Title
Analyse health status, determinants of health and inequalities of health in New Zealand

Level
5

Credits
10

Purpose
People credited with this unit standard are able to: analyse the health status of populations in New Zealand in terms of mortality rates and morbidity statistics; analyse determinants of health that contribute to the health status of populations in New Zealand; and examine health status and determinants of health and their relationship to health inequalities of populations in New Zealand.

Classification
Health, Disability, and Aged Support > Public Health Practice

Available grade
Achieved

Guidance Information

1 Legislation relevant to this unit standard includes the New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000 and subsequent amendments.

2 Definitions
Culture refers to the shared beliefs, values, customs, and practices that are common to a particular group or organisation. Culture includes, but is not limited to: ethnicity, age, disability, gender, sexual orientation, religious or spiritual belief, socio-economic status, occupation, and organisational background.
Determinants of health are the range of personal, cultural, social, economic and environmental factors that determine the health of individuals and populations. Different cultures may use different indicators as determinants of health.
Health inequalities (health inequities) are differences in health that are unnecessary, avoidable and unjust. Inequalities arise from, and are maintained by, the unequal distribution of the determinants of health, such as income, employment, education, housing, health care and social support.
Health status of populations is the level of health of groups, families and communities. Populations may be defined by locality, biological criteria such as age or gender, ethnicity, social criteria such as socio-economic status, or cultural criteria such as whānau.

3 References
Reducing Inequalities in Health, Wellington, Ministry of Health, 2002;
The Social, Cultural and Economic Determinants of Health in New Zealand: Action to Improve Health, National Advisory Committee on Health and Disability (National Health Committee), June 1998;
Durie, M. Maori health: key determinants for the next twenty-five years, 2000, Pacific Health Dialog, 7 (1), 6-11.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Analyse the health status of populations in New Zealand in terms of mortality rates and morbidity statistics.

Range health status must include – heart disease, cancer, diabetes, obesity, teenage suicide, infectious disease, injury, infant mortality, mental health issues.

Performance criteria

1.1 Mortality rates and morbidity statistics are analysed to determine the health status of the populations.

Range populations may include but are not limited to – Māori, non-Māori, Pacific peoples, refugees, youth, elderly, rural.

Outcome 2

Analyse determinants of health that contribute to the health status of populations in New Zealand.

Performance criteria

2.1 Determinants of health are analysed to understand their relative contributions to the health status of the New Zealand population.

Range determinants must include – income and poverty, employment and occupation, education, housing, culture and ethnicity, social cohesion, behavioural patterns (smoking, alcohol, diet, exercise), age, gender, access to health care services, sense of control over life circumstances.

Outcome 3

Examine health status and determinants of health and their relationship to health inequalities of populations in New Zealand.
Performance criteria

3.1 Impacts of health determinants across populations are identified and examined to describe health inequalities between populations in New Zealand.

Range

- Health status must include – heart disease, cancer, diabetes, obesity, teenage suicide, infectious disease, injury, infant mortality, mental health issues;
- Health determinants must include – income and poverty, employment and occupation, education, housing, culture and ethnicity, social cohesion, behavioural patterns (smoking, alcohol, diet, exercise), age, gender, access to health care services, sense of control over life circumstances;
- Health inequalities must include – ethnic gaps in life expectancy, mortality rates for Māori and Pasifika peoples, mortality rates for different income earners, child poverty;
- Populations may include but are not limited to – Māori, non-Māori, Pacific peoples, refugees, youth, elderly, rural.

This unit standard is expiring. Assessment against the standard must take place by the last date for assessment set out below.

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Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference 0024