Main focus areas: Assessment, health technology, planning

Targeted audience: Policy makers, researchers in health economics and policy analysis, post-graduate students

Bilingual: English only

Date: 26 September, 2016, 9.00 am – 1.00pm

Main organizers: PRICELESS SA, Wits University, South Africa in partnership with the International Decision Support Initiative (IDSI)

Workshop registration: To apply for this workshop, please visit the link below: http://afhea.org/en/pre-conference-workshop-application-forms-delegates

Background and motivation for the workshop

Many countries on the African continent are progressing towards Universal Health Coverage (UHC), key element contributing towards the achievement of sustainable development goals for good health and well-being, reducing inequality and promoting economic growth.

Providing comprehensive Health Benefit Packages (HBPs) under a UHC system can provide clarity on eligibility, access and expectations of a health service, facilitating multiple benefits including reduction of out-of-pocket expenditure and protection from health related impoverishment,
improved programme budgeting, empowerment of patients and public and a platform for quality improvement.

However, determining what services and technologies are included in the HBP (the HBP design) requires a coherent and evidence informed strategy, that acknowledges budget availability and accommodates consideration of social values and wider health system objectives.

There are multiple elements to a sustainable HBP design framework, including setting goals and criteria, determining the shape of the HBP, conducting analysis, deliberation and decision making. ¹ A Health Technology Assessment (HTA) process, including the use of cost effectiveness analysis (CEA) and budget impact analysis (BIA) represents a potential mechanism to address a central element of HBP design.

**Course description**

This workshop will introduce some fundamental principles of sustainable Health Benefits Package design and its interlinkages with Health Technology Assessment to inform decision making for priority setting in health. The course will also present case study examples of countries at different stages in HTA development and HTA design.

**Training objectives**

- Introduce central concepts and existing frameworks in the design of health benefits packages
- Introduce key elements of HTA processes
- Discuss common linkages between high quality HTA and sustainable health benefits package design
- Discuss country experiences of HTA and HBP design

**Intended attendees**

- Technical audience: Those that are currently (or will be) conducting Health Technology Assessments to inform health care priority setting and HBP design

• Policy audience: Those that are currently (or will be) using the results of HTAs to create Health Benefit Packages make decisions (or advise other decision makers) on health care priority setting.
• Those with an interest in how the principles underpinning the planning, conduct, and reporting of economic evaluations are important for decision making.

Module outline

i. Health Benefits Packages as a means to Universal Health Coverage
   a. Attributes of HBPs
   b. 10 Core Elements of Setting up an HBP
   c. Stakeholders
   d. Challenges to Establishing HBPs and Potential Solutions
   e. Benefits to establishing a HBPs
   f. Consequences of an Ill-designed HBPs

ii. Health Technology Assessment
   a. Components of the HTA process including assessment and appraisal
   b. Key elements of Cost Effectiveness Analysis and Budget Impact Analysis
   c. How to align HTA practice with principles of UHC

iii. HBP and HTA Linkages
   a. How HTA provides the best information to inform HBP design
   b. HTA Capacity Building within HBP Reform Activities
   c. Role of Data

iv. International Case Studies:
   a. South Africa
   b. Ghana (TBC)
   c. Ethiopia (TBC)
   d. Thailand (TBC)

Teaching faculty (to insert brief bios)

Dr Ijeoma Edoka
Mr Tommy Wilkinson
Dr Ant Kinghorn
Ms Laura Morris
Country representatives (TBC)

**Will also explore availability of**
- Pete Smith (Imperial College)
- Amanda Glassman (or nominee from CGD)
- Yot (or nominee from Thailand)
- Other representatives from IDSI network (e.g. India or China?)
- Colleagues nominated by AfHEA

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