Public Health Ethics: Frameworks for Leaders

22 – 26 February 2027
Addis Ababa

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Public Health Ethics: Frameworks for Leaders

Ref: 103600494_225303 **Date:** 22 – 26 February 2027 **Location:** Addis Ababa **Fees:** 4500 Euro

Course Overview

This course provides a strategic and practical foundation in public health ethics and public health decision making for leaders navigating complex health challenges. Modern health systems require decision makers to balance individual rights, community welfare, equity, accountability, and transparency. This course introduces ethical decision making in public health through structured frameworks that help leaders justify decisions, evaluate options, and communicate choices confidently. Participants will explore ethical dilemmas in public health, understand how ethical frameworks in public health guide actions, and strengthen their ability to apply public health leadership ethics in real scenarios.

The course covers health ethics training concepts related to population health, fairness, and the responsible use of data. It examines health system decision making, public health governance, and health policy decision tools used by leaders to navigate conflicting values. Through case studies and scenario-based discussions, learners will explore community health ethics, health equity and ethics, public health emergency ethics, and public health risk communication ethics in environments where decisions must be justified clearly and quickly. This course equips leaders with the confidence to apply ethical principles and defend decisions that impact communities, systems, and national health strategies.

Target Audience

- Public health leaders and health program managers
- Senior health administrators and policymakers
- Public health officers and epidemiologists
- Health system governance professionals
- Risk communication and public information specialists
- Emergency response and disaster management personnel
- Health policy and planning analysts
- Ethics committee members and compliance managers

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Targeted Organizational Departments

- Public health directorates applying public health ethics and ethical decision making in public health
- Health emergency management teams using public health emergency ethics
- Public health policy and planning units using public health decision making tools
- Governance and compliance departments integrating public health policy ethics
- Community outreach teams implementing community health ethics and health equity and ethics
- Health communication divisions applying public health risk communication ethics

Targeted Industries

- Government health ministries and public health authorities
- Healthcare systems, hospitals, and clinics
- Humanitarian organizations and NGOs
- International health and development agencies
- Universities and public health training institutions
- Disaster response and emergency coordination bodies
- Research institutions managing population health data

Course Offerings

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

- Apply public health ethics principles to complex decision-making situations
- Use structured ethical decision making in public health for transparent, defensible choices
- Analyze ethical dilemmas in public health involving autonomy, justice, and equity
- Implement public health governance practices aligned with ethical leadership values
- Use health policy decision tools to evaluate community impact and system-level implications
- Strengthen public health leadership ethics for high-pressure situations
- Integrate health equity and ethics into decisions affecting vulnerable groups
- Apply community health ethics while engaging stakeholders
- Improve communication strategies by applying public health risk communication ethics

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Training Methodology

This course uses interactive, practice-based methods designed to build confidence and competence in public health ethics and public health decision making. Participants work through simulations, case studies, group discussions, and scenario-based problem solving to apply ethical principles to real situations. The training integrates ethical frameworks in public health into structured decision pathways, helping participants analyze dilemmas, justify actions, and balance conflicting values.

Through collaborative exercises, participants examine ethical dilemmas in public health involving resource allocation, community engagement, equity, and emergency response. Facilitators guide participants in evaluating leadership choices, analyzing trade-offs, and practicing ethical communication. Activities focus on the application of public health leadership ethics in health system decision making, ensuring learners can manage uncertainty, communicate decisions, and uphold accountability. Reflection sessions help participants internalize principles such as transparency, fairness, and public trust. Every module supports the practical application of public health policy ethics, community health ethics, public health emergency ethics, and public health risk communication ethics.

Course Toolbox

- Decision-making flowchart examples
- Value-based evaluation templates
- Accountability and governance mapping samples
- Community engagement planning examples
- Emergency ethics risk assessment samples
- Ethical communication strategy samples
- Scenario-based ethical dilemma case studies

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Course Agenda

Day 1: Foundations of Public Health Ethics

- **Topic 1:** Introduction to public health ethics and core values
- **Topic 2:** Ethical principles guiding public health decision making
- **Topic 3:** Identifying and analyzing ethical dilemmas in practice
- **Topic 4:** Understanding public health governance and responsibility
- **Topic 5:** Community, equity, and justice considerations in health programs
- **Reflection & Review:** Key takeaways on ethical foundations and leadership insights

Day 2: Ethical Decision-Making Frameworks

- **Topic 1:** Structured models for ethical decision making
- **Topic 2:** Balancing autonomy, benefit, risk, and fairness
- **Topic 3:** Applying public health decision making tools
- **Topic 4:** Ethical evaluation of policies, programs, and interventions
- **Topic 5:** Leadership decision pathways in complex public health settings
- **Reflection & Review:** Reviewing analytical frameworks and practical applications

Day 3: Health Systems Ethics & Community Engagement

- **Topic 1:** Ethical challenges in health system decision making
- **Topic 2:** Integrating health equity and ethics in program design
- **Topic 3:** Community health ethics and stakeholder participation
- **Topic 4:** Ethical considerations in data privacy, surveillance, and information use
- **Topic 5:** Policy ethics and transparency in public health actions
- **Reflection & Review:** Lessons learned from health systems and community ethics

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Day 4: Emergency Ethics & Communication Challenges

- **Topic 1:** Ethical decision making in emergencies and outbreaks
- **Topic 2:** Evaluating benefits, risks, and burdens during crises
- **Topic 3:** Public health risk communication ethics
- **Topic 4:** Ethical leadership under pressure and uncertainty
- **Topic 5:** Crisis simulation: Applying ethical frameworks in real-time situations
- **Reflection & Review:** Insights from emergency decision making and communication

Day 5: Applied Leadership Ethics & Advanced Case Analysis

- **Topic 1:** Ethics in public health leadership and administration
- **Topic 2:** Accountability, transparency, and ethical justification
- **Topic 3:** Managing conflicting values in policy and practice
- **Topic 4:** Decision making for vulnerable populations and equity concerns
- **Topic 5:** Full-case ethical analysis and advanced decision-making exercises
- **Reflection & Review:** Final synthesis on ethical leadership and decision readiness

FAQ

What specific qualifications or prerequisites are needed for participants before enrolling in the course?

No formal prerequisites are required. However, experience in public health, health administration, community health, or health policy enables participants to engage deeply with concepts such as public health ethics, health system decision making, and ethical decision making in public health.

How long is each day's session, and is there a total number of hours required for the entire course?

Each day's session is generally structured to last around 4–5 hours, with breaks and interactive activities included. The total course duration spans one week, approximately 20–25 hours of instruction.

Which ethical challenges are most confusing for new public health practitioners?

New practitioners often struggle with balancing individual autonomy and community protection when applying ethical frameworks in public health, particularly in areas such as public health emergency ethics and health equity and ethics.

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How This Course is Different from Other Public Health Ethics & Decision-Making Courses

This course stands out by combining practical leadership development with applied public health ethics and structured decision-making approaches that reflect real-world challenges. Rather than focusing on theoretical discussions, the course emphasizes public health decision making, ethical dilemmas in public health, and public health governance through hands-on exercises and leadership scenarios. Participants explore how to integrate principles such as transparency, accountability, equity, and fairness into daily decision making.

The course also reinforces public health leadership ethics and strengthens the ability to use health policy decision tools for high-impact decisions. Special focus is given to community health ethics, public health emergency ethics, and public health risk communication ethics, ensuring that leaders are prepared for urgent, high-pressure situations. By the end of the course, participants gain both the technical and moral confidence needed to navigate population-level decisions, support public trust, and implement ethical governance practices within their organizations.