

Module 2

Collaboration Café – Population Health and epidemiology in nursing practice

Investigate epidemiological data to learn about the leading causes of morbidity and mortality within your region, and respond to the following.

- **Select one of the leading causes of morbidity or mortality, and explain how one model can be applied to better understand the epidemiology of the selected disease (e.g., web of causation model or epidemiological triangle model).**
- **Describe examples of primary, secondary, and tertiary levels of prevention that are used to address the selected disease.**

As you respond to one peer in the Collaboration Café, consider how your findings are similar and different. What variables might influence those similarities and differences?

Tip: Excellent sources of valid, reliable data regarding morbidity and mortality statistics can be found through governmental agencies, local and state health departments, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Leading cause of morbidity or mortality rate in Alabama is heart disease. Heart disease is defined as conditions that can affect the heart functioning such as: Coronary Artery Disease, Valvular Heart Disease, Cardiomyopathy, Arrhythmias, and Heart Infections (Wedro & Davis, 2020). The model I will prefer using is the Web of Causation Model. In using this model, I can list various risk factors that impacts the disease process. This model was created to show different paths that point towards the beginning of health problems or diseases. The web of causation model has been used for a while now within nursing and community health to explain diseases and disabilities caused by factors and identify the possibility of preventative interventions. The web of causation model shows that the disease is not spread randomly in any such group but shows isolation of how they are distributed requiring a person to study all factors.

Based on this model, one can increase the chances of controlling a disease or a health condition by breaking more links within the web of potential factors and have a chance of controlling the disease or health problem by breaking one of the links within the web of potential factors model. Some of the potential factors within the web of causation for heart disease are stress, smoking, hormones, stroke, hardening of the arteries, obesity, poor diet, hypertensive disease, physical activity, genetic factors,