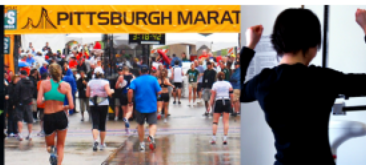# Population Health

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Population Health

- Population health connotes a high level assessment of a group of people. This epidemiologic framework is often in direct opposition to the manner in which the health care system has cared for patients; one individual at a time.

Definitions of Population Health

- **Population served by an individual provider**
  - Insuring that patients are assigned correctly to PCP

- **Population served by the entire delivery system**
  - Primary care patients

- **Population residing in the broader community**
  - Geographic area

Individual <u>and</u> Population / Social level questions

	Individual	Population / Social
Smoking	How can we stop these individuals smoking?	How can we change the social & economic environment so it discourages smoking?
Childhood Obesity	How can we encourage obese children to lose weight?	What social and economic factors mean our community has higher rates of childhood obesity than others?
Depression	How do we best counsel teenagers with depression?	Why have rates of teenage depression gone up in our community in the last 10 years? What can be done to change this across the community?
Homelessness	How can we provide a home to a homeless person?	How can we design a housing system which ensures no one is homeless?
Drug Use	How can we educate people to use substances responsibly or abstain?	What legislation and policies can we adopt to reduce harm from drugs?

After Tesh, 1988 Hidden Arguments, as presented by Fran Baum
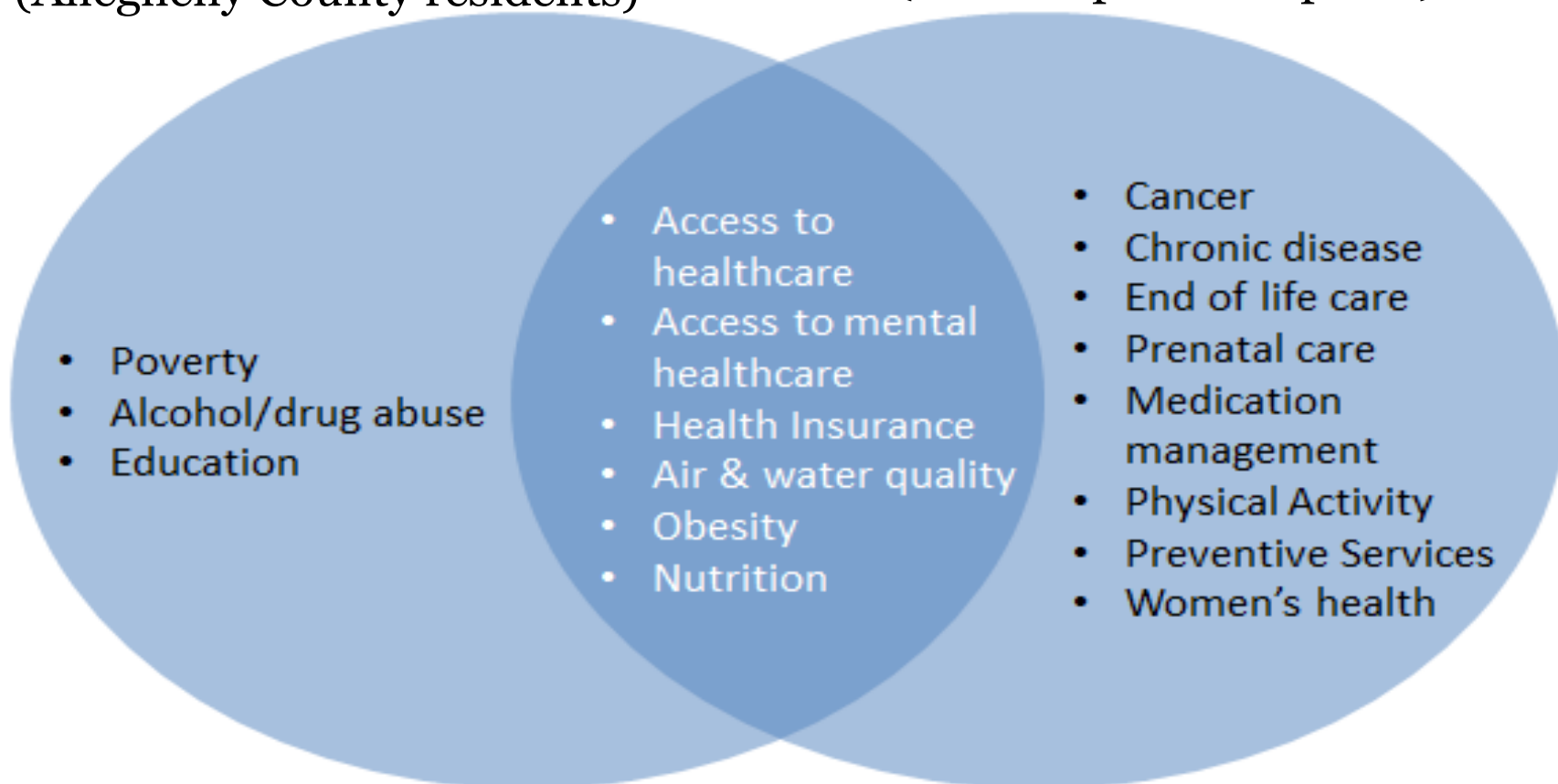
What Health Systems Can Do

- Conduct joint needs assessments with public health entities

- Collaborative on objectives for population health

- Connect to address social determinants:
  - as provider (identify and refer)
  - as employer (workforce issues)
  - as business (responsibility to community)

Allegheny County
Community Health Concerns

Health Indicators Survey
(Allegheny County residents)

Community Needs Health Assessment
(Not-for-profit hospitals)

- Poverty
- Alcohol/drug abuse
- Education

- Access to healthcare
- Access to mental healthcare
- Health Insurance
- Air & water quality
- Obesity
- Nutrition

- Cancer
- Chronic disease
- End of life care
- Prenatal care
- Medication management
- Physical Activity
- Preventive Services
- Women's health

Sources: Allegheny County Health Department Health Indicator Survey, 2014
Non-Profit Hospital Community Needs Health Assessment