

Course description Master of Science in Public Health		
Module responsible: Jan Sørensen	Last updated: November 2015	Page 1 of 2 pages
Module number: 3972002		
Module title: The Economics of Prevention in Health		
ECTS-points	7.5	
Responsible institute	Institute of Public Health, COHERE - Centre of Health Economics Research	
Prerequisites connected to the module	None	
General objectives	<p>In a context of increasing prevalence of lifestyle-related chronic diseases, prevention may offer opportunities to increase social welfare and to enhance health equity across individuals and population groups. This raises the question of whether and to what extent efforts should be made to prevent diseases rather than to accept the consequences of treating and managing them. A common belief is that individuals are in the best position to judge their own welfare (i.e. health). However, the markets in which many lifestyle choices are made do not always work efficiently. Therefore, consumption behaviours that originate in such markets may not always lead to improvements in individual and/or societal welfare. Government interventions and policies may provide opportunities for increasing social welfare, but they may also be used to favour a redistribution of health, i.e. to reduce health disparities among population groups.</p> <p>The module aims at:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) introducing a conceptual framework on the economics of disease prevention, through which the scope and potential for government intervention will be explored, and 2) applying the conceptual framework to the analysis of issues and policies in the prevention of lifestyle-related chronic diseases. 	
Specific competency objectives	<p>After participating in the module, the student should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • describe the economic framework for understanding the determinants of health and health behaviour especially related to life style choices as well as the economic consequences of ill health and the burden of disease • analyse the implication of different prevention policies on health behaviour • evaluate prevention programmes from an economic perspective 	

Course description Master of Science in Public Health		
Module responsible: Jan Sørensen	Last updated: November 2015	Page 2 of 2 pages
Module number: 3969112		
Module title: The Economics of Prevention in Health		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • discuss the use of appropriate methods for assessing prevention and promotion programmes taking into account the strengths and weaknesses of conventional methods in the area of prevention. • appraise the organization of preventive interventions between national, regional and local actors and discuss optimal economic coordination and division of tasks. 	
Time of teaching	2 nd semester, 2 nd quarter (Spring semester)	
Competency profile of the education	This module contributes to the elements 2, 6, 10 and 11 of the competency profile of the education (see MSc in Public Health curriculum section 1.4)	
Type of teaching	In this module the students will acquire new knowledge on the conceptual framework on the economics of disease prevention in lectures. Students will train their ability to apply this knowledge to the analysis of issues and policies in the prevention of lifestyle-related chronic diseases in debates, student presentations.	
Prerequisites connected to the examination	None	
Type of examination	4 hour written examination All study material allowed during the examination. Internal censorship. Grading by the 7-point grading scale.	
Evaluation at the grade 12 / evaluation Pass	Grade 12 is given if the student has shown excellent performance, having comprehensively fulfilled the module's objectives with no or only a few minor weaknesses.	
Approved by	The Academic Study Board of Public Health	Approved on 14 August 2014