

One Health Approach for Reviewing Curricula Across Institutions and Disciplines

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Background

- OHCEA – One Health Central and East Africa
- February 2012 – OHCEA schools in DRC
 - initiated review of epidemiology curricula
 - veterinary, public health, and nursing programs
- Curriculum workshop planned to review and integrate across schools



Curriculum Review Collaborators

- Curriculum Review Workshop attendees:
 - 3 schools of public health DRC
 - 2 faculties of veterinary medicine DRC
 - 2 nursing schools DRC
 - Makerere University Uganda
 - Tufts University
 - University of Minnesota



Objectives of Curriculum Review

- Strengthen epidemiology curricula
- Introduce participatory epidemiology concepts and methods
- Identify One Health Core Competencies that could be taught through epidemiology
- Introduce TUSK – a course management software to facilitate collaboration among the schools involved



Outcomes

1. Competencies in epidemiology for health professionals were defined
2. Use of TUSK for teaching epidemiology
3. Integration of One Health into epidemiology curricula



Outcomes: Competencies

Health professionals should be able to use epidemiologic methods in the field to analyze health events and their determinants in a given population in order to control diseases:

- Determine population (human or animal) health status in terms of magnitude and distribution of health events
- Identify risk factors of a disease or other health problems
- Organize epidemiological surveillance within a population
- Organize outbreak investigations
- Control disease outbreaks
- Apply participatory epidemiological methods
- Integrate One Health approach at all levels



Outcomes: TUSK

The use of TUSK will assist in teaching epidemiology:

- Facilitate collaboration among faculty from various disciplines teaching epidemiology and related courses (research methods, biostatistics, etc)
- Tracking/mapping epidemiological competencies in order to determine how and where competencies are being taught and assessed



Outcomes: One Health

- Consensus on the importance of co-teaching in epidemiology across disciplines in order to provide students with a One Health perspective
- Need to produce joint course materials for the teaching of participatory epidemiology to be used across institutions
- Identification of One Health Core Competency domains to be taught through epidemiology courses
- Consensus on the need to engage faculty teaching courses closely related to epidemiology such as research methods and biostatistics to enhance students' competency in epidemiology



Recommendations

- This curricula review format is recommended for other courses taught across disciplines
- TUSK would play a key role in facilitating collaboration among schools
- Development of participatory epidemiology course materials that could be delivered through several courses linked to epidemiology

