Engaging Local Public Health System Partners: Hospitals

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Learning Objectives

1. Discuss key reasons to consider partnering with a non-profit hospital(s) and other hospitals in the community health improvement process

2. Explain opportunities for involving hospital partners throughout the entire community health improvement process

3. Describe at least three common challenges to sustained engagement of hospital partners and ways these can be prevented or overcome
Let’s begin with you.

What are some reasons you already are partnering (or might want to)?

- By and large, they serve the population you serve
- They are/will be conducting CHNAs in any case
- Lots of valuable data (and knowledge) complementary to public health’s own
- Potential economies of scale on assessment costs & effort
- Potential voluntary coordination on priority-setting
- Potential voluntary coordination on plans and actions
Opportunities to Partner: Points in the Process

| Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP) and its Community Health Status Assessment (CHSA) | ACHI Community Health Assessment Toolkit |

Discussion of opportunities to engage with hospitals at each step along the way.

- Tailor your approach to meet each party’s needs in your case.

Note: Six step process is from ACHI Community Health Assessment Toolkit.
Potential Partnering Challenges and Solutions

Again, let’s begin with you.

**What are some challenges you have faced or may be anticipating in partnering with hospitals?**

Potential Partnering Challenges and Solutions

- Aligning assessments’ frequency and time cycle
- Differing communities, geographies and populations
  - “jurisdiction,” “primary/secondary service area” and other terms
- Decisions regarding the scope of an assessment
  - What range of topics and indicators? *(public health, health care, health behaviors, social determinants, etc.)*
- Choice of a shared assessment approach or model
- Differing reporting needs and audiences

Maximize the value of your respective characteristics and complementary strengths
A Few Resources and Examples

- Hospital-based community health assessment guides:
  - ACHI Community Health Assessment Toolkit: [www.asessstoolkit.org](http://www.asessstoolkit.org)

- Hospital-based community assessment capacity (examples)
  - Orange County Health Needs Assessment: [www.ochna.org](http://www.ochna.org)
  - Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio: [www.hcno.org/health_assess.htm](http://www.hcno.org/health_assess.htm)
  - Dallas-Fort Worth Hospital Council: [www.dfwhc.org/about-needs.html](http://www.dfwhc.org/about-needs.html)

Discussion