



Health Policy Subject 4 Health care administration





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Intended learning outcomes

By the end of this subject the student will be able to:

- 1. discuss the structure of the health care system (HCS).
- 2. explain the goals of HCS.
- 3. define health care administration & goals of health care administration.
- 4. explain steps of health care administrant (management, planning & evaluation).
- 5. define situation analysis and problem priorities.
- 6. identify the quick steps for strategic planning and know how to start a health program.
- 7. discuss factors affecting health care administration.
- 8. have an idea about causes of failure of health care administration.

Health care system

- The totality of organized efforts and activities at the community, state or national level to deliver health care to achieve predetermined health-related goals (to improve, promote, protect, restore or maintain health).
- The World Health Organization (WHO) defines health systems as "all the organizations, institutions, and resources that are devoted to producing health actions."
- ❖ This definition includes the full range of individuals involved in the provision and financing of health services including the public, nonprofit, and for-profit private sectors, as well as international and voluntary organizations.

- A health care system implies organized activities to achieve an optimal level of health for a defined population.
- It includes, patients, families, communities, health ministries, health providers, health service organizations, pharmaceutical companies, health financing bodies, and other organizations.
- **!** It is set of interconnected parts that have to function together to be effective.
- ***** These functions include:
- 1. Policy making, regulations,
- 2. Health service provision;
 - health promotion
 - preventive services
 - curative and rehabilitative services.
- 3. Financing and managing resources; pharmaceutical, medical, equipment, information.
- 4. Health information system, on which to base decisions and policies



Health Care Administration: Definition and functions

Health care administration defined as the process by which knowledge and social structures are systematically utilized to achieve specific objectives.

Functions

- 1. Management function: What to do and how to do it? Action for today.
- 2. Planning function: What do we need to do to improve health? Anticipated (Expected) action for tomorrow.
- 3. Evaluation function: Does what we have planed work?

Since health is the most valuable thing we have, health care programs must be

administrated in such away that:

- Users or consumers must accept them (acceptable) .

- They must achieve their objectives.
- They are linked to socioeconomic development.
- They work efficiently.

Failures in administrative functions may be due to:

- Unqualified administrators.
- The complexity of health and health care.



The management function

Healthcare management is the practice of providing leadership, management, and direction to organizations that provide healthcare services and to different units within those organizations.



Healthcare management is centered around three main concepts:

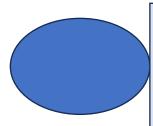
- effectiveness,
- efficiency, and
- equity.

Efficiency of health services: Means optimal use & application of available resources.

Effectiveness of health services: Means to what extent the defined objectives are achieved.

Equity: the state in which everyone has a fair and just opportunity to attain their highest level of health.

MANAGEMENT DEFINITION



•A continuous dynamic process to effectively achieving the identified objectives in right way, right time with the least available resources (Manpower, Money, Materialetc.)







MANAGEMENT VS ADMINISTRATION

ADMINISTRATION

- Frames the policies & goals of an organization.
- The top level with the decisive (key) functions.

MANAGEMENT

•Implements these policies & goals.

•A middle level activity with supervisory function.



The management function

Aims of health management



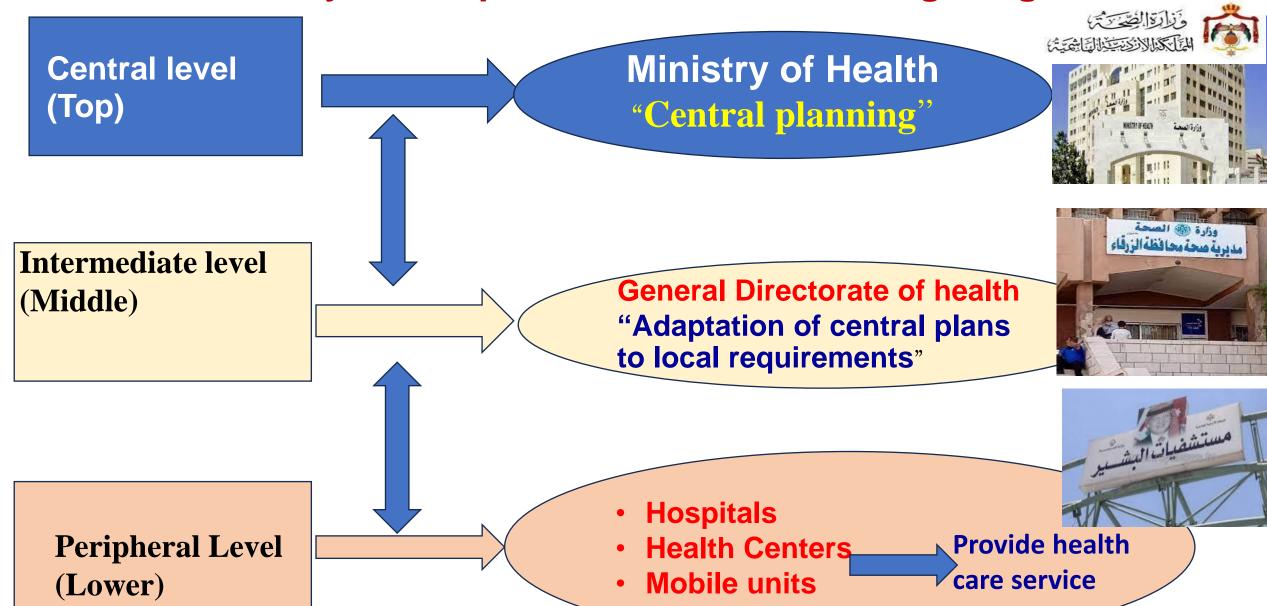
Improve population health.





Scaling (Grading) up the quantity and quality of health services according to the perceived needs and demands of the community.

The health care system represented in the following diagram:

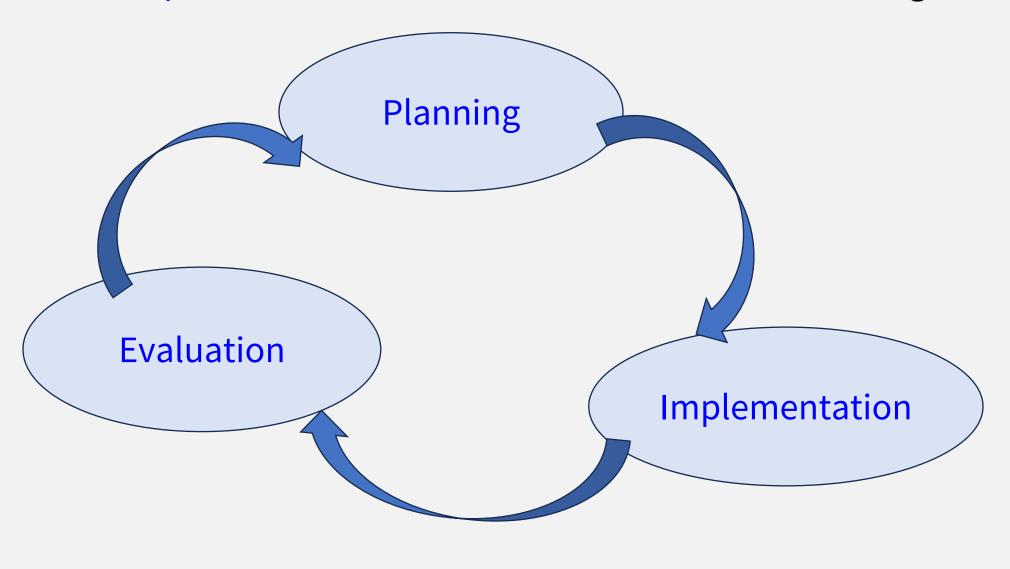


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Management Cycle

Sequence of steps that must be followed to reach the identified goals.



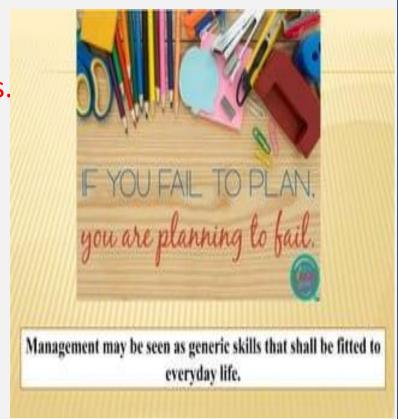
The planning function

Definition: planning is a teamwork involving an organized, intelligent attempt to select the best alternative(s) to achieve specific objectives in efficient manner.

The purpose of planning

- 1. To match limited resources with unlimited problems.
- 2. To use resources effectively and efficiently.

 Minimize or eliminate wasteful use of resources.
- 3. To develop the best course of action to accomplish pre-defined objectives.





- 1. Plan formulation
- 2. Implementation
- 3. Evaluation





The plan is a document containing:

- 1. Objectives
- 2. Policies
- 3. Programs
- 4. Schedules and
- 5. Budget

A. Plan formulation

- 1. Environmental examination and situational analysis.
- 2. Decision on priorities. What to do first?
- 3. Formulation of objectives. Where to be at the end?
- 4. Exploration of various means to achieve objectives.
 - 5. Budgeting

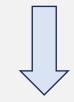
B. Plan implementation

- 6. Choice of best programs (solution).
- 7. Implementation of programs.

C. Plan evaluation

8. Monitoring and Evaluation.







The problem statement

What is actually happening?

Factors that may disturb health care planning:

- **♣**Political instability.
- **L**Economic crises.
- **♣**Administrative inefficiency.
- **+**Complexity of health care determinants.
- **Learning** Conflicts between (among) decision making groups.
- **♣**Natural disasters.
- **∔**Haphazard (random)population distribution.

There are 2 types of planning:

- 1. Population-based planning (need -oriented planning)
- 2. Resource-based planning (crises-oriented planning)

Population-based planning (need oriented planning).

- 1. The first step in the population —based planning model is the scientific comprehensive situational analysis and environmental examination :
- a. Demography: Population size, age and sex composition.
- b. Epidemiological analysis of morbidity and mortality. Define the types of problems, extent, severity, causes and impact on the community as a whole.
- c. Identify financial, manpower, legal, ethical and other constraints.
- d. Identify complaints and expectations of the population.
- e. Available health care facilities (for training and services delivery).

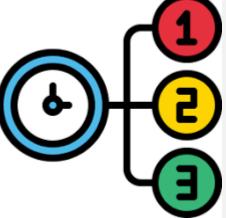


To decide on which problem to deal with first, when we have limited resources, and we face more than one problem. The usual criteria used in this context are:

- A. Extent (size) of the problem.
- B. Severity of the problem.
- C. Manageability of the problem.
- D. Community concern about the problem.

Priority: A ranking of problems, needs or solutions in order of importance & preference based on views derived from data and intelligent judgment.





3. The third step is to:

Define clearly the short-term and long-term objectives or goals to be achieved.



> These are the desirable end results of an action.

They are the guide to action and the standard to measure work

after it is done.

➤ It is preferable that objectives are phrased in quantitative and measurable terms.

Goals are achievable, long term and broad

Objectives are specific and measurable actions to achieve the overall goal



- 4. The fourth step is to explore and formulate alternative

strategies to be adopted:

□their feasibility,

operational choice

☐ the likely outcome

cost of each alternative is carefully studied.

5. The fifth step: Once these alternative strategies are fully explored:

An operational plan or programming is selected.

✓ The allocation of resources,

- ✓ Authority,
- ✓ Time tabling and
- ✓ Monitoring system

are decided upon.









6. The sixth step:

DATA COLLECTION

■The selected program or plan is then implemented, and the collection of monitoring data is initiated.



- Any deviation from the planned activities is sorted out and corrective measures are undertaken.
- Implementation requires effective organization and adequate resources.



7. The seventh step: The control function

Evaluation and monitoring

Evaluation is defined as the systematic attempt to determine the degree to which means (programs) achieve intended (predefined) objectives and the factors that contribute to or delay this achievement.



It is applied at three stages of the planning process:

- a. Prior to plan implementation: The question is "Will the program or plan achieve intended objectives or desired results? (preliminary evaluation).
- b. During implementation. Day to day follow up of activities . It is called here monitoring or concurrent evaluation). Is the plan achieving the stated objectives?
- c. At the end of the implementation: Final evaluation. Has the plan achieved the stated objectives?



The process of evaluation involves:

1. What to evaluate?

- A. Structure or preconditions of the care process.
- **B.** Process to be carried out to deliver care.

C. Outcome

- Intermediate indicators.
- Ultimate indicators.
- D. Impact on the specific target and adjacent targets or areas.
- E. Opinion of consumers and providers.



Take into account the following elements of evaluation:

Relevance: Is the health care needed?

Adequacy: The relation between recognized need and allocated resources

Accessibility: The easiness with which people can use services when they are in

need to do so

Acceptability: The degree of adjustment between client and provider characteristics

Effectiveness: The extent to which planned objectives are attained

Efficiency: The extent to which given resources are utilized to maximize achievable objectives (benefits). A comparison of costs and benefits.

Impact: The overall effect of a program on targeted and adjacent systems or components of the socioeconomic sectors.



2. Why to evaluate?

Three areas of interest may be identified and related to the purpose of evaluation

- A. Research.
- B. Diagnosis.
- C. Administrative control.

3. At what level?

International, national, local, single program or multiple programs.

- 4. Who does the evaluation? Evaluation may be carried out by any of the following:
- a. External experts, These may have the technical and scientific capabilities but usually, they are ignorant in local situations.
- **b.** University academics. They are competent in carrying out such tasks, but they tend to be slow and careful and therefore, may take longer time than health authorities can wait.
- **c.** Health policy makers. They are the people who can make changes in the light of evaluation results, but they are in a threatening position and distort the spirit of evaluation by punishing or rewarding people.
- d. Program administration and staff. These are the people who are much familiar with their own situation. They may be biased however to or against the program justifications and continuation.

This depends on whether they like the program(they may exaggerate its achievement) or dislike it (they undermine the merits of the program).

- e. The community or consumers. The opinion of consumers is of vital importance, but lay people generally lack the technical abilities to judge the merits and limitations of many health actions or program.
- It is useful, however, to listen to their views and to know how they think about the health care services.

- 5. For whom? This depends on the purpose of the evaluation.
- 6. Where? Place and institutions to be covered
- 7. When? At what stage of the program? I.e., preliminary, monitoring or feedback

Thus, the process of evaluation involve basic steps:

- 1. Determining what to evaluate
- 2. Establish standards and criteria (The use of checklists)
- 3. Plan the methodology to be used
- 4. Gather information
- 5. Analyze the results
- 6. Take an action
- 7. Re-evaluate

Approaches to evaluation

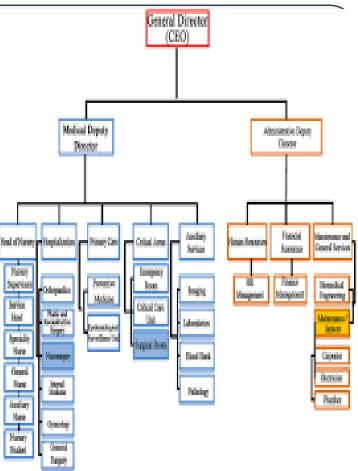
Structure approach (structure analysis)

Structure refers to the conditions that surround process of care including such factors as:

a. Number and qualification of staff.

Characteristics of resource inputs (buildings, equipment, drugs... etc.

- b. Organizational and environmental framework.
- The question is how adequate the structure is in a given institution, town, area?
- The available structure in any institution is compared with a standard check list containing the ideal structure to be available in such institution.
- The assumption is that if the structure is available in adequate and functioning state, then process of care is expected to be optimal, and objectives are achieved.



For example, a chest x-ray indicated for a given patient might not have been done either because :

- the provider (doctor) did not make a request to do it or
- the x-ray machine was not operating at the time that patient was seen by the provider.

Anyhow, this is a necessary process item, which was missing and represented a deficient process of care.

Adequate structure Adequate process Desired objectives



C. Outcome approach (outcome analysis)

Outcome refers to what is expected from a program, a therapy, an educational activity or any other measure that is intended to improve individual or population health.

In this approach the status of individuals or population after the application of "treatment" is compared to the status before the treatment.

A successful treatment is expected to produce desired results (outcomes) which can be measured by:

-ultimate indicators — reduction in indicators of ill health such as reduction in infant mortality rate.



- Disease incidence.
- 2. Death rate.
- 3. Discomfort.
- 4. Dependency on family and on the health cares system.
- 5. Disruption.
- 6. Dissatisfaction.
- 7. Disability.

Population-based planning is faced by two major obstacles:



a. The type of data required, which encompasses a variety of aspects, is difficult to acquire adequately.



b. The social orientation of the approach. It helps to uncover underlying social and environmental causes of ill health.

