

Universal Health Coverage Assessment for Pakistan

Department: Community Health Sciences Department

Project Sponsors: International Development Research Centre, Canada

Duration: 2014-2015

Principal Investigator (International): Professor Di McIntyre, University of Cape-Town, South Africa

Principal Investigator (Pakistan): Muhammad Ashar Malik

Background: Universal health coverage has been adopted as one of the strategic objective of the UN sustainable development Goals (SDG). This research work carried out country assessment of Pakistan towards universal health coverage. We used McIntyre and Kutzin (2014) UHC framework for country level assessment. We presented data that provide insights into the extent of financial protection and access to needed health services in Pakistan.

Primary Objectives: To assess Pakistan's progress towards achieving universal health coverage.

Methods: We used qualitative and quantitative methods to assess the impact of out of pocket health payments on household. We analyzed national economic survey data of 2004-05 and National Health accounts data 2012. We provided catastrophic and poverty impact of OOP payments. Progressivity of domestic financing of health services and benefit incidence of health services use.

Research Impact\Expected outcome\Result: The Pakistan country assessment is completed and now published on the web portal of global network for health equity (<http://gnhe.org/>). It is expected that this publication will inform health policy makers to reform health system for providing financial protection and enhance access to public health facilities for every citizen of Pakistan.