideration that’s likely to impact health?
• Does the decision-making process allow for input?
• Is health part of the discussion? Would the HIA bring new information?
• Can the HIA be completed within the timeline, and with the resources available?
Is This a Good HIA?:
Policy to fund scholarships to state universities through lottery funds

• Is there a decision currently under consideration that’s likely to impact health?
• Does the decision-making process allow for input?
• Is health part of the discussion? Would the HIA bring new information?
• Can the HIA be completed within the timeline, and with the resources available?
Screening Tools

Checklists
- New South Wales HIA Guide

Worksheets
- Human Impact Partners
- NNPHI worksheet

Matrices
- projects/criteria matrix
## New South Wales Checklist

### Appendix 1 continued: Screening Tool for Health Impact Assessment

#### 10. Checklist

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HEALTH IMPACTS</th>
<th>TO YOUR KNOWLEDGE</th>
<th>Answers favouring not doing a HIA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes / not sure</td>
<td>Does the initiative affect health directly?</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes / not sure</td>
<td>Does the initiative affect health indirectly?</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yes / not sure</td>
<td>Are there any potentially serious negative health impacts that you currently know of?</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yes / not sure</td>
<td>Is further investigation necessary because more information is required on the potential health impacts?</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>Are the potential health impacts well known and is it straightforward to suggest effective ways in which beneficial effects are maximised and harmful effects minimised?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>Are the potential health impacts identified judged to be minor?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMMUNITY</th>
<th>TO YOUR KNOWLEDGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes / not sure</td>
<td>Is the population affected by the initiative large?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Harris, P., Harris-Roxas, B., Harris, E., & Kemp, L. Health Impact Assessment: A Practical Guide, Sydney: Centre for Health Equity Training, Research and Evaluation (CHETRE). Part of the UNSW Research Centre for Primary Health Care and Equity, UNSW.
### HIA Screening/Scoping Checklist (UCLA)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Biophysical environment</th>
<th>Potentially significant impact</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>HIA Screening Checklist of Health Determinants</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>(UCLA Health Impact Assessment Project, April 2002)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Housing conditions</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Fire, building safety</td>
<td>1 2 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Security</td>
<td>1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sanitation</td>
<td>1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indoor air quality (including radon)</td>
<td>1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asbestos</td>
<td>1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead</td>
<td>1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crowding</td>
<td>1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affordability and access</td>
<td>1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Working conditions (includes psychosocial factors)</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Structural safety (including fire, earthquake, etc)</td>
<td>1 2 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Likelihood of impact? (1) no/unlikely (2) possible (3) likely
Likely magnitude of impact? (1) low (2) medium (3) high*
# Screening Worksheet

## HIA Screening Worksheet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Screening Questions</th>
<th>Response and Supporting Facts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Project and Timing</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Has a project, plan or policy been proposed?</td>
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<td>Is there sufficient time to conduct an analysis before the final decision is made?</td>
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<td><strong>Health Impacts</strong></td>
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<td>Does the decision have the potential to affect environmental or social determinants</td>
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<td>that impact health outcomes? If so, which determinants and which health outcomes?</td>
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<td>Would health inequities be impacted? In what ways?</td>
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Screening Worksheet

HIA Screening Worksheet

Screening determines whether the HIA is likely to provide useful information for decision-makers and improve the health impacts of the outcome. This worksheet contains basic issues that should be considered when screening potential subjects for HIA. Brief answers to these questions will help organizations determine whether to proceed with an HIA on a particular subject, and also help inform the scoping phase of the HIA. This form should take approximately 30-60 minutes to complete.

1. What proposed policy, program or project currently under active consideration by a decision-making body--such as a local, state, regional or tribal agency or legislature--will your HIA inform?
### Screening Matrix

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CRITERIA</th>
<th>Timeliness</th>
<th>Policy Impact</th>
<th>Sustainable</th>
<th>Diversity</th>
<th>Technical Capacity Building</th>
<th>Replicability</th>
<th>Alignment/Innovation</th>
<th>Community Engagement</th>
<th>Stakeholder Support</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TOD project</td>
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<td>Milwaukee light rail</td>
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<td>Neighborhood planning (SE 122nd?)</td>
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<td>Road infrastructure</td>
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<td>VMT Policies</td>
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<td>Parking fees</td>
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<td>Transportation funding</td>
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Oregon Public Health Institute
Resources

• National Research Council (2011) *Improving Health in the United States: The Role of Health Impact Assessment*


  – *Both available from the Health Impact Project’s website: www.healthimpactproject.org/resources#toolkits*
Identifying Potential Projects and Partnerships

- Meetings with multi-sectoral partners
- Identify and cultivate champions in different sectors
- Policy scans based on upcoming agendas, community input, or known health issues
- Local or regional conferences
- HIA workgroup or networks
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