

Proposed Policy Brief Priority Areas 2026/2027

**The ERC will review a maximum of five fast-track submissions per year*

1. Importance of vaccines in preventing disease morbidity and mortality
 - Emphasis on known safety and efficacy of vaccines including mRNA technology, with acknowledgement of the barriers to access and misinformation that reduces uptake
2. Improving the health of communities to reduce prevalence of chronic disease prevention
 - Focus on evidence-based strategies to improve the health at the community level and address risk-factors
3. Broad gun violence prevention to include-expanded background checks, reinstating assault weapons ban, funding for gun violence prevention research, red flag law and other public health measures
 - Update archived policy statement 9818 adjusting to include evolution of societal changes and technological innovations.
 - Expand upon current briefs specific areas of violence prevention
4. Health impacts of fossil fuels and need to transition to clean energy
 - Consider building on recently archived [20157- Public Health Opportunities to Address the Health Effects of Climate Change](#) as well as other policy statements on related topics including air pollution, energy policy and the built environment that have now been archived or will archive this year
5. All-hazards preparedness, including response including pandemics and emerging diseases including:
 - Planning
 - Strategic stockpiles
 - Surveillance
6. Immigration policy, including:
 - Humane treatment of all immigrants
 - Access to health service
 - Safe living conditions/nutritious foods
 - Active- 20207- APHA Opposes Separation and Confinement to Detention Centers of Immigrant and Refugee Children and Families at U.S. Borders, but not a more overarching statement
7. Nutrition and Health; Dietary Guidelines Overall; Supplemental Nutrition Programs

- Respond to changes in guidelines and update 201911- Dietary Guidelines for Americans: Broadening the Evidence Base, Applicability, and Implementation to Advance Public Health- but new guidelines may force updates
 - Review and consider including elements of archived policy statements on sugar sweetened beverages ([20122](#)); including children under 2 in dietary guidelines ([20144](#)), WIC ([200319](#)), and fast-food labelling guidelines ([200414](#))