A VALUE-BASED PERSPECTIVE ON THE INDIAN G20 HEALTH AGENDA

Global Innovation Hub for Improving Value in Health

The Global Innovation Hub for Improving Value in Health brings together countries and international organizations in a partnership for learning, collaboration, and accelerating progress to expand the delivery of value-based care at scale.

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BACKGROUND

In 2023, the Indian G20 Health Working Group (G20 HWG) outlined an ambitious agenda that tackled key global health priorities. The priorities resonated closely with the principles of value-based care — a model that focuses on improving health and care outcomes while optimizing cost-efficiency. Covering three key areas including (i) Health Emergencies Prevention, Preparedness, and Response; (ii) Cooperation in the pharmaceutical sector, related to medical countermeasures and (iii) digital health, the G20's agenda sought to improve effectiveness and equitability in global healthcare systems. The G20's priorities aligned with the core tenets of value-based care – a resource-efficient, person-centered approach to health service delivery – by emphasizing a coordinated response to health emergencies, advocating for equitable access to medical countermeasures, and championing digital health solutions to advance Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

The priority areas discussed under the G20 Indian Presidency explicitly and implicitly linked to the principles of high value health systems: optimizing for efficient resource utilization, investing in sustained innovation, leveraging digital solutions, and ultimately centering improved health outcomes for all people. The value perspective was present throughout the year-long discussions that shaped the agenda.

HEALTH EMERGENCIES PREVENTION, PREPAREDNESS, AND RESPONSE (HEPPR)

The first topic area focused on Health Emergencies Prevention, Preparedness, and Response (HEPPR) with an emphasis on One Health, climate change and Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR). Since 2020, this topic has been a central priority for the Health Working Group, with a collective understanding that G20 countries need to provide global guidance and leadership on pandemic preparedness and response. Starting with the High-Level Independent Panel during the Italian Presidency, and joint efforts on the Pandemic Fund during the Indonesian Presidency, considerable progress has been achieved under this priority. During the Indian Presidency, G20 member countries were unified in their dedication to

addressing pandemic threats and create a more resilient global health architecture. The discussion highlighted:

- The COVID-19 pandemic exposed vulnerabilities in the global health architecture and had far-reaching effects on various aspects of life. Although the pandemic may no longer be an immediate crisis, G20 members need to sustain efforts to strengthen global health structures for future health emergencies.

- WHO Member States established an Intergovernmental Negotiating Body (INB) to draft and negotiate a new agreement to strengthen pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response. As the INB discussions are happening concurrently with the G20 process. G20 members recognized the need to address the ongoing challenge of infectious diseases while integrating with the current global discussion at the WHO concerning the ongoing INB and International Health Regulations (IHR) processes.

- The COVID-19 pandemic led to the development of ad-hoc mechanisms to address urgent needs, but this has resulted in duplication and fragmentation of efforts. The G20 and G7 discussions highlighted the need to improve global health emergency response and governance.

- The topics of One Health, Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) and climate change were discussed in relation to health. All three topics closely link to health system functions that need to be strengthened during "non-pandemic" times to ensure countries are better prepared for future health threats. All three areas rely on strengthening surveillance systems, infection control, resource allocation, laboratory capacities, and the public health workforce. With a focus on addressing climate change's health challenges, the G20 and the Asian Development Bank launched a climate change and health hub which will be based in Delhi.

VALUE-BASED PERSPECTIVE ON G20 HWG PRIORITY 1

High value health systems emphasize several important principles that apply to global coordinated response to health emergencies including investing in **prevention systems**, multidisciplinary**, integrated care units**, and **early intervention programs** are more valuable and cost-efficient than treating diseases after they become emergencies, and **holistic care** that considers the full context of a patient's life.

Addressing the broader determinants of health, such as climate change, is consistent with a value-oriented focus on holistic well-being rather than just episodic care. Value-based care can address One Health and climate-related health risks by taking a system-wide view of healthy societies, adaptable models of care, and data-driven health service delivery. At a high level, value-based care looks at the person's social, environmental, and economic circumstances to capture the outcomes that matter the most to that individual. Overuse or misuse of antimicrobials can be considered low-value care since these practices contribute to the wasteful misallocation of resources and resistance to medical treatment. Responsible AMR use aligns closely with value-based care principles. The global health architecture, through health system resilience, UHC and, public health functions, must account for the AMR and climate change and this priority area advocates strongly for increased surveillance and coordination.

STRENGTHENING COOPERATION IN THE PHARMACEUTICAL SECTOR WITH A FOCUS ON AVAILABILITY & ACCESS TO SAFE, EFFECTIVE, QUALITY, AND AFFORDABLE MEDICAL COUNTERMEASURES- VTDS (VACCINES, THERAPEUTICS, AND DIAGNOSTICS)

The second topic area focused on strengthening cooperation in the pharmaceutical sector, particularly regarding the availability and access to safe, effective, quality, and affordable Medical Countermeasures (MCMs) such as Vaccines, Therapeutics, and Diagnostics (VTDs). This topic is a continuation of work from the Italian and Indonesian G20 Presidencies. G20 members recognized the ongoing work happening at the World Health Organization (WHO) and highlighted:

- The Covid-19 pandemic highlighted weaknesses in the global system, including the need for expanding regional R&D and manufacturing capabilities for VTDs. G20 members highlighted the need for close collaboration among various stakeholders, including governments, international organizations, civil society, academia, research organizations, and public-private partnerships.

- India's G20 Presidency proposed the establishment of a structured global coordination mechanism for end-to-end medical countermeasures. The idea was to create networks for R&D and manufacturing of VTDs, adopting a "network of networks" approach. The overarching goal was to enhance national, regional, and global capacities for MCMs to ensure their availability and accessibility during health emergencies. The COVID-19 pandemic has underscored the unevenness in research and manufacturing of medical countermeasures. This initiative aimed to address that challenge, building on the work of ACT-A and other initiatives such as the Africa mRNA Hub.

- While discussions are ongoing regarding a permanent medical countermeasure mechanism and International Health Regulations (IHR) amendments, the G20 members recognized the need for an interim mechanism, particularly focused on Low- and Middle-Income Countries

(LMICs) and Small Islands and Developing States (SIDS).

- Acknowledging WHO's efforts and consultations with stakeholders, the priority looks forward to actions leading to the creation of an interim mechanism. The design of this mechanism will be guided by ongoing processes.

VALUE-BASED PERSPECTIVE ON G20 HWG PRIORITY 2

The global coordination mechanism for end-to-end medical countermeasures focused on availability, safety, equity, quality, and affordability, which are all aligned with principles core to value-based care systems. Multi-stakeholder collaboration, including governments, international organizations, and public-private partnerships, is the bedrock of this initiative. This is similar to value-based approaches that encourage **collaboration** between the traditionally siloed stakeholder groups of healthcare providers, payers, and patients to **improve outcomes**.

MCMs underlying objective is to ensure these measures reach the people who need them, particularly during health emergencies. Therefore, any interim or long-term global mechanism for MCM must adopt a value-based approach to performance **measurement**, population **segmentation**, **payment models**, and health care service delivery. The core principles of value-based care can be applied to address systemic health disparities and ensure equitable access to life-saving MCM, especially in historically underserved communities.

DIGITAL HEALTH INNOVATIONS AND SOLUTIONS TO AID UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE AND IMPROVE HEALTHCARE SERVICE DELIVERY

The third topic area focused on digital health innovations and solutions to support Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and enhance healthcare service delivery. As one of the flagship outcomes of the Indian Presidency, the Honorable Minister of Health, Mansukh L. Mandaviya, launched the Global Initiative on Digital Health (GIDH) during the 3rd session of the Health Ministerial Meeting. In addition, the session highlighted:

- Despite significant progress in digitalizing healthcare to improve health outcomes and achieve UHC worldwide, there is a noticeable digital divide due to fragmented investments and efforts in the digital health space. This lack of convergence and siloed approaches leads to duplication of efforts, limited interoperability, and differential adoption of digital solutions, hindering their full potential to drive measurable impact across national health systems.

- To address these challenges, India's G20 Presidency promoted an "architecture approach" that emphasized implementation. The goal was to create a comprehensive digital health ecosystem that democratizes technology, avoids duplication, and supports national health systems transformation efforts.

- India's G20 Presidency, in partnership with WHO, launched the Global Initiative on Digital Health (GIDH) to unify existing global digital health efforts. Managed by the World Health Organization (WHO), GIDH will align with WHO norms, standards, and guidelines to consolidate and amplify digital health investments. GIDH will focus on four foundational pillars: aligning efforts with the Global Strategy on Digital Health, providing technical assistance for standards-based systems, facilitating the use of digital public goods (DPGs) based on WHO standards, and developing digital transformation tools such as the Digital Health Clearinghouse and Digital Health Atlas.

VALUE-BASED PERSPECTIVE ON G20 HWG PRIORITY 3

This outcome acknowledges that digital health is key to transforming health systems. The aim of UHC can be achieved through value-based care design —to make high-quality healthcare accessible and effective for all. Both approaches emphasize **inclusivity** and **equal access** to healthcare resources. Investing in digital health solutions aligns with advancing UHC and value-based care **by reducing waste** and, instead, tailoring health services to promote **patient empowerment** by leveraging data analytics to inform **clinical decisions**, track **outcomes**, and improve **quality**. The digitization of health records and other data sources will enhance the ability to implement value-based care models at the local, state, and national levels.

Within the context of value-based care, digital health is an essential enabler of equitable, responsive, and resilient health systems. Health systems generate a high volume of data, yet only some systems harness these data optimally to enhance system performance and generate value for patients. As the G20 Indian Presidency has highlighted, to improve patient outcomes, interoperability needs to exist to facilitate the exchange between multiple data sources and systems. Both value-based care and the proposed Global Initiative on Digital Health (GIDH) focus on maintaining high standards of care. Standardizing digital health efforts ensures that quality is not compromised, aligning with the principles of value-based care.

The use of technology opens exciting possibilities to achieve better health outcomes through both a transition of value-based care and the adoption of digital health initiatives. Digital health is a critical enabler to measuring "value," as technology can enable remote monitoring, virtual consultations, and real-time analytics.

SIDE EVENT | HEALTHCARE BEYOND BORDERS: PROMOTING VALUE-BASED CARE

During a side event on the sidelines of the G20 Health Ministers' Meeting in Gandhinagar, discussions emphasized the importance and transformative potential of value-based care in a globalized world. The Government of India is actively promoting this paradigm, focusing on modern and traditional medical practices to offer holistic well-being for its citizens. The event focused on a global exchange of expertise on value-based care and addressing healthcare disparities. Telemedicine initiatives, like India's national service "eSanjeevani," were mentioned as complementary tools.

During Interphase Session, on August 18, 2023, ministers and experts discussed the implementation of value-based care and its various facets. The themes for this session ranged from the core principles of value-based care and cross-border collaborations to technological innovations and policy frameworks. The session aimed to enhance workforce competency, optimize service delivery, foster cross-sector collaborations, and formulate actionable policy recommendations.

DURING THE SIDE EVENT, SEVERAL HEALTH MINISTERS HIGHLIGHTED THE IMPORTANCE OF VALUE-BASED CARE

- ❖ *"Value-based healthcare needs a permanent change of mindset to put people in the center of care"* - **Budi Gunadi Sadikin**. Minister of Health Indonesia
- ❖ *"Value-based care ensures that health systems remain affordable and sustainable"* – **Ong Ye Kung**, Minister for Health of Singapore
- ❖ *"The world is moving from a volume-based model to a value-based model. The path of value-based healthcare requires solidarity"* - **Zahid Maleque**, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Bangladesh

The G20 Health Agenda, under the stewardship of the Indian Presidency, facilitated a necessary discussion towards greater global health resilience. As this briefing illustrates, the focus on value-based care was implicit throughout all health priority areas and side events. As an advocate for achieving UHC through value-based care, the Global Innovation Hub commends the G20 Indian Presidency for guiding this important discussion. As Brazil assumes the G20 Presidency on 1 December 2024, we look forward to contributing to their priority focus areas. During the Health Ministers Meeting in Gandhinagar, Brazil's Minister of Health Nísia Trindade articulated four health priority areas for the Brazilian G20 Health agenda. Minister Trindade remarked, "[we will] jointly find solutions to sensitize the public, mobilize resources, and above all make solid, sustainable progress to the benefit of the most neglected populations". The Global Innovation Hub looks forward to supporting the Brazilian Presidency in 2024.