Critical Issues in Migration Health

Session 1: Orientation to Migration Health

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How many of you were raised in the same location that your parents were raised?
The “Recent” Story of Migration

A growing world economy
Rapid dissemination of information
Improved transportation and communication
Ease of movement
Increasing social inequality

Competing Forces

- Remittances
- Public Health
- Human Rights
- Social Network
- Gender
- Poverty Relief
- Demography
- Trade
- Economic Development
- Organized Crime
- International Security
In 1990 155 million people lived outside their country of birth


In 2005 there were 195 million international migrants

3.1%

In 2012...

There are an estimated **214,000,000** international migrants worldwide.

This is the same as the 5th largest country in the world.
Migration...
• Any movement by humans from one locality to another
• Often over long distance
• Or in large groups

Movement of populations:

1. **Voluntary Migration** within one’s region, country or beyond, or

2. **Involuntary migration** which includes slave trade and human trafficking
Anticipatory

• The orderly plan to leave the point of origin
• With limited resources intact and
• Destination clearly chosen

Acute

• Escaping from a major crisis with few resources
• Arriving in a state of shock
• Depending on the receiving community for assistance
Further Distinctions in Human Migration

Regular
• Those who arrive after an application process that results in a recognized entry based on a valid passport or visa
• Or those individuals whose movement is regulated by international convention.

Unofficial
• Those with undocumented status

Underserved VS Undeserved
“Whether I migrated from the Limpopo to Gauteng to look for work, or from another country to South Africa fleeing conflict or in search of a better life, or I fled into exile during Apartheid to fight for freedom, or sent my children overseas to study, you are, we are and I Am a Migrant Too.”

Migration presents both...

- Vulnerabilities
- Opportunities
Migration in the United States

U.S. a relatively young country that has always relied on immigration for population growth

Enormous expanses of open land created a mentality of unencumbered mobility resulting in the voluntary movement of large numbers of persons seeking adventure and opportunity

Agriculture was the reigning industry for migrant workers for more than 50 years providing jobs for returning WWII veterans and welcoming workers from Mexico and the Caribbean.
Advent of Public Health Service

Forced Migration

Photo by Dorothea Lange
Migration Today

- Housing
- Medical
- Economic
- Education
- Climate
- Professional
- Safety and Security

Mobility Status - Movers

- Living in a different house at the end of the period.
- Living in a different county, state, region, or moving from abroad.
- Moving within or between central cities, suburbs, and non-metropolitan areas of the United States.
Working definition

A Migrant is a person who:
- Crosses a prescribed geographic boundary by chance, instinct, or plan
- Stays away from their normal residences
- Engages in remunerated activity

There are 11 million migrant workers in the US.
Mexico remains one of the principal countries that sends migrants to the United States, but things have changed...
Figure 1.2
Five-Year Migration Flows Between the U.S. and Mexico, 1995-2000 and 2005-2010 (in thousands)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>U.S. to Mexico</th>
<th>Mexico to U.S.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1995-2000</td>
<td>2,940</td>
<td>670</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005-2010</td>
<td>1,370</td>
<td>1,390</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes: Estimates are for February, 1995 through February 2000 and June 2005 through June 2010. Migration from U.S. to Mexico includes persons born in Mexico, the U.S., and elsewhere; Mexico to U.S. includes Mexican-born persons only.

Sources: U.S. to Mexico: Pew Hispanic Center estimates from population, household and migrant microdata samples of Mexican censuses of 2000 and 2010. Mexico to U.S.: Based on Pew Hispanic Center estimates in Figure 1.3 from various sources; see Methodology.

Pew Research Hispanic Center, May 3, 2012

Figure 1.3
Annual Immigration from Mexico to the U.S.: 1991-2010 (in thousands)

Source: Pew Hispanic Center estimates compiled from various sources; see Methodology.

Pew Research Hispanic Center, May 3, 2012
Changes in Migration

- New migration patterns
- New populations migrating to new places
- Diversification of work in the U.S.

New Receiving Communities

- Settled communities
- Moving to new locations
- Development of social networks
- Diversifying industries
Many economic sectors of the United States rely on migratory labor, here are just some of the major ones...

Agriculture has traditionally been one of the sectors that has most relied on migratory labor
Farmworker Demographics 1

1. Findings from the National Agricultural Workers Survey (NAWS) 2007 - 2009. Demographic and Employment Profile of United States Farm Workers.

* Note: Kandel uses a combination of NAWS and other data.

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Farmworker Demographics 1

- Estimated population: 1-2.5 million
- Male: 78%
- Female: 22%
- Half are 20-34 years old

- Spanish is the dominant language (71%)
- Hispanic: 78%
- White: 13%
- Other: 5%
- African American: 4%

- 71% foreign born
  - Mexico: 68%
  - Central America: 3%

- 41% had no healthcare visit in last 2 years
Farmworker Demographics


Intersection of poverty, migration and health
International migration that involves the annual movement of tens of millions of people has become a norm, yet the public health implications are just starting to be assessed.

Internal migration that involves the annual movements of millions is still treated as an aberration rather than an ongoing event of public health significance.
Focus of migration discussion continues to be on the legal or regulatory aspects for those persons crossing international borders.

Attention is given to migration from low income countries into high income countries, with a notable emphasis on the over burdening of health care systems.
Little concern about the health of persons emigrating from countries like the USA despite their capacity to spread disease.

Impact of migrants returning to low income countries with a communicable disease is starting to receive greater attention as sending countries study the epidemiology of disease within their own countries.
Status of migrants is relevant to disease control, since it has been problematic for one government agency to pursue immigration control while another encourages undocumented migrants to utilize local health services.

**Migrant Health**

Underserved population whose health is challenged by...

- Migratory lifestyle
- Cultural and language barriers
- Immigration status
- Inherent dangers and health risks of occupation
- Lack of access to insurance or financial resources
- Lack of regulatory protection
Clinical Issues

• TB and infectious disease
• Diabetes and CV disease
• Delayed immunizations
• Lead toxicity
• School and developmental delays
• PTSD
• Family, IP Violence
• Occ/Env disease
• Emerging disease

Challenges for Health Centers

• Patient Centered Medical Home with follow-up: chronic, acute, preventive, self-management
• Understanding Occupational and Environmental Health
• Health literacy and cultural differences
• Realistic appointment schedules and walk-in capacity
• Access to meds and specialists
• Reimbursement for services
What does the intersection of migration, poverty and health look like?

47 year old woman from Central America who receives a mammogram in Maryland. Her results come back “abnormal” but when the health center calls her number she has already migrated on to Florida for work.

What does the intersection of migration, poverty and health look like?

Luis from Guatemala diagnosed with pulmonary TB at age 36. Moves 4 times during the course of a 9 month treatment for TB.
What does the intersection of migration, poverty and health look like?

An 18-year-old pregnant woman working as a farmworker in Virginia. Moves to Florida for work. Has limited transportation, no English and very little money.

Our Work in Migration Health...

Vulnerabilities

Opportunities
Upcoming Webinars in MCN’s Orientation to Migration Health

1. Cultural Proficiency
2. Intersection of Primary Care and Migration Health
3. Workers and Health: Role of Frontline Providers
4. Creating a Patient Centered Medical Home for Patients on the Move
5. Women’s Health and Migration
6. Quality and Meaningful Use in Migration Care

Any questions?

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