

Welcome. This module focuses on the last step in the HIA process, evaluation. Evaluation is often ignored or forgotten as the project draws to an end. However, without evaluation we cannot learn how to conduct better HIAs in the future nor can you determine how successful your HIA was.

Introduce the module by stating the goal.

To understand the value of conducting three different types of evaluations

Review the module objectives.

The objectives for this evaluation module include:

- Define the three types of HIA evaluations
- Describe the benefits of each of each type evaluation (process, impact and outcome)
- Describe the problems associated with conducting these evaluations

Benefits of HIA Evaluation

- Improve the HIA process
- Modify future procedures or models
- Assess the accuracy of predictions made during appraisal



Discuss the benefits of HIA evaluation.

Evaluation can improve the HIA process by showing what changes can be made in future HIAs and how to modify current HIAs. In addition, the evaluation can provide feedback on successes and challenges and support practitioners in assessing whether the HIA met the standards the team set.

HIA evaluations can also support healthier public policy decisions and build better understanding of the value and worth of HIA. It can demonstrate how more health conscious decisions can be made as well as generate institutional commitment to additional HIAs.

Some of the things that we have learned from conducting HIAs include:

- 1) It's best to be in close geographic proximity to the project being examined
- 2) Outreach to all interested stakeholders and identification of key decision makers are crucial to the success of the HIA
- 3) Quantitative models can quickly become outdated as new information is available - especially in rapidly growing fields
- 4) HIA is a political process and there will likely be institutional constraints that will need to be identified and addressed
- 5) The gold standard, outcome evaluation is often possible only when the data are already being collected for the identified health outcomes
- 6) Timing of HIA recommendations is key in implementation

Three Types of HIA Evaluation

- Process evaluation
 - Evaluates the process of completing the HIA
- Impact evaluation
 - Evaluates the effect the HIA had on the decision making process
- Outcome evaluation
 - Evaluates whether the predicted health outcomes were correct or not

Introduce the three types of HIA evaluation

Evaluation is an important part of HIA as it helps refine the methods, approaches and techniques being used. Evaluation will provide information of value for both your HIA as well as provide helpful information to the wider HIA community. Evaluation provides information about improving practice and identifying how future HIAs could be fine-tuned and modified to increase their impact.

There are three types of HIA evaluations. These include:

- *Process evaluation*

- *Evaluates the process of completing the HIA*

- *Impact evaluation*

- *Evaluates the effect the HIA had on the decision making process*

- *Outcome evaluation*

- *Evaluates whether the predicted health outcomes were correct or not*

Process Evaluation Questions

- How was the HIA undertaken with regard to time, place and population?
- What resources were used and what was the cost?
- How were recommendations formulated and prioritized?
- How and when were the recommendations delivered to decision makers?
- What did those involved in the HIA think of the process?



Review process evaluation questions.

Process evaluation assesses how the HIA was carried out, who was involved, and how smoothly the assessment proceeded.

Some questions a process evaluation will answer include:

- *How was the HIA undertaken with regard to time, place and population?*
- *What resources were used and what was the cost?*
- *How were recommendations formulated and prioritized?*
- *How and when were the recommendations delivered to decision makers?*
- *What did those involved in the HIA think of the process?*

Impact Evaluation Questions

- Did the HIA provide useful information to the policy-making process?
- Was the HIA able to support inclusive public engagement?
- Did the HIA lead to changes to the design of the project or policy?



Introduce impact evaluation and some of the questions it can address.

Impact evaluation tracks whether the recommendations made in the HIA were implemented by the decision makers. It also asks the question, if the recommendations were not implemented, why not?

Here are some questions that the impact evaluation might ask:

- *Did the HIA provide useful information to the policy-making process?*
- *Was the HIA able to support inclusive public engagement?*
- *Did the HIA lead to changes to the design of the project or policy?*

Impact Evaluation Questions

- Did the HIA lead to unexpected changes on the policy or project?
- Has the HIA led to new partnerships, coalitions, or efforts to analyze or influence public policy on the basis of health?
- Has the HIA impacted changes in the way institutions frame and address health issues?



Direct participants to the ‘Impact Evaluation Questions for HIA’ sheet in their appendix for more detailed questions.

- *Did the HIA lead to unexpected changes on the policy or project?*
- *Has the HIA led to new partnerships, coalitions, or efforts to analyze or influence public policy on the basis of health?*
- *Has the HIA impacted changes in the way institutions frame and address health issues?*

Ask: Have any of you conducted or participated in an impact evaluation? Describe the benefits of that type of evaluation.

Outcome Evaluation Questions

- Did the health impacts change in the direction predicted by the HIA?
- Did other health impacts materialize that the HIA did not consider?
- Were the predicted health impacts based on a different scenario than what actually happened? If so, how did this affect the predicted versus actual health impacts that were examined?



Review the benefits and challenges of outcome evaluation.

Outcome evaluation specifies the long term health impacts of a project. Because of this it takes a long time to complete.

It is similar to a pre and post evaluation/research design where you would determine if your projected health outcomes were correct.

This type of evaluation assesses whether the predicted health outcomes were correct or not. This type of evaluation is expensive and takes time to complete because you have to collect baseline data, wait for the policy/program to be implemented or built and then collect outcome data. In addition, the final policy/project may be different than what was recommended in the HIA, therefore the estimates may no longer be valid. There are few HIA outcome evaluations available to us at this time.

EXAMPLE: One of the best outcome evaluations to date is the London Congestion Charging Policy. The London scheme requires drivers to pay 8 pounds per day if they wish to continue driving in central London during the scheme's hours of operation. This has led to a 26% reduction in congestion. They were able to do a thorough evaluation since the project was able to raise 122 million pounds that goes directly into improving the transit system and for evaluation. For a copy of this evaluation go to:

<http://www.tfl.gov.uk/assets/downloads/Fourth-Annual-Report-Overview.pdf>

Challenges of HIA Evaluation

- Providing the leadership to ensure that evaluation takes place
- Defining the beginning and end of the HIA
- Managing stakeholders who may reflect a variety of objectives and interests
- Allocating time and resources for the evaluation



Describe the challenges of HIA evaluation.

There are challenges to good HIA evaluation that you should be aware of as you conduct your HIA:

Providing the leadership to ensure that evaluation takes place.

Defining the beginning and end of the HIA. Setting limits for the evaluation also makes it more likely that it is completed in a timely manner.

Managing stakeholders who may reflect a variety of objectives and interests. Different stakeholders may reflect a variety of objectives and interests. Stakeholders may exert pressure to demonstrate particular benefits and achievements that ultimately set unrealistic objectives.

Allocating time and resources for the evaluation. Evaluation activities should be planned within the resources available.

Next Steps for HIA

- Move from research to practice
 - Define methods to screen bills or initiatives and determine those most appropriate for HIA
 - Standardize and streamline impact estimation
 - Train appropriate personnel
 - Determine feasibility of different tools in various settings
- Adapt HIA to the unique policy-making environment of the U.S.

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Summary

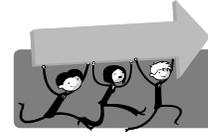
- HIA is a new and evolving science providing a promising new approach to quantify health impacts of a wide variety of policies and projects
- HIA provides an outlet for health to be appropriately factored into complex decisions

Summarize

- *HIA is a new and evolving science providing a promising new approach to quantify health impacts of a wide variety of policies and projects*
- *HIA provides an outlet for health to be appropriately factored into complex decisions*

Panel of Teaching Faculty

- What challenges you have faced when preparing and presenting HIA reports?
- What is your approach to developing HIA reports?
- What are different types of HIA reports that you have created or reviewed?
- What would you recommend for someone creating their first HIA report?



Introduce the panel who will discuss these questions related to reporting and evaluation of HIAs.

Ask the questions and have the panel interact.

Open the floor to questions from the audience.

Allow 30 minutes for this discussion.

Panel of Teaching Faculty

- What have been the impacts of HIAs you've completed?
- What were some of the successes and challenges you've had in the process of completing HIAs?
- Have you ever been able to complete an outcome evaluation? If you haven't done an outcome evaluation – why not?



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Panel of Teaching Faculty

- What are the benefits and problems associated with conducting each of these three types of evaluations?
- How were you able to fund the HIAs you've completed?
- Other questions?



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TABLE ACTIVITY: Conduct an Evaluation for Sunnyvale Highway



Introduce activity

State the purpose:

We've reviewed different ways to evaluate an HIA. Now you're going to review the Sunnyvale Highway case study and determine what type of evaluation will be the most appropriate.

INSTRUCT: Work with your team to respond to the questions in your case study.

Allow 10 minutes for pairs to complete the questions.

Review the responses with the large group.

NOTE responses on flip chart. Post results