Abstract
The National Environmental Policy Act and related state laws require public agencies to analyze and disclose potentially significant environmental effects of agency actions, including effects on human health. We review the purpose and procedures of environmental impact assessment (EIA), existing regulatory requirements for health effects analysis, and potential barriers to and opportunities for improving integration of human health concerns within the EIA process. We use statutes, regulations, guidelines, court opinions, and empirical research on EIA along with recent case examples of integrated health impact assessment (HIA)/EIA at state and federal level. We extract lessons and recommendations for integrated HIA/EIA practice from both existing practices as well as case studies. The latter demonstrate the adequacy, scope, and power of existing statutory requirements for health analysis within EIA. The following support the success of integrated HIA/EIA: a proponent recognizing EIA as an available regulatory strategy for public health; the openness of the agency conducting the EIA; involvement of public health institutions; and complementary objectives among community stakeholders and health practitioners. We recommend greater collaboration among institutions responsible for EIA, public health institutions, and affected stakeholders along with guidance, resources, and training for integrated HIA/EIA practice.

Keywords
Environmental health, Environmental impact assessment, Environmental justice, Health determinants, Health disparities.