**Presentation 1: A Guide and key questions to assess a Mixed Provider Payment System (MPPS)**

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Aim and objectives

The purpose of the analysis of MPPS is to inform and improve the national policy dialogue on purchasing. The results of such an analysis serve to make the case for and draw attention to the need of aligning payment methods within and across purchasers as an important step towards strategic purchasing.

Approach

The Guide adopts an explicit systemic perspective and focuses on the provider payment mix: it is not about one instrument or one payment method – what matters is how all these individual payment methods come together and whether they generate a coherent set of incentives at the level of providers that works towards the UHC goals. This system perspective puts strong emphasis on the provider perspective and combines it with a purchaser perspective so as to look at the combined effects on the overall UHC objectives.

Content of the guide

The first part of the Guide explains what a MPPS is, why this matters for UHC, and how this may result in undesirable provider behaviors such as cream skimming or resource shifting. Subsequently, it looks at how such behaviors may affect the UHC objectives, i.e. efficiency, equity, financial protection and quality. It presents the overall methodological approach of the assessment and provides indications on how to undertake such an assessment.

Part 2 of the Guide contains a detailed set of guiding questions to direct the assessment of a country’s MPPS with regards to the five key steps outlined below:

1. Panorama of the Mix Provider Payment System: mapping exercise including relevant information on the overall context, the various purchasers andproviders, as well as the multiple payment methods in use;
2. Assessment of the incentives created by the mixed provider payment system in combination with the level of provider autonomy and managerial flexibility, how these incentives potentially influence the behaviour of each provider type and how they affect UHC objectives;
3. Assessment of the other effects of the mixed payment system across the whole health system;
4. Assessment of the effects of governance arrangements on the functioning of the MPPS;
5. Development of policy options in order to improve the overall coherence of the MPPS and its alignment on the UHC goals.