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| **Local innovators reflect on the Journey: Public Health Plan Implementation in Local Governments**  |
| **Background/Objectives**Public Health planning in local governments in Western Australia (WA) is a relatively new approach to addressing local health needs. The *Western Australian Public Health Act* came into effect in 2016. The *Public Health Act* encompasses a range of legislative requirements, some of which include the development of Local Public Health Plans. A range of roles within the Local government workforce therefore are likely to require support to plan and implement Public Health Plans, which in the past have not directly been a component of their role. There is limited understanding and evidence of the barriers and enablers that contribute to effective implementation of Public Health Plans in the Western Australian context. The research sought to determine the critical success factors associated with implementing Public health Plans local Governments within Western Australia.**Methods**The exploratory studyencompasseda series of case studies of three local Governments in Western Australia who had implemented a Public Health Plan. Qualitative data was collected via in-depth interviews and a thematic analysis was undertaken to derive predominant enablers and barriers to plan implementation. Document analysis was undertaken to identify Public Health Plan integration linkages and gaps with existing Community Strategic planning and Corporate Business planning documents. **Results**The results of this study articulate Local Government staff perspectives about the enablers and challenges faced when implementing a Public Health Plan. Critical success factors perceived to impede implementation included organisational capacity, intra and external partnerships, perceived public health literacy, plan alignment and integration issues and monitoring and evaluation challenges.**Discussion**This study informs discussion around the training and resource requirements of staff in Local governments and municipalities tasked with the development and implementation of Local Public Health Plans to address local health issues. Furthermore the study outlines recommended actions to advance the capacity of Local Government Officers to engage in effective health promotion practice, to identify health priorities, along with organisational structures to enhance internal advocacy and leadership in plan implementation. **Keywords****Local government. Public Health Plans. Health promotion practice.** |