

CRITERIA

Participants were asked which of the four Goal Areas they most wanted to discuss. They then moved to a table corresponding to the Goal Area they selected. Each table began with a discussion on CDC's criteria generally.

What criteria would you use in your community when prioritizing CDC health Objectives?

Participants discussed criteria that *should* be used to prioritize the Objectives in their communities.

- *Health Disparities*: Participants wanted the Objectives that address health disparities to be given highest priority.
- *Preventable Burden*: Participants said that it is important to consider whether or not the Objective is preventable and can actually be fixed.
- *Education*: Some participants stressed the importance of health literacy and educating the community both generally and specifically on health issues.
- *Prevention*: Participants thought that Objectives that focus on prevention should be given priority over those that focus on treatment.
- *Burden*: Participants said that the health impact and burden the Objective addresses should be considered in their prioritizing.

Are there any major criteria missing?

Participants reiterated the need for Objectives that address health disparities, prevention over treatment, and the ability to meet the proposed goal. Participants also identified other novel criteria.

- *Temporality*: Participants said that the urgency of the issue should be a criterion.
- *Coordination*: Participants stressed the need for more collaboration with community groups when implementing the Objectives and said that Objectives that encourage such partnerships should be given priority than those that do not.
- *Focus of Objective*: Participants mentioned that the highest priority Objectives should be those that have a prevention focus and are evidence-based interventions.

Overall assessment of the group of Criteria as a whole – balanced, reasonable?

Many participants felt that overall the criteria address the basic issues and are generic enough to apply to all of the Objectives. Other participants offered suggestions to strengthen the Criteria and commented generally on them.

- *Lack specificity*: Some participants said that the Criteria need more specificity.
- *Criteria D*: Some participants thought that Criteria D, "Is this Objective consistent with CDC's mission, core values, and interests?" may be the most important. Other participants, however, felt as though CDC may be able to act as a catalyst in any issue area and CDC leadership can provide credibility and an impetus for others to act so this criterion may be the least important.

Are CDC's Criteria clear?

Most participants said that the Criteria were clear though some reaffirmed the need for more specificity. The Preparedness table mentioned that the criteria apply to the other goal areas better than Preparedness; they suggested that in Criteria C, "interventions" be replaced by "preventions" when considering the Preparedness Objectives.

Are there any that don't belong?

Participants felt that all of the criteria belonged although four may be too many. Some participants thought that Criteria D needs clarification and is redundant; others said it is unnecessary because CDC can always play a role.