



How to maximize health department performance— **ADOPT ADMINISTRATIVE PRACTICES THAT HAVE BEEN PROVEN TO WORK**

Why We Need Evidence-Based Public Health (EBPH)

Front-line public health professionals need evidence-based information to make decisions on how to best improve public health performance and health in local communities. Past studies have shown that by adopting certain administrative practices, local health departments (LHDs) can improve their performance.

Administrative Evidence-Based Practices (A-EBPs)

Coined as administrative evidence-based practices, or A-EBPs, these provide practical solutions that can be put into place within a short time period. This makes A-EBPs an attractive way to boost your LHD's performance. For example, A-EBPs can help LHDs build competencies for agency accreditation, identify opportunities to improve efficiency, and improve the public's health by adopting best practices based on what has been shown to work in the past.

Leaders within their LHD can encourage evidence-based decision-making (EBDM) based on the best available scientific evidence by adopting A-EBPs themselves. In a nation-wide survey, program managers in LHDs ranked the top ways that would encourage them to use EBDM:

- Leaders who placed a high priority on EBDM
- Trainings on EBDM
- Positive feedback or encouragement to use EBDM

5 WAYS TO GET RESULTS

1 Improve workforce development with trainings, workshops, and resources for EBDM

2 Enhance leadership by helping to develop skills to support and promote department wide use of A-EBPs

3 Build an organizational culture that promotes A-EBPs with access to high-quality information and supports innovation

4 Build relationships and partnerships with other organizations and establish a united vision and mission

5 Upgrade financial practices by allocating resources for A-EBPs such as quality improvement or workforce training

