

<b>Course Title/Code:</b>	<b>Resources for Health (MMPH6170)</b>
<b>Department:</b>	School of Public Health
<b>Objective:</b>	<p>This course analyses the origins and flow of financial resources through the entire health system, in a tri-axial fashion, in that what is consumed has been provided and financed. Therefore, money is traced from revenue sources to agents in financing schemes, to provision influenced by different factors of production (including operating cost structure and capital formation), to consumption by different beneficiaries resulting in observed utilisation patterns.</p> <p>In parallel, students learn about the critical importance of non-financial resources, i.e. human resources, in the production of health care. The planning process for, production, deployment (including substitution), retention and continuous development of different types of health care professionals are illustrated. Special mention is also made of other possible resource constraints to optimal system functioning.</p> <p>Finally common indicators to evaluate health system performance, with particular emphases on financing and human resources, are used to assess various prototypic examples drawn from empirical experience locally and elsewhere.</p>
<b>Content:</b>	<p>Topics include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Course introduction and overview of health care financing</li> <li>• Demand and supply of health care</li> <li>• Production function of health</li> <li>• Estimating National Health Expenditures: application of National Health Account</li> <li>• OECD Health Data (tutorial)</li> <li>• Demographic/epidemiological dynamics and health spending</li> <li>• System performance assessment: equity</li> <li>• System performance assessment: medical impoverishment</li> <li>• The economics of human resources for health</li> <li>• Health care workforce: global and local issues</li> </ul>
<b>Learning Outcomes:</b>	<p>On completion of the module, the students are expected to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand the core principles of national/regional health accounting, including boundary, definition, classification and measurement issues.</li> <li>• Understand the complementary importance and theoretical underpinnings of non-financial resources in health care, notably the production, retention, deployment and development of human resources.</li> <li>• Assess health system performance through various tests of equity, efficiency and responsiveness.</li> </ul>
<b>Prerequisite:</b>	Health Policy and Politics (MMPH6146)
<b>Duration:</b>	Summer Programme (1 week in June/ July) 24 contact hours

**Continuous assessment  
Examination ratio:**

Written assignments: 30%  
Class participation: 20%  
Final exam: 50%

**Remarks:**

Also offered to RPg from other Faculties at HKU.