



DHS 8400 Global Health Issues
Welcome to Week 3
Topic: Burden of Disease

Learning Objectives

By the end of this week you will be able to:

- Identify the main burdens of diseases that impact the different geographical areas of the world
- Describe composite measures of burden of disease, and their strengths and weaknesses
- Describe measure of morbidity and mortality
- Discuss attributes of morbidity, mortality and disability as they apply to burden of disease
- Differentiate between primary health care and primary care
- Articulate the adverse effect of inadequate primary health care on health outcomes

Assigned Readings

Markle, W. H., Fisher, M. A., & Smego, R. A. (2014). *Understanding global health* (2nd Ed.). New York: McGraw-Hill Medical. Chapters 2, 3, and 8.

Suggested Readings

Review websites on the burden of disease

- Global Burden of Disease
http://www.who.int/features/factfiles/global_burden/facts/en/index.html
- Disease Control Priorities Project
<http://www.dcp-3.org>
- Priorities in Health
<http://www.dcp-3.org/dcp2/priorities-in-health>
- Disease Control Priorities
<http://www.dcp-3.org/volume/1/disease-control-priorities>
<http://www.dcp-3.org/disease-control-priorities-third-edition>
- Global Burden of Disease
<http://www.dcp-3.org/dcp2/global-burden-disease-and-risk-factors>

- World Health Report
<http://www.who.int/whr/en/>

Activities

- Participate in the discussion board with a minimal requirement **of THREE postings per week to the discussion board**, one original (by Wednesday) and two individual follow-ups to peers' comments (posted by Saturday). The original discussion should be 200-300 words and referenced with additional literature. It is **required** you post a question at the end of your original post to generate discussion and critical thought. The follow-up responses should be at least 100 words incorporating additional literature (if appropriate but not required) and promoting critical thinking.
- Review the atlas that provides information on disease burden worldwide
PBS-Rx for Survival, Global Health Atlas
<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/rxforsurvival/series/atlas/index.html>
- Watch video *Kill or Cure: Doctors and Nurses* (7 mins)
A strong health workforce is essential to help reduce the burden of ill-health. Yet, workforce shortages and disproportionate distribution of health workers is a growing crisis across the globe. Access the synopsis of the 2010 PBS documentary
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HPaMwIkx2PA>
- Review Chart to get an understanding of the density of doctors, nurses and midwives in the 49 priority countries Link: http://www.who.int/hrh/density_chart.pdf
- Attend optional chat scheduled for this week

Questions for Thought and Discussion

The following questions will be used to guide the live chat this week; participation grade will be gained through participation in the chat. If you are unable to attend the chat, please feel free to answer questions in the discussion board to earn participation grades.

The following activities based on watching the video *Kill or Cure: Doctors and Nurses* may guide your discussions for week 3:

1. Describe the trend of health worker migration, also referred to as “brain drain”, and its current and potential impact on global health.
2. Comment on the factors that contribute to this trend. Factors may be social, economic, structural, and/or cultural.
3. Recommend and detail at least one strategy to address the growing crisis of health worker migration in places like Malawi and India, where the ratio of doctor per population is insufficient to meet the health care needs of the people.