

CALL FOR PAPERS

ANALYZING MARKETS FOR HEALTH-RELATED GOODS AND SERVICES
IN LOW- AND MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES

AN IHEA PRE-CONGRESS SYMPOSIUM

July 6 2013, 08.30-16.00, Sydney



THE AIM

This one-day symposium is envisaged as a dialogue between researchers, international organizations, and policy makers with a goal of moving forward discussion on the performance of health markets in low- and middle-income countries and of interventions aimed at improving this performance. For all sessions, authors are encouraged to consider the relevance, implications, and ramifications of their findings as they apply to health systems in low- and middle-income countries.

SESSION THEMES

1. Paying for private care: the private sector and health financing.
2. Good, bad, or indistinguishable: quality of care in the private sector.
3. Building institutions for influencing private sector performance.
4. Health markets and the poor: moving towards universal access?
5. The evolution of the global health marketplace: implications for health systems.
6. Using metrics to understand the role of the private sector as part of the health system.
7. Juxtaposing private healthcare in rich and poor countries.

1. PAYING FOR PRIVATE CARE: THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND HEALTH FINANCING

Issues related to health financing and the private sector, for example:

- Government funding as a source of payment for private care: social health insurance, vouchers, and contracting.
- Innovative health financing approaches (insurance, vouchers, and savings accounts) being used in the private sector to improve equity

and increase access to care for the poor.

- Using price regulation, performance-based financing, and different provider payment systems to influence performance of private providers.
- Private capital investment in the health sector as a mechanism for improved infrastructure and scale-up of services.

2. GOOD, BAD, OR INDISTINGUISHABLE: QUALITY OF CARE IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR

Issues related to quality of care and monitoring and evaluation in the private health sector, for example:

- Experiences from quality assurance initiatives in the private sector, e.g. branding, franchising and accreditation.
- The influence of different types of ownership and mission on performance.
- New approaches to performance monitoring and accountability.
- Interventions that aim to formalize informal providers, influence their practice, and/or harness them to delivery priority health interventions.

3. BUILDING INSTITUTIONS FOR INFLUENCING PRIVATE SECTOR PERFORMANCE

- Government stewardship of health markets: what works and what are the ongoing challenges?
- New kinds of regulatory partnerships.
- The political economy of regulation of health markets.
- Institutional frameworks for creating high-performance public-private partnerships (i.e. how to make contracting work well in practice).
- Policies to incentivize the development of the private sector (e.g. tax breaks, long-term leases of government land, subsidized capital).
- Policies that influence access to the private sector (e.g. requirements to serve the poor).
- Integrating two-tier health systems: Countries that are trying to ensure that private care isn't just for the rich.

4. HEALTH MARKETS AND THE POOR: MOVING TOWARDS UNIVERSAL ACCESS?

Specific issues related to the health services used by the poor.

- Analyses of markets for health-related goods and services used by

- the poor.
- Innovations in the provision of health services to the poor and evaluations of their performance.
- Implications for equity of the segmented nature of health markets and of regulatory responses.
- Sustainability of approaches to reach the bottom of the pyramid.

5. THE EVOLUTION OF THE GLOBAL HEALTH MARKETPLACE: IMPLICATIONS FOR HEALTH SYSTEMS

Cross-cutting policy issues related to the private sector in health systems.

- New kinds of private health companies and the regulatory challenges they pose.
- Opportunities and challenges associated with new technologies (ICTs, diagnostic tests and so forth).
- Regulatory issues associated with the spread of advertising, the media and e-health companies.
- The role of global and local pharmaceutical companies in influencing practice of private providers.
- Inter-relationships between markets for health services, pharmaceuticals, diagnostic tests and so forth.

- Influence of consumer demand on private sector behavior – for better or worse (e.g. demand for antibiotics, injectables).

6. USING METRICS TO UNDERSTAND THE ROLE OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR AS PART OF THE HEALTH SYSTEM

- New approaches for studying health markets and for modeling their performance.
- Size and dynamics of informal markets for healthcare.

7. JUXTAPOSING PRIVATE HEALTH CARE IN RICH AND POOR COUNTRIES

Discussing experiences from private sector issues in different socio-economic contexts. The purpose is to elaborate on issues related to the private sector in high-income contexts that are relevant for low- and middle-income countries. Therefore, rather than individual country examples, authors are encouraged to look at differences and cross-cutting themes between issues related to the private sector in health care delivery across socio-economic contexts.

STEERING COMMITTEE

- Peter Annear**, University of Melbourne
- Sara Bennett**, Johns Hopkins University
- Peter Berman**, Harvard University
- Onil Bhattacharyya**, University of Toronto
- Abby Bloom**, Menzies Center for Health Policy
- Gerry Bloom**, Institute of Development Studies
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- Gustavo Nigenda**, Center for Health Systems Research
- George Pariyo**, World Health Organization
- Khama Rogo**, World Bank
- Jesper Sundewall**, Karolinska Institute

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Please submit abstracts by **22 January 2013** via the online submission form at <http://privatesector2013.abstractsubmit.org/>.

Abstracts should be no longer than 500 words. Please indicate under which **theme** your submission is best suited.

Papers submitted to the main iHEA Congress cannot be submitted to this symposium.

A limited number of scholarships will be available.

CONTACT

If you have questions regarding the symposium – please contact us!

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