

THE MATRIX OF BURDEN OF DISEASE METRICS FOR HEALTH PROMOTION

Milena Šantrić Milićević,^{1,2}

¹*University of Belgrade, Faculty of Medicine, Institute of Social Medicine, Belgrade, Serbia*

²*Laboratory for strengthening the health system and workforce for health equity, Belgrade, Serbia*

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Background: The field of health promotion aspires to move beyond the conventional biomedical approach and consider a broader range of social and environmental interventions. This shift acknowledges the crucial influence of social and economic determinants on health and emphasizes the interconnectedness of the health of individuals, animals, and ecosystems.

Methods and Objectives: This review provides a cross-conceptual analysis of health promotion and the burden of diseases by aligning the scope with relevant indicators. It underscores the importance of considering intersectoral enablers to effectively identify, measure, assess, prioritize, and financially support appropriate health promotion actions in countries.

Results: Matrices of various indicators are used to strengthen health promotion interventions targeting various risk factors, disease prevention and adverse health events. For instance, a significant focus on disease prevention within the realm of health promotion is evident in initiatives such as the European Commission's launch of Healthier Together and the implementation of the EU4Health Programme. Over the past two decades, many actors have created multiple sets of indicators to assess the health conditions of various populations. Some of these actors include UNICEF, which supports multi-indicator cluster surveys; the World Health Organization, which produces world health statistics reports; the United States Agency for International Development, which conducts demographic and health surveys; and the IHME-led Global Burden of Disease studies. The burden of disease matrix of metrics is used to cover trends and drivers of 359 diseases and injuries worldwide. Having matrices of indicators helps hold policymakers and their organizations accountable for health promotion as well.

Conclusions: Health metrics play a pivotal role in shedding light on health challenges and contributing to fostering a more objective and accountable approach to policy-making in health promotion. The burden of disease metrics matrix can be used to facilitate the development of a credible national health information system for health promotion goals and targets.

Keywords: burden of disease, health promotion, disease prevention, determinants of health, risk factors