

Health Equity Assessment Tool (HEAT)

The following set of questions has been developed to consider how particular inequalities in health have come about, and where the effective intervention points are to tackle them. They should be used in conjunction with the Ministry of Health's Intervention Framework (Ministry of Health 2002).

1. What health issue is the policy/programme trying to address?
2. What inequalities exist in this health area?
3. Who is most advantaged and how?
4. How did the inequality occur? (What are the mechanisms by which this inequality was created, is maintained or increased?)
5. What are the determinants of this inequality?
6. How will you address the Treaty of Waitangi in the context of the New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000?
7. Where/how will you intervene to tackle this issue? Use the Ministry of Health Intervention Framework to guide your thinking.
8. How could this intervention affect health inequalities?
9. Who will benefit most?
10. What might the unintended consequences be?
11. What will you do to make sure it does reduce/eliminate inequalities?
12. How will you know if inequalities have been reduced/eliminated?

(Adapted from Bro Taf Authority. 2000. *Planning for Positive Impact: Health inequalities impact assessment tool*. Cardiff: Bro Taf Authority.)

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Source: Te Roopu Rangahau a Erū Pomare., Ministry of Health and Public Health Consultancy. 2003. *A Health Equity Assessment Tool*. Wellington: Public Health Consultancy, Wellington School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

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