

The results of the Score and Rank Process were:

TOP ISSUES

- 1) Tobacco Use/Smoking/Smokeless Tobacco
 - 1) Teen Alcohol and Drug Abuse
 - 2) Adult Alcohol Abuse
 - 3) Adult Drug Abuse
 - 4) Cancer
 - 5) Heart Conditions
 - 6) Teen Pregnancy
 - 7) Obesity
 - 8) Domestic Violence
 - 9) High Blood Pressure
- 10) Health Problems of the Lungs
 - 11) Arthritis

At this point in the prioritization process, the Overton County Health Council members performed the PEARL TEST. Once health problems have been rated for size, seriousness and effectiveness of available interventions, they should be judged on the factors of: Propriety, Economics, Aceptability, Resources and Legality. The initial letters of these factors make up the acronym **PEARL**. The PEARL TEST is an additional way to gain a consensus of the council for the priority issue. The following is a brief description of the PEARL TEST.

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| <i>Propriety:</i> | Is a program for the health problem suitable? |
| <i>Economics:</i> | Does it make economic sense to address the problem? Are there economic consequences if a problem is not carried out? |
| <i>Acceptability:</i> | Will the community accept a program? Is it wanted? |
| <i>Resources:</i> | Is funding available or potentially available for a program? |
| <i>Legality:</i> | Do current laws allow program activities to be implemented? |

The top issues according to the PEARL Test were:

- 1) Teen Alcohol and Drug Abuse**
 - 2) Teen Pregnancy**
 - 3) Domestic Violence**
 - 4) Adult Alcohol Abuse**
 - 5) Adult Drug Abuse**
 - 5) Cancer**
- 6) Health Problems of the Lungs**