

International University Of Africa

Master of public health

Batch 6

## HOUSING

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## DEFINITION OF HOUSING :

Housing in the modern concept includes not only the physical structure providing shelter , but also the immediate surroundings , and the related community services and facilities .

## THE WHO CONCEPT OF HOUSING :

WHO 1961 on public health aspects of housing prefers to use the term ‘residential environment ‘ which is defined as a physical structure includes all necessary services, facilities, and needs for the physical and mental health and social wellbeing of the family and individual .

## CRITERIA FOR HEALTH HOUSING :

According to WHO there is many criteria for healthful housing similar to the basic principles of healthful housing published by American public health association :

1. Healthful housing provides physical protection and shelter .
2. Provides adequately for cooking , eating, washing and excretory functions .
3. Is designed constructed ,maintained and used to prevent the spread of communicable diseases.
4. Provides for protection from hazard of exposure to noise and pollution.
5. Is free from Unsafe physical arrangements due to construction or maintenance and from toxic or harmful material .
6. Encourages personal and community development, promotes social relationships and mental health .

## FFACTORS INFLUENCING HOUSING:

Depends on many social and economic characteristics:

1. Family income
2. Family size and composition
3. Standard of life
4. Life style
5. Education
6. Culture

## HOUSEING AND HEALTH :

Healthy homes promote good physical and mental health. Good health depends on having homes that are safe and free from physical hazards. In contrast, poor quality and inadequate housing contributes to health problems such as chronic diseases and injuries, and can have harmful effects on childhood development. Poor indoor air quality, lead paint, and other hazards often coexist in homes, placing children and families at great risk for multiple health problems.

## PREVENTION OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASE AND HOUSING:

Some infectious diseases can be spread by touching a surface or object that has been contaminated by an infected person.

Regularly cleaning household surfaces that are frequently touched will help reduce the spread of infections. Some examples of frequently used surfaces include tables, bench tops, door handles, light switches, toys and taps.

Clean surfaces with hot soapy water or your normal household cleaning product. Always follow the manufacturer's instructions on correct product use.

Where possible, use disposable cloths or paper towels to clean surfaces. Reusable cloths should be disinfected and then dried after use, as bacteria and viruses can still survive on damp cloths.

Poor ventilation in rooms can increase the spread of infectious diseases. Open windows regularly to get fresh air circulating.

If you have air conditioning or a heat pump, make sure the system is maintained and the filters

## PUBLIC POLICY CONCERNING HOUSING :

Public housing helps families afford housing and avoid homelessness or other kinds of housing instability. Some developments provide access to neighborhoods with well-resourced schools and more job opportunities, where it might otherwise be difficult for low-income families to rent homes. By limiting housing costs, public housing leaves families with more resources for other expenses like food, health-related services, child care, and transportation. Public housing can also allow older adults and people with disabilities to remain in their home communities.

## REFERENCES;

- Park's Textbook
- WHO
- <https://www.health.govt.nz>