"A review to explore public and public health officials' perceptions towards policy development"

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Introduction

- Consequences of health and economic instability.
- greater impact in the future.
- Commission form the Lancet (2015) : policy , collaboration between health ministries and other departments, to achieve population health
- CDC : developed an assessment framework to help local governments adapt to the health effects of climate change
- WHO : encourages and supports public health policy
- impact remain primarily environmental
- Public and professional involvement in <u>policy development</u> and implementation is vital for success.



A climate health policy: Will it be a better approach to overcome the greatest global challenge of the 21st century? A review to explore public and public health officials' perceptions towards policy development.

this study aimed to :

This study focus on the perceptions of the Officers in Public Health (OPH) and members of the public on climate change, health, and policy. for available knowledge to inform policy development and to highlight the role and remit of public health and general public responses.

OPH : public health officers, academics in public health, and administrators in public health.
Perceptions : knowledge, engagement, mitigatory efforts, and barriers to mitigation.
New knowledge : inform policy to reduce the health effects of climate change.

Method

A systematic integrative review was conducted, drawing on an established framework. This incorporated systematic literature searching, quality appraisal, data extraction and synthesis of findings from qualitative and quantitative studies.

key words to search :

"climate change" or "climatic change" and "public health" or "human health" Content Collects and concludes :

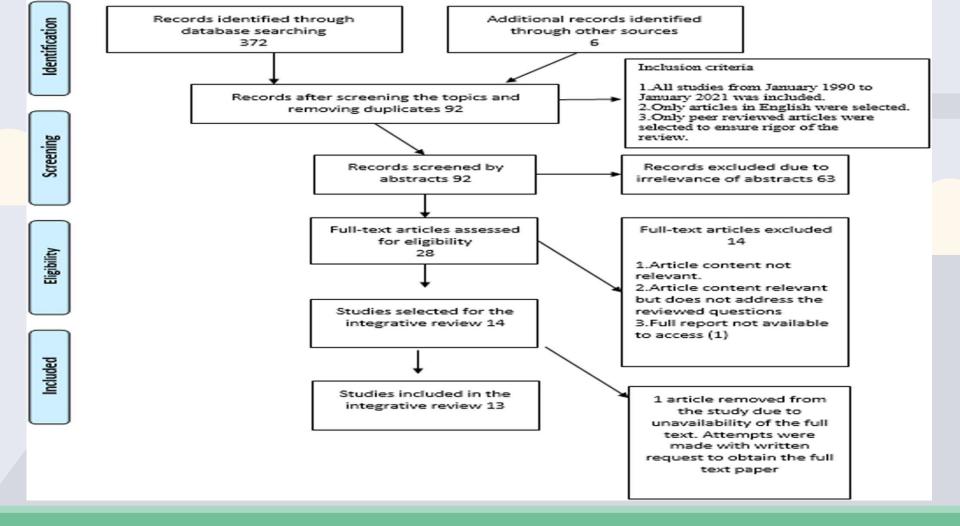
"view*" or "attitude" or "perception" or "opinion" or "thought" or "feeling" or "belief" or "survey" or "questionnaire" or "interview" or "observe*

from January 1990 to January 2021.

Only peer-reviewed English-language articles were selected

summarize inform policy development and to highlight the role and remit of public health and general public response

Policy on Climate change and impacts on health



Resulte

Only 13 studies were included in the review

indicating a paucity of knowledge. However, a growth in the number of studies during the recent decade was observed. Significant concerns identified were belief that public health wasn't sufficiently engaged in the climate debate or associated policies, a felt lack of expertise among public health experts regarding their ability to influence policy in this area (knowledge, resources and influence), and a small but significant proportion of professionals and the public denying the reality of climate change. The findings demonstrate public understanding and support for policy when climate change is seen within a health frame. Further, the study shows gaps in the required knowledge, attitudes, resources, and political and administrative support in effective public health engagement.



Summary of study

Perceptions of the public

- The public perceived climate change to be an increase in heat.
- Studies depicted that knowledge on climate change was greater among males and with those having a higher education.
- The relationship between socioeconomic factors and knowledge on climate change varied
- Perception of resulting morbidity and mortality, risk perception and education strongly correlated with knowledge on climate change.
- □ The public perceived that the health costs and burden due to climate change events have increased in comparison to what the were five to ten years ago.
- Studies showed that there was a positive impact in communicating climate change within a health frame.
- Risk perception and knowledge have shown a significant correlation to public willingness to act.
- Risk perception and willingness to act very strongly correlated with support for policy

Perceptions of the public health officials

- □ A significant proportion of public health officials believed that they had not in the recent past and will not in the next 20 years experience climate change
- Among the majority who believed climate change poses impacts on health, it is perceived to be related to heat related condition.
- As perceived by public health officials, the engagement of public health in climate change was found to be limited
- In exploring self-knowledge on climate change, differences were identified in self-perception on adequacy of knowledge
- Public health officials perceived that there was a significant gap in knowledge among other officials in their department as well as other relevant stakeholders on climate change and health
- Public health officers perceived that their department lacked the expertise and resources to support effective mitigation and adaptation
- Knowledge, capacity, perceptions on climate change, politics, culture, finance, communication and institutions were some of the barriers to public health engagement in climate change that were discussed by the participants.
- Public health officials perceived that there are opportunities to engage public health in climate change.



Perceptions of the OPH

- OPH are among one of the four main stakeholders in health policy development. (1 study 2008) the current situation might be different and findings might need to be validated with more current research.
- A majority of OPH agree that climate change poses a risk to health.
 This supports a climate health policy to address climate-specific public health impacts. This stimulates learning.
- Barriers to public health involvement in climate change were explored in four studies <u>Social. determinants</u> constraining public health engagement in climate change include politics, finance, communication, culture and institutional considerations. Further, if public health is to be engaged effectively in climate change-related health impacts, these constraints must be addressed to provide a favorable environment during policy implementation.



Perceptions of the public

- Public engagement is vital in health policy development
- 3 studies show that the public is aware of climate change.
- 1 study showed that monthly income and occupation were associated with knowledge of climate change. (Survey of males rather than females)
- The intersectionality and the impact of wider social determinants on public awareness.
- perception of an increased disease burden and the cost of health in relation to the changing weather. this can provide valuable inputs to policy development
- Study in US show that the health frame messages give a positive response and generate hope. Further, the public health-framed message was the most likely to generate emotional reactions to support <u>climate change mitigation</u> and adaptation

Conclusion



These findings point to the need for both strategic involvement and empowerment of public health officials at national and local levels, and development of a robust evidence base to support resultant policies.



Strengths and limitation

- Only English Articles : Many Articles in Many Languages
- 13 studies Review : 1 study in Southeast Asia
- ✤ Few Guidelines for Practice.



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