‘Health in all Policies’ in Action
Health impact assessment (HIA) and the analysis of residential development projects to promote safe and active travel

CPHA annual conference, Toronto

Pre-conference | May 26, 2014

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National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy (NCCHPP)

Our mandate

- Support public health actors in their efforts to promote healthy public policies

Our areas of expertise

- The effects of public policies on health
- Generating and using knowledge about policies
- Intersectoral actors and mechanisms
- Strategies to influence policy making
To learn more:

http://hcbd-clasp.com/
Objectives of the pre-conference

Morning session:
Participants will have a better understanding of how HIA practice can support policy makers in the formulation of healthy public policy.

Afternoon session:
At the end of the workshop, participants will be able to analyze residential development proposals and formulate specific and politically strategic recommendations to foster safe active travel.
What is health impact assessment?

Julie Castonguay and Louise St-Pierre
National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy
What is HIA

Applying a health lens to a policy or project developed for reasons other than health
Main features:
1. A broad perspective on health determinants

Main features:
2. A prospective assessment

Policy cycle

Emergence
Agenda setting
Formulation
Decision making
Implementation
Evaluation

HIA

Main features:

3. Based on shared values and principles

- *Democracy*
- *Equity*
- *Sustainable Development*
- *Ethical use of evidence*

Gothenburg Consensus
ECHP, 1999.
Main features:

4. Using a standardized process

- Screening
- Scoping
- Appraisal
- Recommendations
- Evaluation
Main features:

5. On policy / project outside of the health sector

- Respiratory diseases
- Housing
- Inequalities
- Employment
- Trauma
- Physical activity
- Obesity

Policy proposal
Main features:
5. On policy / project outside of the health sector

- A municipal compost plant in Montérégie, QC.
- A municipal social development policy in Pincourt, QC.
- Expansion of Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport, ON.
- Shared Space Model for Sudbury Community Service, ON.
- A tourism development project in rural Switzerland.
- A farmer’s market in New Jersey, USA.
- Local procurement policy for school cafeterias in Oregon, USA.
What HIA is not

• An epidemiological study

• A subjective piece to prove a point

• A Human Health Risk Assessment only

• A retrospective policy or program evaluation
Various models of HIA

Based on Harris-Roxas and Harris (2011).

Mandated
Within Environmental Impact Assessment

Scientific report
Public health duty

Decision support
On a voluntary basis

Advocacy
To support a point of view

Community led
To bring community voice

Scientific data - Contextual data

Quantitative - Qualitative
A structured process

1. Screening
2. Scoping
3. Appraisal
4. Reporting
5. Evaluation & Monitoring
Many HIA Guides –
Public and Private Sectors
Example: A new highway in Sweden

- New path for a section of a highway
- Improvements in terms of security
- New path would cut through a National Park

Screening

• Determinants that could be impacted:
  – Healthy environments
    (7 environmental quality objectives)
    • Limited influence on climate, clean air, non-toxic environment, lakes and streams, groundwater, forest, built environment.
  – Safe environment (injuries)
  – Increased physical activity
Screening

- Priority Groups:
  - Children
  - Professionals (commuters; particular interest with respect to women)
  - Older people
  - Chronically ill/hypersensitive
  - Persons with disabilities
  - Special stakeholder groups: hunters and horseback riders
Scoping

Stakeholders in the HIA:

Steering group:
- Swedish National Institute for Public Health
- Swedish Road Administration
- Municipality of Nynäshamn

Project group

Reference group:
All of the above, plus: Stockholm County Administrative Board, Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions, etc...
Scoping: Logic model

Easier access to park with **public transportation** because of direct connection with major road

Increased physical activity for persons without cars

Improved physical health and mental health / Improvement in health equity

Laying out your hypothesis as to how the project is linked to health impacts.
Appraisal

Health Matrix:
- ↑ for all priority groups for traffic safety
- ↑ for all priority groups for environmental health impacts
- ↓ for “Sustainable forest” for all priority groups
- ↓ of “Scope for recreation” for hunters and horseback riders
- ↑ for increased physical activity for all groups, especially children and persons with disabilities
Recommendations

Recommendations on how to minimize the negative health impacts and maximize the positive health impacts.

A very clear report, intended for the policy maker, but accessible for a broad public:

http://www.folkhalsomyndigheten.se/pagfiles/12096/r200542_Health_impact.pdf
Evaluation and Monitoring

– New path was chosen, and many of the recommendations have been implemented.
– HIA had a direct influence on this decision

Effectiveness in influencing decision-making

• Direct effectiveness: 66%
• General effectiveness: 23%
• Opportunistic use: 6%
• No effectiveness: 6%

Source: Haig et al. (2013). N=54 HIAs in Australia and New-Zealand.

Other effects

• Changing the way of thinking and working: eye-opener, intersectoral collaborations, and more.

• Allows one to develop new knowledge related to HIA: on the policy-making process, on health impacts, and more.

• Allows one to develop technical skills.

Exercise: the screening step
# Screening Grid

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Determinants</th>
<th>Yes Negative</th>
<th>Yes Positive</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Affected Populations</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Economic development</td>
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<td>Job creation</td>
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<td>Working conditions</td>
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<td>Distribution of wealth</td>
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<td>Food security</td>
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<td>Access to healthy and nutritious food</td>
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<td>choices</td>
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<td>Transport of goods and people</td>
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<td>Active transport</td>
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<td>Road safety</td>
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<td>Education</td>
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Instructions

1. The objective of HIA is not to either approve or turn down the project.

2. The objective is to make recommendations on how to improve the project with respect to its impact on health and health equity.

3. Screening is fundamental in choosing your priorities for further analysis.

4. What 4 determinants of health would be your priorities for further analysis?
Screening

Plan the logistics of the process

Scoping

Draw a logic model to make explicit the links between the project and the health of the population

Appraisal

Draw a community profile
Collect and analyze data to verify hypothesis in logic model

Reporting

Formulate recommendations on how to improve the project with respect to health

Evaluation & Monitoring

HIA as a knowledge-sharing experience
Scoping exercise

LOGIC FRAMEWORK

- Characteristics of the proposal
- Proximal Effects (Directs results from the proposal)
- Intermediate Impacts (Health Determinants)
- Health Impacts (Repercussions on health)

A new section of the highway that cuts through a national park → Easier access to park with public transportation because of direct connection with major road → Increased physical activity for persons without cars → Improved physical health and mental health / Improvement in health equity

Centre de collaboration nationale sur les politiques publiques et la santé
National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy
Québec
Screening

Scoping

Appraisal

Reporting

Evaluation & Monitoring

- Draw a community profile
- Collect and analyze data to verify hypothesis in logic model
- Formulate recommendations on how to **improve** the project with respect to health
- HIA as a knowledge-sharing experience
HIA Resources
For more examples...

- **Human Impact Partners**: [http://www.humanimpact.org/projects](http://www.humanimpact.org/projects)
- **The Society of Practitioners of HIA (SOPHIA) / Model HIA reports**: [http://hiasociety.org/?page_id=57](http://hiasociety.org/?page_id=57)
HIA guides and tools

HIA: GUIDES & TOOLS

HIA: INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

http://www.ncchpp.ca/54/Health_Impact_Assessment.ccnpps
HIA publications by NCCHPP

See the Annotated Bibliography on USB key

Or visit our website:

http://www.ncchpp.ca/
NCCHPP HIA online courses

HIA Step by Step
Continuing Education
12-hour course
Fall 2014

Introduction to HIA
University (Master’s-level)
45-hour course
May-June 2015

For more information
http://www.ncchpp.ca/274/Online_Course.ccnpps
Key HIA References (1/3)


Key HIA References (3/3)


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