

Using Data-Based Decision Making in Public Health Practice

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Abstract: In times of diminishing resources for public health, leaders are under increasing pressure from funders to justify budget requests in terms of program effectiveness and cost-benefit. While the concept of “evidence-based medicine” is well established as a response to similar challenges in the medical sector, evidence-based public health is a relatively new area which needs to be better developed and articulated. New focus on public health systems research is one response to these challenges. In this seminar we will explore this developing aspect of public health practice and provide participants with an opportunity to gain new tools to develop and articulate the case for evidence-based public health decision-making and program implementation. This session will include group discussions and small group exercises.