

Commission for Environmental Cooperation  
Expert Advisory Board on  
Children's Health and the Environment

Education and Training for  
Health Care Professionals  
Meeting Summary and Next Steps

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# Training providers of children's environmental health

1. Researchers – evidence based science/ prevention
2. Clinicians – identify, investigate, treat
3. Educators – HCP, families, communities, policy makers
4. Advocacy – policy makers – effect protection/ prevention

# What we have

1. Undergraduate programs – little/no – children's environmental health
2. Postgraduate – nursing masters – some
  - medical residency – some
  - paediatric fellowship – some
3. Research training – some
4. Continuing medical/nursing education – some
  - conferences
  - workshops at regional conferences

# How do we broaden the scope ?

1. Identify and involve instit<sup>s</sup>
  - medical and nursing schools
  - social work
  - pharmacy
  - traditional doctors
  - student organizations
2. Support presentation workshops – National Meetings
3. Influence competency bodies

# How do we increase the depth?

1. Promote education in research  
(preventative)
2. Promote fellowship programs
3. Develop models for specific vulnerable  
groups

# Influence the providers

1. Increase awareness
  - media
  - articles in CEH journals
2. Champions
  - identify, educate, support
  - universities and communities

# What we need to effect change

1. Societal Pressure
2. Partners
  - i. Universities – curriculum committees
    - deans, associate deans
    - exam question committees
  - ii. Medical/nursing school accreditation bodies
3. Funding – champions to educate and advocate
  - i. Heads of departments
  - ii. PEHSUS
  - iii. Research education training
4. Health care education experts?

# Opportunities and partners

1. PEHSUSs
2. Education materials – IJC
3. Health and Environment Government Ministries
4. Paediatric organizations eg. AAP
5. Medical schools with successful environmental health programs
6. Community scholars/champions
7. Research training program – Cincinnati
8. ? WHO ? PAHO ? UNEP
9. Public health sciences research programs – cross country partnerships



# Role of Expert Advisory Board and CEC

1. Maximize "high profile" force
  - media
  - articles in professional journals  
(emphasize the need for HCP education)
2. Convene high level meeting – key players
  - government
  - medical/nursing school accreditation bodies
  - associate deans/ curriculum change drivers
  - research organizations/ promoters/ educators
  - medical/ nursing associations
    - public health, paediatric, family practice

# Role of Expert Advisory Board and CEC (continued)

3. Act as a conduit for communication and information with partners
4. Support programs that show outcome evidence
5. Advise Council of issues and progress

# Decision

1. Broaden Scope
  - Pre-contemplative stage
2. Increase Depth
  - contemplative stage

## Plan/ Package

1. Needs to be attractive, appealing
2. Long term objectives
  - economic
  - health
  - societal
3. Continuing outcome evaluation with appropriate means for ongoing revisions
  - to partners, funders, users
4. Reduce inequalities between the three countries