

MMPH6170 Resources for health

Coordinator: Dr Ravi Rannan-Eliya

Course Description:

This course analyses the origins and flow of resources through health systems. The course begins with an overview of health financing, including revenue generation, risk pooling, and purchasing. It then discusses the production of health, the productivity of health care, and the major drivers of growth in health expenditures. Adopting a universal health coverage framework, the course then discusses how resources are important to achieving both coverage of essential health services and financial protection in health. Basic economic theories of supply and demand will also be covered to enhance the students' understanding of the underlying economic mechanisms affecting the performance of health systems. Student will also learn about the importance of non-financial resources (i.e. human resources and health technologies) in the production of healthcare and the financing of public health systems. Tutorials will cover obtaining health resource data, tracking health expenditures, measuring financial protection, calculating equity, and monitoring progress towards UHC in Hong Kong. Finally, the political economy of improving the availability of resources in a health system will also be discussed.

Pre-/Co-requisite: CMED 6900 Health policy and politics

Tutors/TAs: Dr Phyu Phyu Thin Zaw / Dr Andrew Park / Dorothy Guo/ Ajibola Ogunsola
Term 3 (Tuesday)

Contact person: Dr Phyu Phyu Thin Zaw / Dr Andrew Park

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Date	Time	Recorded Session/Live Session	Lecturer	Venue	
06 May 2025	6:30 – 9:30 p.m.	How much should a country spend on health?/Introduction to course and evaluation specifics	Dr Ravi Rannan-Eliya	Online	
13 May 2025	6:30 – 9:30 p.m.	2. Financing for Universal Health Coverage/Tutorial 1: health system data	Dr Ravi Rannan-Eliya/ Dr Phyu Phyu Thin Zaw/ Dr Andrew Park	Online	
20 May 2025	6:30 – 9:30 p.m.	3. Health financing functions/Tutorial 2: National health accounts	Dr Ravi Rannan-Eliya/ Dr Phyu Phyu Thin Zaw/ Dr Andrew Park	Online	
27 May 2025	6:30 – 9:30 p.m.	4. Comparative health financing/Tutorial 3: Financial protection indicators	Dr Ravi Rannan-Eliya	Online	
03 June 2025	6:30 – 9:30 p.m.	5. The production of health	Dr Ravi Rannan-Eliya	Online	
10 June 2025	6:30 – 9:30 p.m.	6. The drivers of health expenditures/Tutorial 4: Equity calculations	Dr Ravi Rannan-Eliya	Online	
17 June 2025	6:30 – 9:30 p.m.	7. Equity in health and health care/Case 1: Sin taxes in the Philippines	Dr Ravi Rannan-Eliya	Online	
24 June 2025	6:30 – 9:30 p.m.	8. Health workforce issues/Tutorial 5: Equity in health financing in Hong Kong	Dr Ravi Rannan-Eliya/ Dr Phyu Phyu Thin Zaw/ Dr Andrew Park	Online	
08 July 2025	6:30 – 9:30 p.m.	9. Health technologies and other providers/Case 2: Implementing Universal Health Coverage	Dr Ravi Rannan-Eliya	Online	
15 July 2025	6:30 – 9:30 p.m.	10. Public health and infectious diseases/Final exam review	Dr Ravi Rannan-Eliya	Online	
29 July 2025	6:30 – 9:30 p.m.	11: Final examination	-	TBC	

Course Assessment:

•	Assignment 1	20%	(Deadline:)
•	Assignment 2	20%	(Deadline:)
•	Final Examination	30%	(Date:)
•	5 Tutorial assignments (each approximately 4 points)	20%	(Due at 23:59 pm on the evening of the tutorial)

Class participation (attendance, video, sharing)
 10% (Sessions 1-10)

Textbooks:

- Langenbrunner JC, Somanathan A, 2011. "Financing Health Care in East Asia and the Pacific: Best Practices and Remaining Challenges", The World Bank. (hereafter as LS). Available as a PDF.
- Gottret P, Schieber G, 2006. "Health Financing Revisited A Practitioner's Guide", The World Bank (hereafter as GS). Available as a PDF.

In all of the readings listed above, students should assume that the full reading has been assigned unless specific pages numbers are assigned.

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Dr Andrew Park – email: atpark@hku.hk