Priority Setting in Health

- Health care services
- Prospects for evaluation
- Health problems for Health Benenit Plans (e.g. Chile)
- Investments in infrastructure
- Setting priorities for health research
How to make priorities?

✓ Cost per QALY
✓ Deliberation
✓ Multicriteria Decision Analysis

Plan for this session

✓ Cost per QALY
✓ MCDA
✓ Priority setting in practice
✓ Experiences in Latin America
✓ Challenges and opportunities for implementing methods for priority setting in Latin America
Challenges and opportunities for implementing Priority Setting in Latin America

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Outline

✓ Challenges and Opportunities
  • Methodological
  • Political economy
  • Institutional arrangements

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### Methods: Cost per QALY

**Advantages**
- Systematic
- Scrutable/transparent/reliable
- Well accepted methods
- It offers clear decision rules
- Consideration of opportunity costs
- It facilitates deliberation

**Challenges**
- Highly technical
- Lack of trained human resources
- Criticism to outcome measurement
- It does not include all possible relevant social values
- Difficulties of measuring threshold

### Methods: Full MCDA

**Advantages**
- Systematic
- Scrutable/transparent/reliable
- Simple interpretation
- It offers clear decision rules
- It facilitates deliberation
- Comprehensive

**Challenges**
- Recent applications in health
- Methodological challenges in all stages
- It does not formally include opportunity costs
Political economy

- Majority voting model
- Interest groups model
- Bureaucratic decision making

Decisions to maximize population health or social welfare
Goals in opposition with the objective of the health system


Challenge: Process

✓ Lack of normative
  - Unstructured process (process is not written)
  - Depends on the people working in the MoH

✓ Inefficiency
  - If you dont know what is first, you might begin doing the end
  - Risk of spending time in useless work
Opportunities

✔ Methods
  • Harmonization in cost-effectiveness analysis and decision modelling
  • Increasing experience in using MCDA
    – Identify MCDA for what!
  • More opportunities for training in LAC

✔ Process
  • Local experiences in priority setting processes
  • Write a white paper!!

Opportunities: Institutional Arrangement

✔ How to deal with political economy?

✔ For health technology assessment
  • Technical body in charge of HTA process
  • Independency

✔ For other topics non HTA related
  • Focus on legitimacy
    – Participation
    – Transparency
    – Appealing

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