

F. Douglas Scutchfield, MD
Bosomworth Professor
University of Kentucky

Yale PHSSR Research Conference
June 10-12 2008

Issues and Challenges Facing the
Field of PHSSR

Things We Have Got to Fix in PHSSR

- Research Workforce and Training Support
- Data
- Methods
- Links to Policy
- Links to Practice
- Research Imperative
- Funding

Workforce and Training Support

- Centers of Excellence & Institutional Commitment
- Don't reinvent the wheel, use NIH and AHRQ training support mechanisms, F 32, K01, K02 awards
- Mentored awards with protected time, K30
- Where are the major professors and mentors
- How well do our senior folks mentor young investigators
- Who provides the training support, CDC, NIH, AHRQ, HRSA, RWJ

Data

- Data Harmonization
- The Public Health MOS
- Limited sets of data, surveys, performance measures, ARF, Medicare and Medicaid data
- Lack of support for more extensive data collections
- What data do we collect, where are the public Health HEDIS or Preventable Hospitalizations, QI measures, CAHPS
- Data repository, cleaning, linking, maintenance/archiving and assistance to data users

Methods

- Logic models
- Do current research methods lend themselves to our questions and issues?
- What are the methods that will allow us to maximally utilize our existing data sets?
- As new data comes on line, how are we best to analyze it?
- What methods of analysis lend themselves to practice and policy interventions?

Links to Policy

- What do policy makers want or need to know about PH?
- How do we package and present the information for maximal impact?
- How do we populate policy circles with our people (Who is the PH Stu Altman)?
- How do we create “just in time” policy research?
- How do we develop the relationships of PH policy makers, practitioners and researchers?

Links to Practice

- Where are the receptor sites in the practice organizations, health departments?
- How do we best link the research with those receptor sites?
- How do we get the questions that need attention from practice colleagues, help in how to package and present those ideas?
- How do we get practice sites to serve a research sites for PHSSR, feed back, CBPR?

Research Imperative

- HP2020 infrastructure chapter
- Legislative/Regulatory language; federal, state
- NGA, NCSL, NACO linkages and agendas
- Linkage to new program or initiatives, regulation; Preparedness and PHSR
- PHSSR and categorical programs

Funding

- Who
- For What
- How much
- Funding driving agenda not issues and problems from practice or policy
- Disease of the month club
- Categorical program linkage to infrastructure development and use of categorical funding to answer larger questions.

Questions?



University of Kentucky College of Public Health

Scutch@uky.edu

www.publichealthsystems.org