

The World Health Report



HEALTH SYSTEMS FINANCING The path to universal coverage



**World Health
Organization**

WHO Library Cataloguing-in-Publication Data

The world health report: health systems financing: the path to universal coverage.

1.World health - trends. 2.Delivery of health care - economics. 3.Financing, Health. 4.Health services accessibility. 5.Cost of illness. I.World Health Organization.

ISBN 978 92 4 156402 1

(NLM classification: W 84.6)

ISBN 978 92 4 068480 5 (electronic version)

ISSN 1020-3311

© World Health Organization 2010

All rights reserved. Publications of the World Health Organization can be obtained from WHO Press, World Health Organization, 20 Avenue Appia, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland (tel.: +41 22 791 3264; fax: +41 22 791 4857; e-mail: bookorders@who.int). Requests for permission to reproduce or translate WHO publications – whether for sale or for noncommercial distribution – should be addressed to WHO Press, at the above address (fax: +41 22 791 4806; e-mail: permissions@who.int).

The designations employed and the presentation of the material in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the World Health Organization concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Dotted lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement.

The mention of specific companies or of certain manufacturers' products does not imply that they are endorsed or recommended by the World Health Organization in preference to others of a similar nature that are not mentioned. Errors and omissions excepted, the names of proprietary products are distinguished by initial capital letters.

All reasonable precautions have been taken by the World Health Organization to verify the information contained in this publication. However, the published material is being distributed without warranty of any kind, either expressed or implied. The responsibility for the interpretation and use of the material lies with the reader. In no event shall the World Health Organization be liable for damages arising from its use.

■ ■ This world health report was produced under the overall direction of Carissa Etienne, Assistant Director-General, Health Systems and Services and Anarfi Asamoah-Baah, Deputy Director General. The principal writers of the report were David B Evans, Riku Elovainio and Gary Humphreys; with inputs from Daniel Chisholm, Joseph Kutzin, Sarah Russell, Priyanka Saksena and Ke Xu.

Contributions in the form of boxes or analysis were provided by: Ole Doetinchem, Adelio Fernandes Antunes, Justine Hsu, Chandika K Indikadahena, Jeremy Lauer, Nathalie van de Maele, Belgacem Sabri, Hossein Salehi, Xenia Scheil-Adlung (ILO) and Karin Stenberg.

Suggestions and comments were received from Regional Directors, Assistant Directors-General and their staff.

Analysis, data and reviews of the outline, various drafts or specific sections were provided by (in addition to the people named above): Dele Abegunde, Michael Adelhardt, Hector Arreola, Guitelle Baghdadi-Sabeti, Dina Balabanova, Dorjsuren Bayarsaikhan, Peter Berman, Melanie Bertram, Michael Borowitz, Reinhard Busse, Alexandra Cameron, Guy Carrin, Andrew Cassels, Eleonora Cavagnero, Witaya Chadbunchachai, John Connell, David de Ferranti, Don de Savigny, Varatharajan Durairaj, Bob Emrey, Tamás Evetovits, Josep Figueras, Emma Fitzpatrick, Julio Frenk, Daniela Fuhr, Ramiro Guerrero, Patricia Hernandez Pena, Hans V Hogerzeil, Kathleen Holloway, Melitta Jakob, Elke Jakubowski, Christopher James, Mira Johri, Matthew Jowett, Jose Kirigia, Felicia Knaul, Richard Laing, Nora Markova, Awad Mataria, Inke Mathauer, Don Matheson, Anne Mills, Eduardo Missoni, Laurent Musango, Helena Nygren-Krug, Ariel Pablos-Mendez, Anne-Marie Perucic, Claudia Pescetto, Jean Perrot, Alexander Preker, Magdalena Rathe, Dag Rekve, Ritu Sadana, Rocio Saenz, Thomas Shakespeare, Ian Smith, Peter C. Smith, Alaka Singh, Ruben Suarez Berenguela, Tessa Tan-Torres Edejer, Richard Scheffler, Viroj Tangcharoensathien, Fabrizio Tediosi, Sarah Thomson, Ewout van Ginneken, Cornelis van Mosseveld and Julia Watson.

The writing of the report was informed by many individuals from various institutions who provided Background Papers; these Background Papers can be found at http://www.who.int/healthsystems/topics/financing/healthreport/whr_background/en

Michael Reid copy-edited the report, Gaël Kernen produced figures and Evelyn Omukubi provided valuable secretarial and administrative support. Design and layout was done by Sophie Guetaneh Aguetant and Cristina Ortiz. Illustration by Edel Tripp (<http://edeltripp.daportfolio.com>).

Financial support from the Rockefeller Foundation, United States for International Development (USAID) and the Federal Ministry of Health, Germany, is gratefully acknowledged.

Printed in Switzerland on FSC-certified, 100% recycled paper.