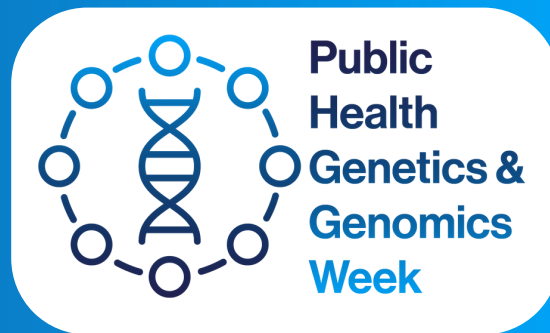# What is Public Health Genetics and Genomics?

Public health genetics and genomics applies genetic and genomic information to improve public health and prevent disease.

Public Health Genetics & Genomics Week

#PHGW   #PublicHealthGenetics   #PublicHealthGenomics

Monitor health status to identify community health problems

Genetics examples:

Respond to public health emergencies (ie COVID-19 and telegenetics use)

Birth defects program

Diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community

Genetics examples:

Identify genetic risk factors to increase opportunities for early intervention

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Inform, educate, and empower people about health issues

Genetics examples:

Educate patients and families on genetics (including family health history)

Educate policymakers

Mobilize community partnerships at the state and local levels to identify and solve health problems

Genetics examples:

Engage community leaders when developing genetics policies

Develop policies and practices that support individual and community health efforts

Genetics examples:

Apply genetics information to ensure robust programs such as newborn screening follow-up programs

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Support laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety

Genetics examples:

Conduct newborn screening according to state laws and regulations

Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA)

Link people to health services, including genetics services, and assure the provision of health care when otherwise unavailable.

Genetics examples:

Seven Regional Genetics Networks (RGNs)

Assure a public health and personal health care workforce competent in genetics

Genetics examples:

Educate primary care providers on genetic conditions

Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and population-based health services, including genetics

Genetics examples:

CLIR for biochemical genetics tests/screens

Research for new insights and innovative solutions to health problems

Genetics examples:

Consider social, ethical, and legal issues about integrating genetics practices into public health programs

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