Economics of Health Financing

Short course

13-17 February 2012

The audience
The course will be of interest to postgraduate students in international health, public health, business and other disciplines whose future employment may take them into government departments, international organisations, consulting firms and international and national NGOs with responsibilities for health financing.

The course will also be of interest to managers, policy analysts and researchers who are currently working in the health sector and wish to update their skills on the current theory and practice of the economics of health financing.

Course Credit
Participants who complete post-training assessment will on application be granted academic credit in the coursework programs offered by the Centre for International Health.

Academic credit in other courses at Curtin and at other universities is dependent on negotiation between the participant and the appropriate enrolling centres. Completion of the assessment is optional. To cover the costs of assessment an additional payment of $200 is required.

Course Location
The course will be held at the main Curtin University campus in Perth, Australia. The host organisation is the Centre for International Health which is based in the School of Nursing and Midwifery. The Centre aspires to advance learning to improve the health and wellbeing of people throughout the world through the creation, dissemination and application of knowledge in international health. The Centre offers postgraduate courses via distance learning and higher degrees by research.

February is summer in Perth. At this time of year, Perth enjoys a Mediterranean climate with warm to hot dry summers and a cooling sea breeze. The summer temperature averages 31°C during the day and 18°C at night.

Stable and sustainable health financing is an essential component for the achievement of population health goals including Millennium Development Goals. This 5 day intensive short course aims to develop and build skills to describe and critically analyse health systems in high, middle and low income countries in terms of financing, structure, functions and performance, and to examine how this performance structure and functions and health policies will be assessed in terms of efficiency, effectiveness and equity. The course material will have general application to all countries but the special case of developing countries will be emphasised throughout.
**Course topics**

**Module 1: Context of Health Financing and Sector Performance**
This module will introduce some basic concepts of economics and the relationship between health and development. Topics covered include:
- Introduction to health economics,
- Macroeconomic policies to reduce poverty and achieve sustainable and inclusive development with special emphasis on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs),
- Comparison of health financing frameworks in low, middle and high income countries,
- Indicators for monitoring health financing and performance of health systems,
- Sources of data including National Health Accounts.

**Module 2: Strategies for Financing and Paying for Health Care**
This module will cover a financing framework model and its relationship to health goals and outcomes. Topics covered include:
- An analysis of sources of funds, pooling of funds and purchasing of health services and goods,
- Different financing models and the implications for health system goals,
- Role of government in raising funds through taxes and social security,
- What sort of equity: of health, of access, of finance?
- Measuring performance in terms of equity,
- Financing for maternal and child health in Asia and the Pacific: a case study of the economic, financing and equity issues.
- Comparison of health financing frameworks in low, middle and high income countries,
- Risk pools in diverse settings including community-based health insurance, private voluntary insurance and social or national health insurance,
- Efficiency and equity in the design of health insurance,
- Risk equalisation techniques.

**Module 3: Equity in Health and Health Care**
This module will cover equity issues in health with applications to achieving MDGs. Topics covered include:
- What sort of equity: of health, of access, of finance?
- Measuring performance in terms of equity,
- Financing for maternal and child health in Asia and the Pacific: a case study of the economic, financing and equity issues.
- Comparison of health financing frameworks in low, middle and high income countries,
- Risk pools in diverse settings including community-based health insurance, private voluntary insurance and social or national health insurance,
- Efficiency and equity in the design of health insurance,
- Risk equalisation techniques.

**Module 4: Health Insurance**
The organisation of health insurance differs markedly across countries, even in countries with similar levels of economic development. Topics covered in this module include:
- The role and design of health insurance in low, middle and high income countries,
- Risk pools in diverse settings including community-based health insurance, private voluntary insurance and social or national health insurance,
- Efficiency and equity in the design of health insurance,
- Risk equalisation techniques.

**Module 5: Key Challenges Facing the Health Care Sector**
Health systems are changing with globalisation due to increasing role of donor agencies in funding, health tourism and the mobility of health personnel. The impact of these changes is seen particularly in developing countries. This module will cover:
- Impact of globalisation on funding and outcomes,
- Trade in health goods and services,
- Migration and mobility of health personnel and people,
- Role of international organisations,
- Health financing and policy in the

**CONTACT:**
Centre for International Health
Curtin University
Street address: Kent Street, Bentley, WA 6102
Postal address: GPO Box U1987, Perth, WA 6845
Tel: +61 8 9266 9086
Fax: +61 8 9266 2959
Email: CIH-Events@curtin.edu.au
Web: cih.curtin.edu.au
Economics of Health Financing

THE FACILITATORS

Sandra Hopkins
Professor Sandra Hopkins is a health economist with expertise in health financing, policy and insurance. She was formerly coordinator of the data collection and revision of the System of Health Accounts (SHA) in the Health Division, OECD Paris. Sandra has experience working in OECD countries on health accounts, the Pacific Islands on a project on the institutionalisation of National Health Accounts and a number of countries in East Asia as a lecturer in macroeconomics.

Ian Anderson
Mr Ian Anderson was formerly an Advisor and Principal Economist in Health Services Delivery at the Asian Development Bank. His special focus is on the economics and financing of MDGs 4, 5, and 6 dealing with maternal, newborn and child health, and HIV and AIDS. He was formerly a Principal Advisor at AusAID and member of AusAID’s Senior Executive Service. Ian spent a total of 21 years at AusAID including 11 years as a member of AusAID’s Senior Executive. At various times he was Head of Australia’s aid program to China and Indonesia; Head of PNG and Pacific Economic Policy Section; Head of Australia’s aid program to Fiji, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu; and Head of Corporate Planning and Budget. Ian has also worked for the World Bank as a Senior Economist to the Health, Nutrition and Population Unit of the South Asia Department of the Bank.

Delia Hendrie
Ms. Delia Hendrie is a health economist in the Schools of Public Health and Pharmacy at Curtin University. She is also a senior researcher at the Centre for Population Health Research. Particular areas of interest include health system performance, financing and policy analysis, as well as the cost-effectiveness of prevention and treatment. Delia has published widely in the area and has worked alongside government agencies, private sector organisations and community groups on a range of policy-related projects.

The facilitators have extensive international experience working in Asia, the Pacific region and Europe and with major international agencies.

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Registration Acknowledgement/Cancellations/Refunds
Your registration and payment will be acknowledged by email, confirming your requirements according to your registration form. Cancellations must be advised in writing. Cancellations received prior to December 30 will receive a refund of registration fees, less an administration charge of $100AUD. After this date all refund requests will be subject to the discretion of the Secretariat. The Centre for International Health reserves the right to cancel the course if the minimum number of 15 participants is not reached.

Travel Information
Participants are responsible for their own travel and accommodation arrangements. A list of reasonably priced accommodation close to Curtin University or on public transport routes to the university is available on request.
Economics of Health Financing
REGISTRATION FORM

PERSONAL DETAILS
Title (Prof/Dr/Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss)  Family Name  Given Name
Street Address  City/Town/Suburb
Post/Zip Code  State  Country
Telephone (  )  Fax (  )

Email (this will be our primary contact with you)
Special Dietary Requirements e.g. - vegetarian, halal (please specify)

REGISTRATION FEES & PAYMENT DETAILS
(Please tick appropriate box)
Early bird registration fees (closes 25 November 2011)  $2050 AUD (GST inclusive)  
Normal registration fees (closes 13 January 2012)  $2150 AUD (GST inclusive)  
Late registration (closes 27 January 2012)  $2250 AUD (GST inclusive)  
Completion of the course for credit  $200 AUD extra

Please register me for the following event which is available at no extra charge to course participants:
Social Function (15 February 7pm)  
Closing Celebration and Certificate Presentation (17 February 3.30pm)  

*All payments must be in AUSTRALIAN DOLLARS only. Payments in other currency will not be accepted.
*Please make all bank cheques/drafts payable to Curtin University.
(personal cheques will not be accepted)

Visa  MasterCard  (Please tick appropriate box)
Card Number  ____________
Card Expiry Date ____/____
Cardholder’s Name  _______________________________________

SEND COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORM AND PAYMENT TO:
Centre for International Health  School of Nursing and Midwifery, Curtin University
Street address: Kent Street, Bentley, WA 6102
Postal address: GPO Box U1987, Perth, WA 6845
Tel: +61 8 9266 9086  Fax: +61 8 9266 2959
Email: cihevents@curtin.edu.au
Web: cih.curtin.edu.au

CASHIER USE ONLY
Payer / Receipt made out to:
Narration: Economics and Health Financing Short Course 2012
Cost Centre: H 106900-0130-43131
Amount to debit: $2150 (GST inclusive)