

# EPIDEMIOLOGY AND HEALTH GOALS

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## Four Topics

- Need for a framework
- Relevance of the policy cycle
- Need for extensive consultation
- Relationship between national and local health goals

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## A Framework for Health Goals

Focus of Goals	Level of Goals			
	Broad Goals	Sub-goals	Objectives	Targets
Equity	1	3		
Outcomes	2	12		
Determinants	3	15		
Strategies	1	11		

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## Policy Cycle

1. Assessment of population health
2. Assessment of potential interventions
3. Policy choices
4. Policy implementation
5. Policy evaluation

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### 1. Assessment of population health

- Identify priority topics for health goal development
- Provide baseline measures
- Make projections of future health status

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### 2. Assessment of potential interventions

- Identify and assess appropriate strategies for achieving goals

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### 3. Policy choices

- Predict health impact of achievement of possible goals
  - Projections
  - Disease modeling
- Help to select goals

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### 4. Policy implementation

- Identify appropriate health indicators
- Suggest appropriate targets

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### 5. Policy evaluation

- Monitor progress towards achievement of goals

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### Need for Wide Consultation

- Obtain “buy-in” (commitment)
- Protect from political change
- Increase visibility of health issues

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### National and Local Goals

- Top-down vs bottom-up
- Need for broad consultation
- Higher level must support implementation, e.g., through resource allocation

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