

Directions for Exercise 1

Your group has been given a health pathway – part of a logic framework that hypothesizes a connection between one aspect of a specific environmental project and a specific health outcome.

In order to carry out the assessment, the HIA team would need to:

- a) 'Validate' this pathway – the pathway has been sketched out based on conjecture. Will it be accurate in the current situation, with its specific population and project context?
- b) Assess the pathway – what are the changes that are likely to occur, if any? How severe would those changes be, who exactly would be affected and how?

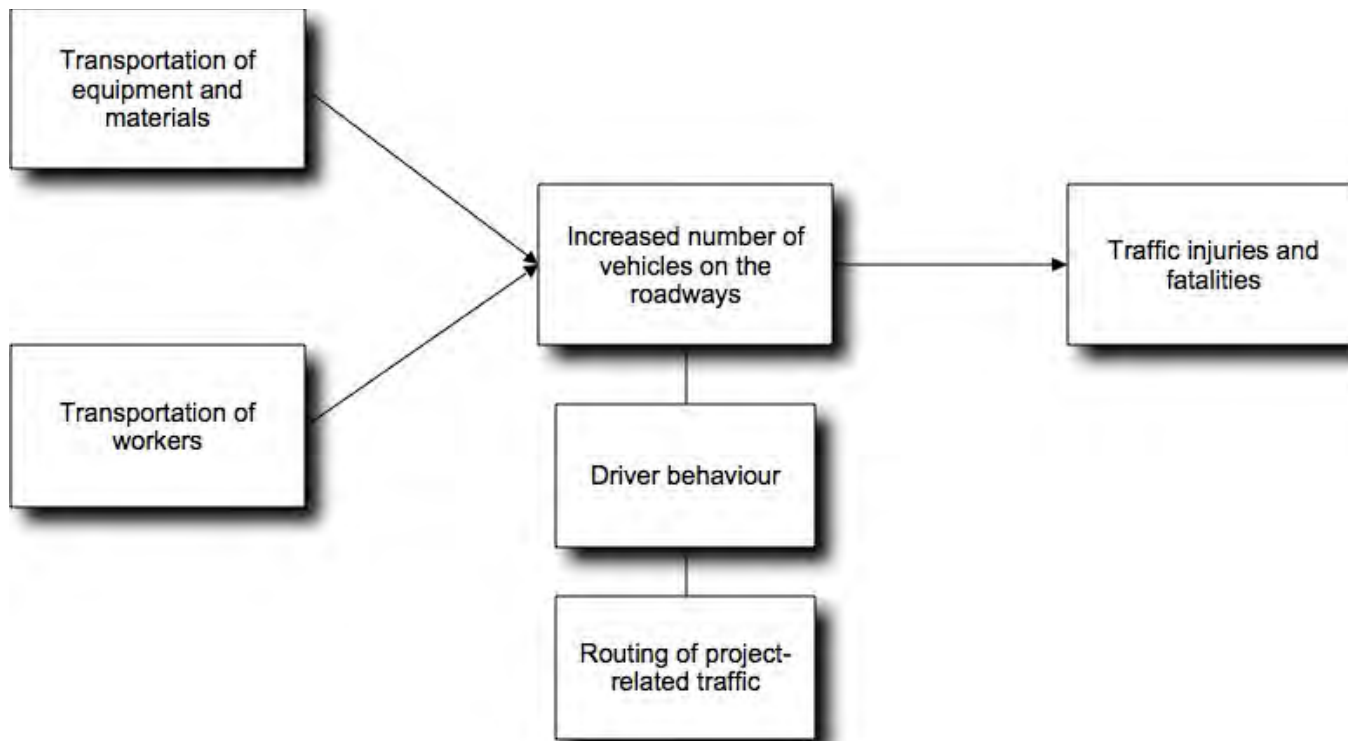
Your task is to determine what type(s) of evidence you might need to draw on in order to complete this assessment.

Where would you look? What would constitute appropriate 'evidence' in this case? How would you obtain it? How much confidence could you place in it?

Remember that all the links in the pathway will need supporting evidence; it may be that different evidence sources are appropriate for different links.

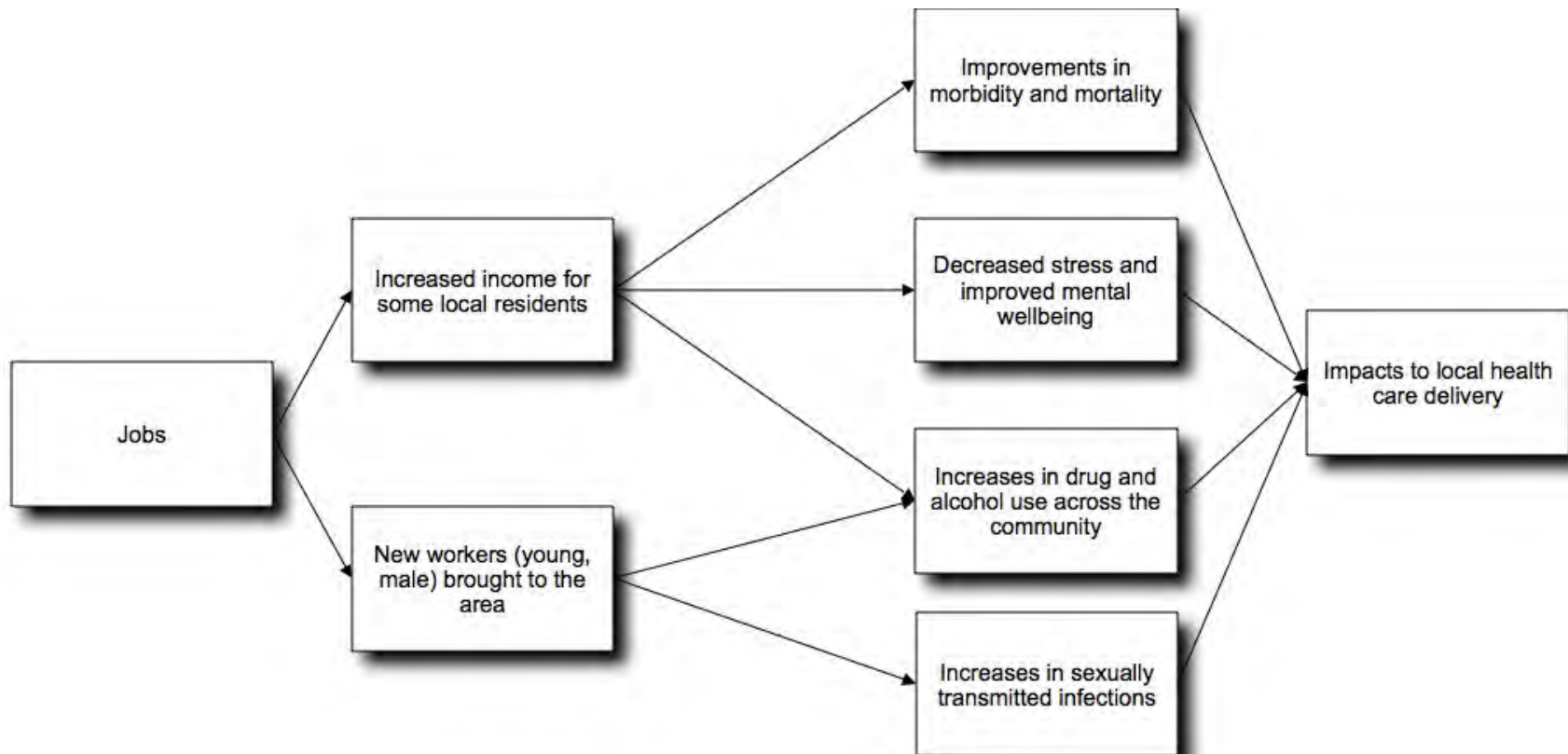
Traffic Safety Health Pathway

Scenario: A new shopping mall is being constructed in a suburb of City Sunshine. During the construction phase of the project there will be numerous large trucks traveling from the train depot to the project work site carrying heavy loads of construction-related materials. Construction workers from the local and surrounding areas will also be traveling to the project site for their shifts.



Jobs Health Pathway

Scenario: A natural gas development is planned for a remote area in western Canada. The current population is about 1,500, clustered in two towns and a number of surrounding farms. The development will require 700 workers for the 18-month construction phase and 200 workers for the 20-year operations phase, and will provide employment to basically anyone in the area who wants it. It is estimated that 600 workers will have to be brought in from the outside to make up the difference.



Perceived Contamination Health Pathway

Scenario: An oil and gas development is planned for a remote area in Northern Alberta. The area surrounding the proposed development is currently home to a community of approximately 100 Cree tribal members. Although there is a small grocery store within 40 km, the community members mainly rely on subsistence hunting and trapping for food.

