





	<h1>Strengthening the EH System</h1>
	<h2>through Performance Standards</h2> <p>Patrick O. Bohan, Ph.D., MS, MSEH, R.S. Assistant Professor East Central University Ada, OK</p>

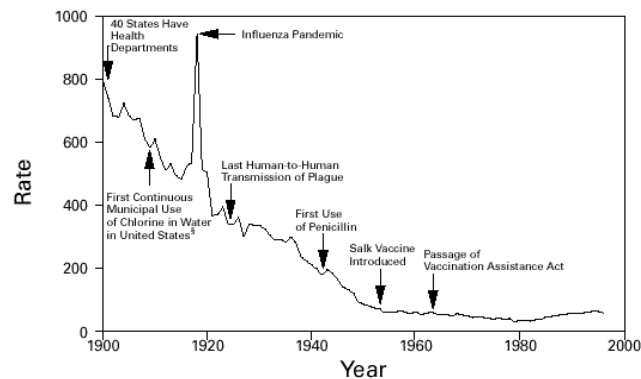
	<h1>Environmental Health</h1>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Our roots■ Where we are■ Where we need to be

	<h2 style="text-align: center;">Definition</h2>
	<p>“the art and science of <i>protecting</i> against environmental factors that may adversely impact <i>human health</i> or the <i>ecological balances</i> essential to long-term human health and environmental quality, whether in the natural or human-made environment”.</p> <p>Committee on the Future of Environmental Health. "The Future of Environmental Health: Part two," <i>Journal of Environmental Health</i> 55 (1993): 42-45.</p>

	<h2 style="text-align: center;">Roots of Environmental Health</h2>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Sanitary movement of the late 19th century ■ Germ theory of disease <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: flex-start;">     </div>

Roots of Environmental Health

FIGURE 1. Crude death rate* for infectious diseases — United States, 1900–1996†



*Per 100,000 population per year.

†Adapted from Armstrong GL, Conn LA, Pinner RW. Trends in infectious disease mortality in the United States during the 20th century. JAMA 1999;281:61-6.

‡American Water Works Association. Water chlorination principles and practices: AWWA manual M20. Denver, Colorado: American Water Works Association, 1973.

Roots of Environmental Health

- What accounted for this dramatic reduction of morbidity and mortality?



Impact

- Inspections became customary
 - Quotas
 - Used to evaluate staff
- Limited workforce preparation
- Focus on infectious diseases
- EPA and fragmentation





Where We Are



	<h2>Where We Are</h2>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Emphasis on enforcement not prevention■ Emerging environmental health problems■ Disconnection between health and environment

	<h2>Where We Are</h2>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Measure the number of activities■ What is accomplished by doing inspections?■ Seen as a bunch of inspectors■ Lost sense of purpose?

	<h2>Where We Need to Be</h2>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Assessment, policy development, and assurance apply to environmental public health■ Capacity to<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Anticipate– Recognize– Evaluate– Control

	<h2>Where We Need to Be</h2>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Prepare for the challenges facing EH■ Need a clear description of what we do in EH■ Essential Services

	<h2>Where We Need to Be</h2>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Nationally<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Build consistency– Build capacity– Build accountability■ NPHPS■ National Environmental Public Health Performance Standards project

	<h2>Value</h2>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Provides a clear sense of purpose to the work■ Elevates the perception of us to a complete and comprehensive public health program■ Can assist with budget justification

	Value
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Can be applied to a system or specific program■ Orient new and existing staff

	Challenges to Implementation
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Resources■ Data■ Leadership■ Vision■ Management support■ Leadership■ Know how

