



# Introduction to Community Health Nursing

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# Outlines

- **Definition of Community, Community Health , Community Health Nursing**
- **Features of a Community**
- **Objectives of Community Health Nursing**
- **Role of Community Health Nursing**

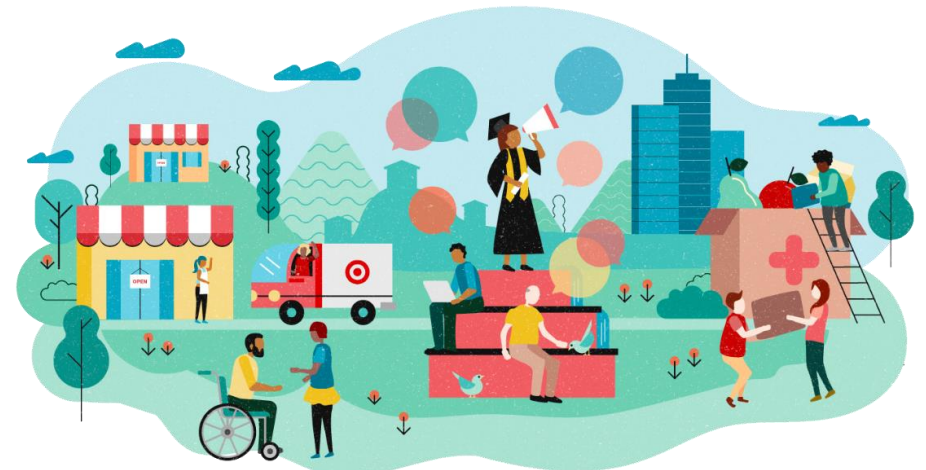


# Community Health Nursing





- The **communities** in which we live and work have a profound influence on our collective health and well-being. (Example: both smoking and passive exposure to tobacco smoke are directly associated with serious negative health effects )
- The health of a community is more than the sum of the health of its individual citizens.





# Community

Traditionally, a community has been thought of as a geographic area with specific boundaries for example, a neighborhood, city, county, or state.

However, in the context of community health, a community is **“a group of people who have common characteristics ; communities can be defined by location, race, ethnicity, age, occupation, interest in particular problems or outcomes, or common bonds.”**



## Features of a Community

A community has three features, location, population and social system.

**1. Location:** every physical community carries out its daily existence in a specific geographical location. The health of the community is affected by this location, including the placement of the service, the geographical features...



# Features of a Community

A community has three features, location, population and social system.

**2.Population:** consists of specialized aggregates, but all of the diversified people who live with in the boundary of the community.



# Features of a Community

A community has three features, location, population and social system.

**3.Social system:** the various parts of communities' social system that interact and include the health system, family system, economic system and educational system.





## Community Health

Community health refers to the health status of a defined group of people and the actions and conditions, both private and public (governmental), to promote, protect, and preserve their health.

For example, the health status of the people of SHAQLAWA , and the private and public actions taken to promote, protect, and preserve the health of these people , would constitute community health.

According to CEA, Winslow (1920), **Community health** is the science and art of preventing disease, prolonging life and promoting health and efficiency through organized efforts for:

1. The sanitation of the environment.
2. The control of communicable diseases.
3. The education of the individual through personal hygiene.
4. Early diagnosis and preventive care of disease.
5. The development of social machinery so as to enable every citizen to realize his/her birth right of health and longevity, to ensure every individual a standard of living, adequate enough for the maintenance of good health.



# Population health

Population health refers to the health status of people who are not organized and have no identity as a group or locality and the actions and conditions to promote, protect, and preserve their health.

Men under fifty, adolescents, prisoners, and white collar workers are all examples of populations

# Public Health

Public health refers to the health status of a defined group of people and the governmental actions and conditions to promote, protect, and preserve their health.





## Personal Health Activities

Personal health activities are individual actions and decision making that affect the health of an individual or his or her immediate family members. These activities may be preventive or curative in nature but seldom directly affect the behavior of others. Choosing to eat wisely, to regularly wear a safety belt, and to visit the physician are all examples of personal health activities.



# Community Health Activities

Community health activities are activities that are aimed at protecting or improving the health of a population or community.

Maintenance of accurate birth and death records, protection of the food and water supply, and participating in fund drives for voluntary health organizations such as the American Lung Association are examples of community health activities.



# Community Health Nursing

**Community health nursing** can be defined as the practice of promoting and protecting the health of populations by using knowledge from nursing, social and public health sciences.

**Community health nursing** described as population focused, community-oriented nursing practice that emphasizes the prevention of disease and disability.



# Community Health Nursing

Community health nursing refers to professional nursing practice with an emphasis on health promotion, health maintenance, primary prevention, health education and management, coordination of health care services, and continuity of care for individuals, families, and groups in the community.





## History of Community Health Nursing

In 1920s, community health nursing recognized the relationship between health and economic security and began to assume responsibility for community health. All states and most of large cities had health departments with the majority of the staff being community health nurses. During the period, community health nursing assumed a leadership role in establishing standards for nursing practice. During the early decades of the 20th century, the scope of community health nursing included disease prevention, health promotion and family-oriented services.



# Objectives of Community Health Nursing

1. increase the average span of human life.
2. To decrease the infant and maternal mortality rate.
3. To decrease morbidity rates.
4. To increase the physical, mental and social well-being of individual.
5. To increase the pace of adjustment of the individual to his environment.
6. To provide positive health to the mankind through quality c



# Role of Community Health Nursing

**Community health nursing plays a vital role in promoting and protecting the health of populations.**

- **Health Promotion and Education:** Community health nurses educate individuals and groups about health issues, healthy lifestyles, disease prevention, and available healthcare resources.
- **Disease Prevention:** They implement programs and strategies to prevent the spread of diseases, including vaccination drives, screening programs, and health fairs.



- **Assessment and Surveillance:** Community health nurses assess the health needs of the community through data collection and analysis, identifying trends and potential health threats.
- **Advocacy:** They advocate for policies that improve community health and access to care, ensuring that vulnerable populations receive necessary resources.
- **Care Coordination:** They coordinate care for individuals and families, linking them to necessary services, including mental health, substance abuse, and social services.
- **Crisis Intervention:** In times of public health emergencies, community health nurses respond to crises, providing immediate care and guidance to affected populations.



- **Collaboration:** They work with other healthcare professionals, community organizations, and stakeholders to address health disparities and improve health outcomes.
- **Cultural Competence:** Community health nurses recognize and respect cultural differences, tailoring health interventions to meet the diverse needs of the community.
- **Research and Evaluation:** They engage in research to evaluate the effectiveness of health programs and interventions, helping to inform future practices.

