

Primary Health Care Initiatives (PHCI) Project  
Contract No. 278-C-00-99-00059-00  
Abt. Associates Inc.

**Healthy Villages – Participation and Education**

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

- Define the overall view of the community participation.
- Know how to select the local health committees at the health center's level
- Know the role of community participation in health

**Community Participation**

- The Community Health Committee
  - Role and value of community health committee
    - Provide advice and support to Health Center director and staff
    - Promote the appropriate use of the Health Center in the community
    - Provide assistance with community outreach programs (health education, vaccination, school health program, home visitation, etc.)
    - Assist in community diagnosis and survey activities
    - Provide feedback and evaluation of Health Center policies and practices
    - Provide support in interaction with other government and private agencies
    - Assistance in setting health center priorities and in proposal of solutions
  - Composition of health committee members
    - Should be joint effort of Health Center staff (lead by director) and community
    - Should be composed of at least some of recognized community leaders
    - Should meet with health center director and selected staff regularly, preferably at scheduled intervals
    - May be helpful to rotate members of the health committee at intervals

**HEALTH EDUCATION MESSAGES**

- Community participation in the mission and activities of the local Health Center will improve communication and facilitate improved health in the community

**CRITICAL ELEMENTS FOR EVALUATION OF COMPETENCE**

- Describe the role and potential activities of a community health committee

- Know the role of the PHC and health care providers in population-based education