

Module 7: Public Health
Topic 1 Content: Specialized Health Agencies Notes

Introduction

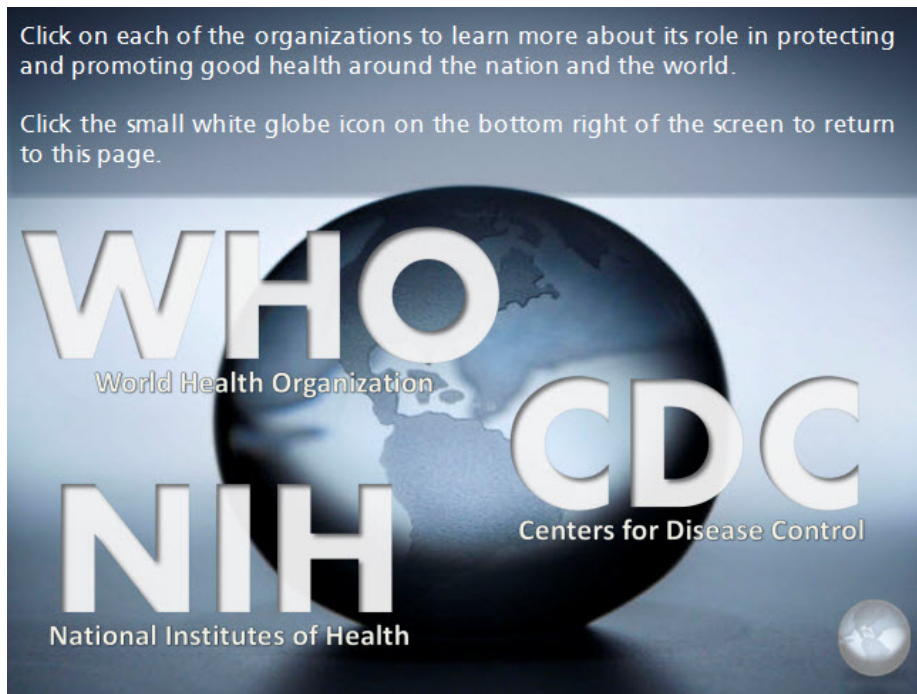


Specialized Health Agencies

Click **NEXT** to begin.

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Instructions



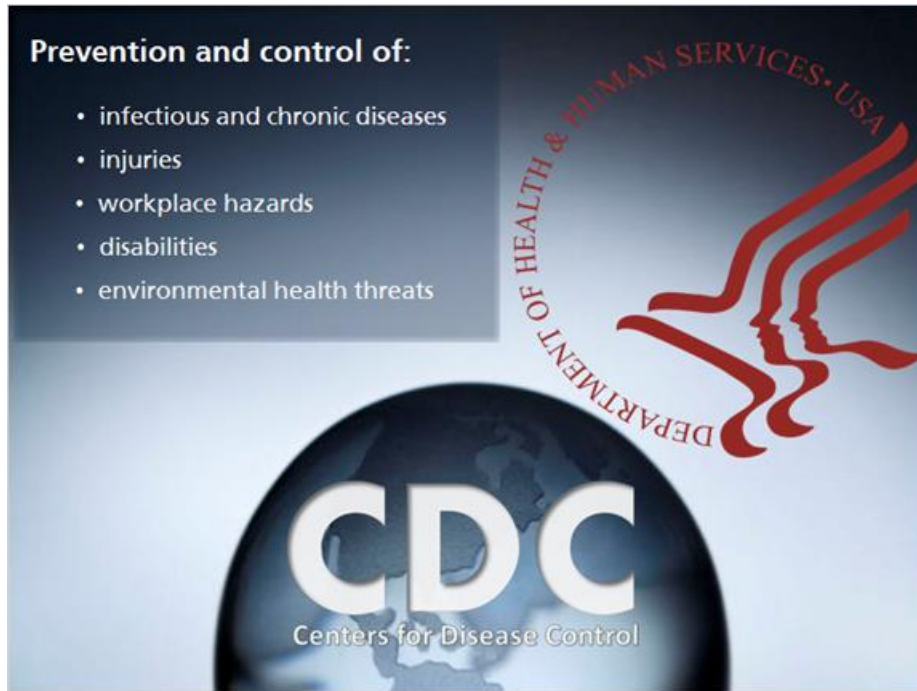
Click on each of the organizations to learn more about its role in protecting and promoting good health around the nation and the world.

Click the small white globe icon on the bottom right of the screen to return to this page.

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Centers for Disease Control

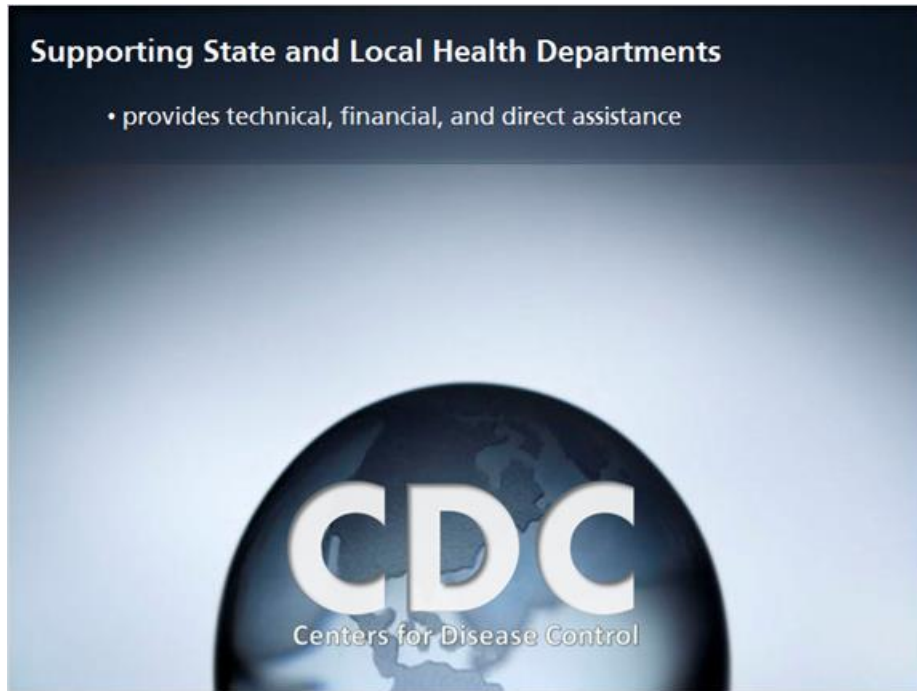


The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, or CDC, is a major organization that operates under the control of the United States Department of Health and Human Services. The CDC works to protect the United States from threats to public health. The public health efforts of this government agency include the prevention and control of infectious and chronic diseases, injuries, workplace hazards, disabilities, and environmental health threats.

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Supporting State and Local Health Departments



It is important that all public health organizations work together in order to protect public health. All data and information collected by the CDC and state and local health departments are shared to address all social issues of health. The CDC works with state and local health departments by providing technical, financial, and direct assistance to support the nation's public health efforts.

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Improving Global Health



Protecting public health is not only important in our nation, but also around the world. The CDC develops programs that promote public health worldwide. They work with other worldwide organizations to help reduce the incidence of disease, strengthen global disease detection, and improve water supplies and sanitation.

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Implementing Measures to Decrease Leading Causes of Death




Over time, the leading causes of death have moved from communicable diseases to chronic diseases. Chronic diseases, such as diabetes, heart disease, and obesity, are all conditions that can be prevented. The CDC uses science-based programs to address the leading causes of death by improving the prevention and treatment of chronic diseases.

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Strengthening Surveillance and Epidemiology

Strengthening Surveillance and Epidemiology

- collects, analyzes, and interprets data
- plans, implements, and evaluates public health programs

Epidemiology – a branch of medical science that deals with the incidence, distribution, and control of disease in a population.



Epidemiology is a branch of medical science that deals with the incidence, distribution, and control of disease in a population. The CDC systematically collects, analyzes, and interprets data in an ongoing way to foster the planning, implementation, and evaluation of public health programs.

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Reforming Health Policies

Reforming Health Policies

- monitors legislation and its potential impacts on public health entities

The image shows a slide with a dark blue background. At the top, the title "Reforming Health Policies" is written in white. Below it, a bullet point states "• monitors legislation and its potential impacts on public health entities". The central part of the slide features a large, semi-circular globe with the letters "CDC" in white, bold font overlaid on it. Below the globe, the text "Centers for Disease Control" is written in a smaller, white font. To the left of the globe, there is a blue rectangular button with rounded corners containing the text "Visit the CDC website" in white. To the right of the globe, there is a small, white globe icon.

The CDC closely monitors legislation and potential impacts on public health entities. Take some time to visit the Centers for Disease Control website by clicking the link shown.

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World Health Organization (WHO)



The World Health Organization is part of the United Nations, an international organization that was founded after World War II by fifty-one countries. Now the U.N. is composed of representatives from nearly 200 countries, committed to maintaining international peace and security, developing friendly relations among nations, and promoting social progress, better living standards, and human rights.

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Global Leadership



The World Health Organization is responsible for public health on a global level. It provides leadership on matters critical to health, including the production of health guidelines and standards, helping countries address public health issues, and the promotion and support of health research. Take some time to visit the World Health Organization website by clicking the link shown.

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National Institutes of Health



The National Institutes of Health operates under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The primary function of the NIH is to conduct medical research to improve the overall level of health in the United States. The NIH is the largest source of funding for medical research in the world. Through the research of the NIH, Americans are living longer and healthier lives.

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Research and Technology

A graphic with a dark blue background. At the top, the text "Research and Technology" is written in white. Below it, two bullet points are listed: "• cancer diagnoses and deaths have fallen" and "• development of MRI". Underneath the bullet points, the text "Better understanding of:" is followed by three bullet points: "• how viruses can cause cancer", "• cholesterol control", and "• brain processes visual information". At the bottom of the graphic, a globe is shown with the letters "NIH" in large white font over it, and "National Institutes of Health" written in smaller white font below the letters.

Research and Technology

- cancer diagnoses and deaths have fallen
- development of MRI

Better understanding of:

- how viruses can cause cancer
- cholesterol control
- brain processes visual information

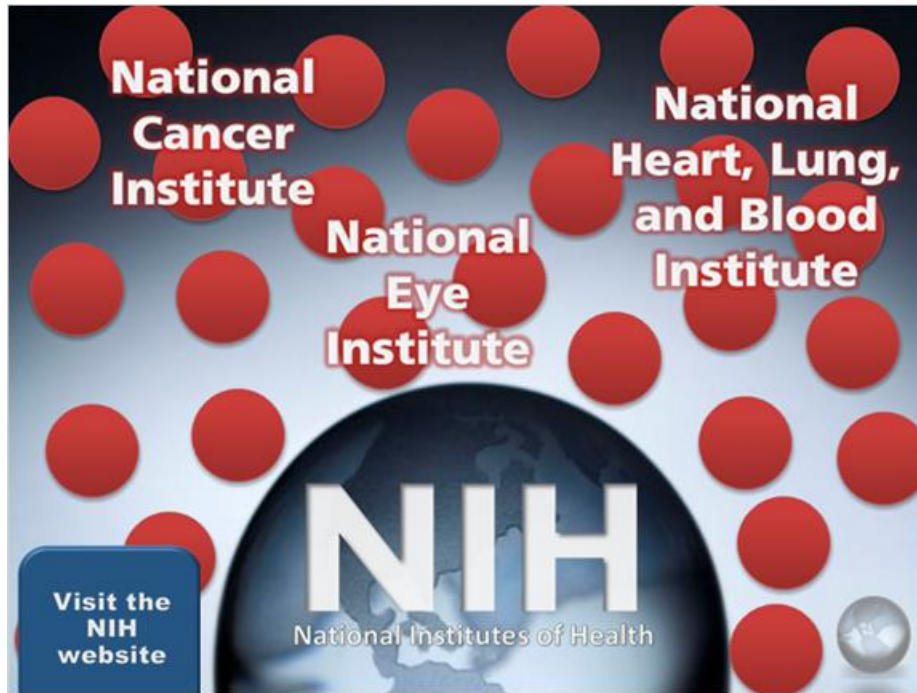
NIH
National Institutes of Health

Nationwide rates of new cancer diagnoses and cancer-related deaths have declined in recent years, in large part because of the medical research that brought awareness to prevention and treatments of these diseases. The research of the NIH has led to the development of magnetic resonance imaging, or MRI, which is used to produce extremely detailed images of organs and structures inside the body. The research conducted by the NIH has also helped promote an understanding of how viruses can cause cancer, insight into cholesterol control, and knowledge of how the brain processes visual information.

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National Institutes of Health



The NIH has twenty-seven institutes and centers, each having its own research focus, such as the National Cancer Institute; National Eye Institute; and the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute. Take some time to visit the National Institutes of Health website by clicking the link shown.