

The 11th Caribbean Conference on National Health Financing Initiatives

Overview of the burden of disease in the Caribbean and the extent to which these are affected by socio-economic determinants.

By Dr. Anton Cumberbatch

HEU

The determinants of Health (WHO)

- The social and economic environment
- The physical environment
- The person's individual characteristics and behaviors
- Income and social status
- Education
- Physical environment
- Social support networks
- Genetics
- Health services
- Gender

Table 4: Selected Health and Social Indicators

Details	DOM	ATB	SVG	ANG	BVI	GRN	SKN	STL	TNT
Poverty Rates	28.8 (2009)	18.4 (2006)	30.2 (2008)	5.8 (2009)	-	37.7 (2008)	21.8 (2008)	28.8 (2005)	16.7 (2005)
Life Expectance	75.9 (2011)	76.9 (2010)	74.8 (2014)	80.9 (2012)	78.3 (2014)	73.8 (2014)	75.3 (2014)	77.4 (2014)	70 (2014)
Infant Mortality Rate	11.5 (2012)	15.3 (2010)	17.2 (2013)	5.4 (2012)	3.5 (2014)	31 (2013)	7.8 (2013)	21.2 (2012)	17.2 (2013)
Maternal Mortality Rate	2.2 (2012)	81.0 (2010)	45 (2013)	0 (2014)	0 (2014)	23 (2013)	0 (2013)	34 (2013)	45 (2013)

Source: Country Reports

Table 5: Leading Causes of Mortality by Country

Details	DOM	ATB	SVG	ANG	BVI	GRN	SKN	STL	TNT
Year	2010	2013	2014	2013	2014	2012	2012	2012	2012
Ischemic heart disease	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Diabetes	√	√	√	√	√		√	√	√
Hypertensive Diseases	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Cerebrovascular Disease	√	√	√	√	√	√	√		√
Cancers	√	√	√	√			√		√
Cardiovascular Disease					√				√
Pulmonary Heart Disease	√				√				

Source: Country Reports

Epidemiology of Mental Health Issues in the Caribbean

(Abel, Baboolal, Gibson)

Caribbean profile of commonly encountered mental health issues.

- **Psychotic disorders**
- **Schizophrenia Incidents (2 – 3 per 10,000 across the Caribbean)**
 - Higher rates in very small islands
- **Mood Disorders (depression, bipolar disorders)**
 - Jamaica – 1 in 5 respondents between ages 15 to 74 features of depression within the last month of survey
 - T&T – 25% to 45% of person receiving treatment for physical illness have features of depression
- **Suicide is associated with psychiatric illness in 70% of cases, with depression being the most frequent**
 - JA – 2.0 - 2.7 / 100,000
 - BAR – 4.0 / 100,000
 - T&T – 12.3 / 100,000
- **Dementia**
 - Cuba – 10% of persons over the age of 65 suffer from dementia

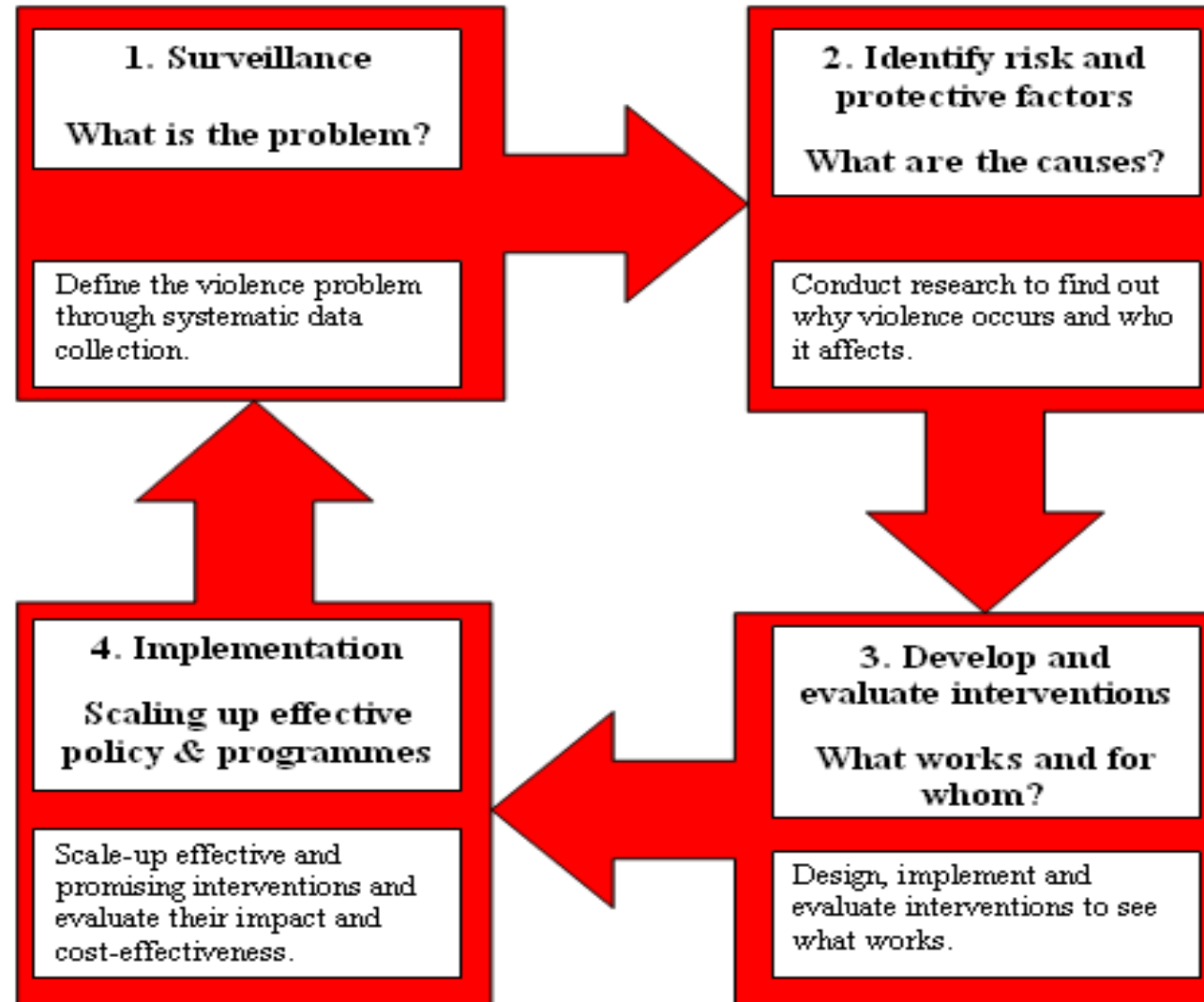
Chronic Non-Communicable Diseases and the Economy - Karl Theodore

There is no question that chronic non-communicable diseases (CNCDs) pose the single, greatest sustained threat to the stability of health systems worldwide. While undoubtedly the main dimension of the CNCDs challenge is in respect of the health and well-being of the population, it is becoming increasingly obvious that CNCDs are also posing a serious challenge to economies. Health system costs are increasing faster than national income in almost all nations and the main cause is the growing incidence of CNCDs and the diverse spill-over effects. The concern is that if this continues, there will come a time when the economic system will simply no longer be capable of coping with the burden of the CNCDs. In these circumstances the economist has two major concerns. The first is to understand and explain how CNCDs affect the functioning of the economic system. The second major concern of the economist is to understand and explain how the working of the economy influences the incidence of CNCDs in particular countries.

Latest Information as Reported by the IDB in response to loan disbursement in December 2014 to MOH Trinidad and Tobago.

- Heart Disease, Hypertension, Cerebrovascular Disease, Diabetes, Cancer, Chronic Respiratory illness, accounts for 60% of all deaths. Overall chronic diseases account for 78% of all deaths.
- Study conducted 2009-2010: 23% of primary school children and 20% of secondary school children were overweight or obese. This represents a 300% increase who were found to be obese or overweight when compared to 2001.

The Public Health Approach



Declaration of Port-of-Spain (2007)

Main Recommendation of the Caribbean Commission on Health and Development – Strategies to prevent and control heart disease, stroke, diabetes, hypertension, obesity and cancer in the Region by addressing their causal risk factors of unhealthy diets, physical inactivity, tobacco use and alcohol abuse and strengthening our health services.

The burdens of NCSs can be reduced by comprehensive and integrated preventive and control strategies at the individual, family, community, national and regional levels and through collaborative programmes, partnerships and policies supported by governments, private sectors, NGOs and our other social, regional and international partners.